

**Corvallis Sustainability Coalition
Transportation Action Team (TAT) Meeting Agenda**

Wed, February 17, 2021, 3:30-5pm, on Zoom

3:30 Introductions and check-ins on how everyone is doing

3:40 TAT Book Club announcement (Steve Starcevich)

3:50 TAT discussion: What is the feasibility of TAT et al. holding outdoor events this year?
(Judy Dugan)

4:00 Other partner updates

ATTENDANCE:

Annette Mills (League of Women Voters [LWV], Corvallis Sustainability Coalition [Coalition])

Steph Nappa (Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments [COG] Transportation Planner)

Steve Dobrinich (COG Transportation Planner)

Jay Thatcher (Cycling Educator, Parks & Rec Bike Camp instructor)

Margie Stevens (Corvallis Climate Action Advisory Board [CAAB], Coalition Steering
Committee, TAT liaison)

Steve Starcevich (TAT)

Josh Capps (City of Corvallis Public Works [COC], Active Transportation Program Specialist)

Lorie Bailey (Coalition Treasurer)

Judy Dugan (TAT member)

Rachel Schwindt (TAT member, Alternative/Active transportation advocate)

Larry Weymouth (350.org)

Rob Upson (EV owner and driver, TAT member)

Elizabeth Anderson (EV owner and driver, TAT member)

Dave Rabinowitz (Land Use Action Team)

Dennis Stillwaggon (Stewardship Inc.)

James Feldmann (ODOT Transportation Planner)

MEETING NOTES:

Steve Starcevich (TAT)

Collected ideas about leading a reading/discussion group about the book “The Dutch Blueprint for Urban Vitality: Building the Cycling City,” by Melissa and Chris Bruntlett. Suggestions included using google groups to attract participants, use a doodle poll to schedule meetings, think about how the group will be lead and consider the Northwest Earth Institute format, possible subsidy for purchasing books with TAT funds. Authors are active on the internet/twitter through their consulting/advocacy work (<https://mobycon.com>, <https://twitter.com/mobycon>).

Judy Dugan (TAT Discussion)

Considering the uncertainties about Covid and vaccinations, what is the feasibility of TAT/City/Others holding outdoor events this year?

Consensus simple answer: Vaccine dependent. Some outdoor events are still taking place: MVBC host bike rides and tours (although they have restrictions on the number of participants and may require signing waivers – see their website), Water Action Team has been conducting restoration activities, Bike to Work Day is May 21, Car Free Day on Sept 22, mass transit

destination trip may start up again. Open Streets and Fall Festival have not been officially cancelled...not yet anyway.

One participant wondered about how commuter stats have changed for major employers. This could be a question for the employer transportation coordinator program, which has been on hiatus. Here is the link to that program:

<https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/publicworks/page/employee-transportation-coordinator-etc-program>

James Feldmann (ODOT)

There will be an online Open House, March 5-21, to present the next phase of facility planning for OR 99W/SW 3rd Ave in South Corvallis. Stayed tuned and keep an eye on this website for updates:

<https://www.oregon.gov/odot/projects/pages/project-details.aspx?project=R2-Plan-01>

Larry Weymouth (350.org)

Highlighted OSU's official strategy for reducing single-occupant vehicles on campus. You can find OSU's comprehensive management plan for sustainable transportation here:

<https://transportation.oregonstate.edu/sustainable-transportation>. This provides a bold example and leadership for our community. It could raise expectations across our city as well as the question – what are the sustainable transportation goals of other employers in our city?

Steph Nappa (COG Transportation Planner)

Bike share planning continues through meetings with OSU staff, lots of support and interest for OSU to be a key part of the system. Other meetings included city staff to discuss putting bike share stations in city right-of-ways (i.e., street and sidewalk areas managed by city). Pursuing an ODOT innovation grant for software that will be used to simulate and plan for most efficient station placement layouts and how best to chain bike and transit trips through station placement. Participants asked about whether major apartment complexes and developments will be considered for placement of bike share stations. This would probably require sponsorship and willingness to pay for a station by the property owners. Sponsorship could include free access to the bike share program. Others suggested the city should require large developments sponsor bike share stations to reduce car use and encouraging biking.

Josh Capps (COC Active Transportation Program)

Corvallis has declined in their city ranking by People For Bikes from 51st in 2019 to 115th in 2020. The city is seeking better rankings and probably getting hit hardest in scoring less because of infrastructure and more on other factors. Questions about factors leading to Corvallis sinking in the rankings: How much of the ranking is our city staying the same and other cities moving forward? Eugene knocks us out of the water on acceleration. Citizen input about feelings is

important. People For Bikes website and city ratings: <https://www.peopleforbikes.org/>, <https://cityratings.peopleforbikes.org/all-cities-ratings/>).

Other news: City is getting closer to a TSP implementation on a major street running North-South, which will entail removal of a parking lane on one side to make for safer bike commuting, project is with the engineering team now and will be done when street is scheduled for resurfacing. Exact street to be named later.

ODOT has two internships open till March 2. They are paid part-time safe routes to school/safety internships, an opportunity for high school and college students and recent grads. See job announcement here: [Public Relations Internship for students](#).

Annette Mills (Coalition)

A video of the Coalition's annual meeting is now available: <https://sustainablecorvallis.org/2021/01/annual-meeting-video/>.

Coalition focus on parking reform in Corvallis continues. The Land Use Action Team has provided testimony to city council on parking minimums and affordable housing. City is conducting a Corvallis Parking Program Audit to streamline parking in city. This advisory group held its last meeting last week, staff will be coming forward with recommendations soon, consultant seems to be forward-looking, advisory group encouragingly referenced Donald Shoup (author of "The High Cost of Free Parking"), however, some pushback to recommendations is anticipated. Several white papers from the Corvallis Parking Program Audit are available on the Land Use Action Team's website hosted by OSU: <http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/anth481/LUAT/Audit.html>

Marge Stevens (Coalition)

The coalition recognized Rachel Schwindt for delivering by bike First Alternative Co-op's snack boxes before the annual meeting. Special thanks to Judy Dugan and Donna Tarasawa, who created the delicious snack box mix and prepared 75 boxes for the meeting.

Steve Dobrinich (COG Transportation Planner)

CAMPO is getting started on an update to the long-range 20-year Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), more info on website (<https://corvallisareampo.org/planning-programming/rtp/>). The RTP is distinct from the Transportation System Plans (TSP) developed by Cities and Counties and updating it every five years is a requirement for our region receiving federal transportation funds. CAMPO will be working on the update throughout the year and will provide more information, including opportunities for input, as work moves forward. There could be a traffic impact analysis with next annexation, which would lead to recommendations. Rachel: Federal funding needed to complete Benton County's redesign of sections of 53rd. The current multi-use path has

many driveways with vegetation blocking visibility and can have large muddy puddles, it is not a pleasant ride. Currently it is semi-terrifying to get across Philomath Blvd at 53rd as there is no bike lane going north. Cyclists are forced to go on sidewalk at entrance of Dutch Brothers Coffee where there can be conflicts with drivers who do not stop at stop sign. Rachel has reported problem to City and requested they install green safety markings at driveway. Josh gets a lot of complaints about vegetation on 53rd, but the city can't do anything because it is managed by Benton County. Suggestion: direct calls to Benton County to pursue a work order. LWV met with Jay Yaich, planning for city, transport ingress/egress, public works, or planning. Josh development review.

Dennis Stillwaggon (Stewardship Inc.)

After attending many government meetings, there is concern about where changes are going to happen. Two key priorities across government are 1) climate change and 2) racial and economic equity and equity in where government focuses spending. Public bodies and special interests are trying to justify funding changes toward areas they are most interested in and expedite big changes in policy. Biden's appointments are competent, professional, and rational, with management and technical background in policy, all very encouraging. Bad news: 90% of money is still going to same people. Good news: within the 10% area, we could have a huge effect and provide an opportunity. Big, powerful, slow stuff needs to work over the long-term. It is important to publish information in support of policies in order for various parties of gain agency and access to the process, especially true for underserved communities (including people who bike).