

Seaside Transportation System Plan

Meeting between ODOT and the City of Seaside

Tuesday August 4, 2009

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Seaside Public Library, Community Room

Participants

Kevin Cupples, City of Seaside

Mark Winstanley, City of Seaside

Neal Wallace, City of Seaside

Theresa Carr, CH2M HILL

Ingrid Weisenbach, ODOT

Jamie Damon, Portland State University

Summary

This document summarizes the key discussion and action items for the August 4, 2009 meeting, and is not intended to serve as a full description of items presented.

1. ODOT, City of Seaside Update

ODOT's TDD group has put together a white paper on use of alternate mobility standards which will be ready in draft form soon (this month). Ingrid met with Region 2 Planning and TDD about use of alternate mobility standards in Seaside. The group was comfortable with exploring typical weekday traffic volumes, and discussed a v/c of 1.0 as a potential threshold. The group requested that CH2M HILL calculate duration of delay (defined as number of hours where congestion is higher than a given threshold) for two scenarios:

- (a) Extension of Wahanna Road to the south
- (b) No extension of Wahanna Road

Theresa will explore this with CH2M HILL's traffic engineering group.

The City's letter of commitment is signed and ready to be mailed to ODOT. Mark will mail the letter to arrive by Tuesday August 11th. Ingrid will coordinate with ODOT Region 2 Planning to have a letter of commitment in response mailed by Friday, August 14th. CH2M HILL will post letters on the website as soon as they are available.

Jamie will draft a press release about where the project is heading, to be sent to the City and ODOT by Monday, August 17th. Mark will discuss both the press release and the ODOT letter with City Council members between August 20th and 24th. Jamie will coordinate with ODOT to send the press release the last week in August.

Theresa will call stakeholders prior to the press release to brief them and to schedule the next round of interviews for mid-September.

2. Review Methodology Writeup

Theresa presented the draft methodology writeup describing the potential use of alternate mobility standards. She walked the group through nine steps including consideration of local street improvements, alternate modes, land use decisions, and access management. The following comments were made:

- (a) Step 1 and throughout – the writeup describes the TSP but not the other deliverable package that will be needed through this process – the findings package that will be prepared for the Oregon Transportation Commission. The OTC will actually adopt the alternate mobility standards so this deliverable will be very important.
- (b) Step 3 – make sure to emphasize that the investment in alternate modes will actually make a difference (albeit small) in traffic operations.
- (c) Step 6 – the Seaside TSP will need to be slightly more specific than most in describing access management strategies. The TSP will need to discuss the function of the highway.
- (d) Step 7 – update the methodology to include a discussion of duration of delay, with and without an extension of Wahanna Road.
- (e) Step 8 – Ingrid emphasized the need for the writeup to be sufficiently detailed for a variety of audiences.

Theresa then walked the group through two outstanding questions.

Question 1 asked about a statement in Oregon Highway Plan (OHP) Policy 1F where it said that alternate mobility standards outside an urban area would need to be part of a larger corridor plan. Ingrid stated that the white paper being developed by TDD would address this.

Question 2 asked whether it would be needed to look at the ultimate preferred alternative (once identified) for the highway in the 30th highest hour in addition to typical weekday. The group decided that this would be necessary.

3. Review Initial Highway Options

Theresa presented four initial options for the US 101 corridor:

1. Two lane with turn lanes at key intersections (turn lanes on US 101 only)
2. Two lane with turn lanes at key intersections (turn lanes on US 101 and side streets)
3. Option 2 with an additional southbound through lane at 24th Avenue
4. Two lanes that widened to four lanes between Avenue G at the south and 12th Avenue at the north

All options were analyzed for typical weekday conditions, and showed v/c and queue lengths. With one exception (option 2, US 101/Broadway) v/c were under 1.0, however queue lengths varied between 125' (Option 4, 12th Avenue southbound) and 3,500' (Option 3, Broadway northbound). The group made the following suggestions:

- Bold the critical movement on the graphics to show what was causing the problem
- Consider an option that keeps the middle narrow and widens at the north and south
- ID the pros and cons of each option (including assessment of available right-of-way)
- Look at the length of the queues on the side streets
- Consider possible issues (example: connectivity for autos east of US 101 between Broadway and 12th Avenue) and potential mitigation
- Consider with and without the Wahanna Road extension

Theresa will work with the design team to explore these items and will return with responses at the next agency meeting.

4. Actions:

- 1) Mark will mail the City's commitment letter to arrive by Tuesday August 11th
- 2) Ingrid will coordinate with ODOT Region 2 Planning to mail their commitment letter by Friday August 14th
- 3) Jamie will draft a press release by Monday August 17th
- 4) Mark will meet with City Council to discuss next steps the week of August 17th and August 24th.
- 5) Jamie will coordinate with ODOT to send a press release the week of August 24th or August 31st.
- 6) Theresa will call stakeholders the week of August 24th to schedule the next meeting.
- 7) Theresa will work with Sumi to finalize the methodology memo.
- 8) Theresa will work with the traffic team to:
 - a) Identify duration of delay both with and without Wahanna Road extension
 - b) Consider an option that narrows the highway through the center of Seaside and widens at the north and the south
 - c) Look at side street queues
 - d) Identify pros, cons, and potential mitigation for each option

The group set the next meeting tentatively for Tuesday September 1st, 1:00pm at Seaside Public Library, Community room.