



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Minutes of Environmental Commission, Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting

September 18, 2024

Time of Meeting

5:15 PM

Place of Meeting

**Council Conference Room
501 North Anderson Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
And remotely via Zoom**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members

Commissioner Linhart called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

Present: Jean Marie Linhart, Raven Harlin, Kristine Steinkoenig, Jess Black

Absent: Brenda Devore, Christina Wollman

Others Present; Dan Carlson-Director, Josh Mattson-Assistant City Engineer, Nancy Lillquist-City Council Liaison; Derek Mayo-City Engineer

Commissioner Black motioned to excuse the absences of Commissioner Wollman and Commissioner Devore. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Black motioned to approve the agenda. Motion passed 4-0.

3. Approval of Minutes

3.A August 21, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Steinkoenig noticed her last name was misspelled in two locations on August 21, 2024, meeting minutes. Commissioner Steinkoenig motion to approve the minutes from August 21, 2024, with the name corrections. Motion passed 4-0.

4. New Business

None

5. Unfinished Business

None

6. Citizen Comment

Citizen comment made by Cassandra Fallscheer regarding the new bricks on University Way. Her email to the Commission is outlined in the agenda packet. Fallscheer expressed concerns over the jarring brick for cyclists and the multi-use path that is next to driveways. Motorists park in the multi-use path for an opportunity to pull out onto the road. Fallscheer made a couple of suggestions to improve the road for cyclists.

7. Bicycle Advisory

7.A Water Street Bike Lanes

7.A. Staff member Josh Mattson explained that the City of Ellensburg received a grant to grind and overlay roadways. The project will include one block of Main Street where it connects with Manitoba Street and Water Street to Bender Road. Asphalt will be used, and 120 curbs will be made ADA accessible. Several of the traffic lanes in the area of Water Street will be narrowed so that the bike lane width can be increased. The road has varying widths, so that is accounted for in how much the bike lanes can be increased. A new bike lane will be added on Water Street from Helena Street to Bender Road. Construction cones can not be used due to block parking and are only used during construction. The Chair allowed citizen comments from Cassie Fallscheer. Cassie expressed concerns over larger trucks blocking bike lanes and large side mirrors. Staff member Mattson discussed the width of parallel parking. Having additional parking areas for larger trucks can be addressed by the Parking Committee. Existing parking will not be eliminated. If a vehicle is blocking a bike lane, the police can be notified and issue a warning.

7.B Gold & Platinum BFC Discussion

Commission members that had volunteered to look at specific cities explained their research. Several ideas developed, such as having a bicycle-friendly business. Commission members volunteered to contact businesses to see if they are interested. The application for applying to be a bicycle-friendly business will be distributed. Colleges that are bicycle friendly are an area that can be improved. Educating schools, drivers, and bicyclists was mentioned. Connecting bike routes, electric scooters, and an increase in the number of bike racks on the transit buses are ideas. The City will bring projects to the Environmental Commission in the future or consult with cyclists in the planning stages to get feedback. Lillquist will contact the college to be more bicycle friendly if possible.

7.C Rotary Presentation Discussion

The Rotary has three meeting groups. A presentation on a summary of this year's bike day and goals for next year can be gathered to use. The Rotary will be asked if they would like to donate again.

7.D Cycling Infrastructure on University Way

Staff member Mattson explained that University Way was completed because of a water quality grant. The grant required impermeable materials to be used. Because of this requirement, concrete and asphalt couldn't be used. Signs will not be installed because of the confusion it can cause riders and drivers. A shared-use pathway was created to remove riders from active traffic. Riders on the shared-use path will have driveway concerns whether on the street or pathway.

8. Staff Update/Discussion Items

8.A Waste Management 5 year Extension

Commissioner Devore worked with Waste Management regarding possibly having a recycling day and educating the public.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.