

FOUNDATION FOR ADA/CANYON TRAIL SYSTEMS INC. (F.A.C.T.S.)  
COMPASS ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL – 700 N.E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Meridian, ID 83642  
Called for 3:00 P.M., April 28, 2021

In attendance:

Justin Lucas	ACHD Deputy Director Planning & Project Manager
Mark Eubank	Boise Citizen and Trails Advocate
Trevor Kesner	City of Boise Parks Planning Administrator
Wm. F. "Bill" Gigray	Citizen and FACTS President
Gary Payne	Citizen and FACTS Vice President
Gary Segers	Citizen and ACHD Bicycle Advisory Committee Vice Chair
Sharon Hubler	Citizen and FACTS Secretary
Bob Hay	Boise Citizen and Trails Advocate
Paul Mann	Caldwell City Pathways and Bike Routes Committee
Robert Minch	City of Eagle Parks, Pathways & Recreation Commission
Steve Noyes	City of Eagle Trails and Pathways Superintendent
Karen Danley	F.A.C.T.S. Equestrian Director
Jan Johns	Executive Director, Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands
Mark Wasdahl	Idaho Transportation Dept. District 3 Senior Planner
Bobby Withrow	City of Kuna Parks and Recreation Director
Kim Warren	City of Meridian Pathways Project Manager
Cody Swander	Nampa Parks Department Superintendent
Phil Peterson	Nampa Citizen and FACTS Treasurer
Jennifer Salmons	City of Star City Council

Guests: Alayne Blicke – lifelong equestrian and educator

Paul Schwedelson, Idaho Press Reporter

Mark Pemble, Caldwell City Pathways and Bike Routes Committee

John Ottenhoff, Avid road cyclist and Board, Boise Bicycle Project

The meeting opened informally at 3:00 PM with agencies giving details on their work for purposes of an upcoming article in the Idaho Press on connectivity of bike routes by Paul Schwedelson.

President Gigray reminded the group of the inception in 1988 by both Ward Parkinson and Judy Peavey-Derr of having a continuous bike path from Lucky Peak Dam to Eagle Island State Park. Boise Trail Foundation and its successor organization Foundation for Ada/Canyon Trail Systems, Inc. (FACTS) has grown this concept with a lot of support by COMPASS.

Responses by Agency Heads:

City of Eagle – Steve Noyes – pathway system has used counters very effectively. Steve commented that the FACTS group has been an education and networking source for him during the last six years. Connecting to Caldwell and beyond and having Master Plans that leverage through development parcels one at a time has been good for Eagle. Communities of Star and Middleton are welcome to assistance from Eagle. Canals offer east and west connectivity to augment the system.

City of Boise – Trevor Kesner – getting ready to strategically close specific sections of greenbelt starting May 3<sup>rd</sup> to be rebuilt in concrete. Better bike/ped maps are available at [www.cityofboise.org/greenbelt](http://www.cityofboise.org/greenbelt), which manages 25 miles along the river. Eagle, Meridian and Kuna border Boise city limits. Pathways Master Plan Work Group are identifying canal connectivity on pathway or otherwise. Since city of Boise is fully built out, cities of Kuna, Eagle and Meridian are better positioned to ask new developments to provide pathway segments.

City of Caldwell – Paul Mann – commented that COMPASS deeply involved in interactive map to see where pathways exist and will exist in the future.

Gary Segers recommended reading the book "Pathway of Dreams: Building the Boise Greenbelt" by David Proctor.

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City of Meridian – Kim Warren – located in the middle of the valley, so looking to our edges. South of Meridian routes on Linder and Locust Grove north to the Boise River and Ridenbaugh. Also, center of Rails with Trails project and gradually trying to get easements adjacent to corridor.

City of Star – Jennifer Salmonsens – fairly new city, incorporated in 1997. Master Pathways Plan not currently developed. Working with Steve Noyes to gain agreements along canals. There's a 1.5 mile natural trail along Boise River, which does not connect on either end for now.

City of Nampa – Cody Swander – city of Nampa just updated its Pathway Master Plan. Located south of the Boise River it does not abut cities. Master agreements with irrigation districts. Development provides deeded ground or easements typically along canals, irrigation drains. Lots of connectivity within Nampa. Purchase an exchange on Stoddard Pathway adding one mile. Master Plan is available online. Looking west to Caldwell, east to Meridian.

ACHD – Justin Lucas – primarily deals with pathways, sidewalks, which are parallel with roadway right-of-way network. Beginning to build lots more multi-use pathways, not so fond of bike lanes on roadways anymore. Two separate bike/ped s are being built upside/topside of curb.

ITD – Mark Wasdahl, District Senior Planner – Typically sidewalk facilities only as part of roadway projects and limited to 8 feet. Now, with the passage of HB 131 unless the governing board makes a written finding supporting the public necessity for sidewalk or sidepaths of greater width. Sidepaths both sides of Karcher Road by working with jurisdictions to provide connectivity.

FACTS Equestrian Director – Karen Danley – she is an avid biker, equestrian director living in Ada County representing international and national levels. Horsemanship is a rich part of Idaho's history. Needs are a place to park larger vehicle and trails for endurance riders of 50 to 100 miles. Prospect of Equestrian Skills Trail in Eagle Island State Park.

Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands – Jan Johns, Executive Director – Worked to maintain connectivity between Boise and Garden City with replacement of bridge after 2017 flood. Two bridges on Plantation Island north side to south side by EXPO Idaho.

Ada County – in absence of Scott Koberg Gary Seger spoke on behalf of Ada County's being a great partner in pathway system.

City of Eagle Parks, Pathways and Recreation Commission – Robert Minch – connect to Eagle Island State Park from Lucky Peak, long awaited dream. Gaining trust of property owner with a continuous mode of planning and coordination; *i.e.*, easements in place.

City of Caldwell Pathways and Bike Routes Committee – Mark Pemble and Paul Mann – appealed to ITD design phase regarding federal study on Lake Lowell and needing a tunnel under Highway 55 for purposes of connectivity with FLAP grant by Canyon Highway District #4 undertaking 27 miles around Lake Lowell initial highway improvements within next two or three years. Wine tour – tourist bicycle venues associated with the Sunnyslope Wine Trail within Snake River AVA.

Citizen – Bob Hay, Boise – making good progress, ACHD working on 11th Street Pathway and agrees concrete has a much better lifetime.

John Ottenhoff – Board of Boise Bicycle Project – lives by Lake Lowell; he is active in the Canals Connect Community Coalition (4Cs)

Citizen – Mark Eubank, Boise – working on information booth along greenbelt sometime in August/September, a more suitable time. He is also checking into a seminar with Dutch Cycling Embassy.

General Discussion:

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This year's legislation S.B. 1020 extends recreational liability, signed by Governor. H.B. 131 also signed by the Governor provides for widening of sidepaths along highway systems.

COMPASS has provided counters and Eagle's usage is on the way to 1 million users...more than 600,000 within city limits in three places on boundaries, one in city center. Foothills Trails consist of 30-mile system. The Data Bike assesses condition of pathway system; *i.e.*, helps manage failure rate.

Paul Schwedelson reporter liked how agencies are working together. Bill thanked both Paul and Mark Pemble. Note that uniformity of design on pathway system is a goal.

1. Call to order and Introductions Wm. F. "Bill" Gigray, President  
Visual roll call and welcome to FACTS tenth ZOOM meeting.
2. Approve Agenda (call for additions or edits) Wm. F. "Bill" Gigray, President  
*It was moved by Gary Payne, seconded by Karen Danley to approve the Agenda as modified by having agency reports at the beginning. No one dissented remotely. Motion carried.*
3. Administrative Action Items and Officer Reports
  - a. Secretary's Report Sharon Hubler
    - i. Minutes of March 24, 2021  
Karen asked if corrections should be logged in before the meeting and the response was yes. Karen would like to have the last two sentences of her report omitted with the substitution of "...awaiting a green light from new IDPR Director Susan Buxton."  
*It was moved by Karen Danley, seconded by Mark Eubank that the Minutes of March 24, 2021, be approved as corrected. No one dissented remotely. Motion carried.*
  - b. Treasurer's Report Phil Peterson
    - i. Differs a little this time. Financial submission was made for the Ada County Long Form Application for Property tax exemption on the real property as of 12/30/20, Real Property = value is \$4,000; Bank Account = \$ 6,314.16 for Assets of \$10,314.16 -0- Liabilities; Profit & Loss: Donations \$ 281.82 (minus 2.0% charge for Paypal; Expenditures \$300 Easement Application and \$6.50 Property Tax for a loss of (24.68) reducing Equity from \$10,338.84 to \$10,314.16.  
*It was moved by Phil Peterson, seconded by Gary Payne that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. No one dissented remotely. Motion carried.*
  - c. President's Report Wm. F. "Bill" Gigray
    - i. City of Middleton  
City of Middleton is a necessary link and Bill wants to get them involved in pathway systems north and south of the Boise River. Middleton City Council has scheduled 10 minutes for FACTS presentation on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm and material must be delivered five days ahead of time.
    - ii. Meeting with Susan Buxton, Director, Idaho Dept. of Parks & Recreation  
The time is right to set up a meeting to discuss Eagle Island State Park Mace Road entry and Fish Hatchery Road.  
*It was moved by Sharon Hubler and seconded that Bill Gigray be authorized to set up a meeting with Susan Buxton. No one dissented remotely. Motion carried.*  
Note: Karen Danley, Robert Minch, Steve Noyes and Justin Lucas (ACHD) are to be invited to accompany Bill.
  - d. Vice President's Report Gary Payne
    - i. 52<sup>nd</sup> Street Bridge River Crossing – Gary has chaired this subcommittee, which has met since July 2020. He wants a recommendation from FACTS on proceeding with the bridge project, which would remove a .6 mile detour from the greenbelt to get

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back onto the greenbelt for crossing a proposed bridge to Plantation Island. FACTS has received an easement from the Idaho Dept. of Lands. The cost estimate to fund Phase I's specific engineering requirements and other permits is estimated at \$22k plus cost. FACTS cannot submit a grant request to COMPASS. It has to be a municipality entity. Lisa Bachmann has access to electronics in an effort to prepare a grant due May 4, 2021. In order for FACTS to proceed Gary wants the board to agree with this activity. The mayor of Garden City has been most accommodating when he met with Gary Payne and Bill Mullane. Several letters of support will be gathered including Ada County working with Scott Koberg.

*It was moved by Gary Payne, seconded by Paul Mann that FACTS commit to Phase I to scope the project for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Street bike/ped bridge and, in partnership with Garden City, to seek a grant in which FACTS might need to step up for \$1,768. No one dissented remotely. Motion carried.*

4. Mark Eubanks ideas for trip to Europe 2022

Plan is for a two to three-day seminar in Holland first or second week of May 2022.

Estimate of 15 to 25 persons. Airline fares impossible to guesstimate.

Steve Noyes stated cities are preparing budgets right now. As soon as possible cost estimates and a cost structure from a recent seminar would have to be forthcoming.

Budget in Nampa for 2022 is pretty close and Meridian echoed that its budget was mostly not budgeting for any travel. Bottom line...FY '23 might make more sense. Karen mentioned other cities might be interested in attending this seminar such as Seattle, Portland, Salt Lake City as well as Jimmy Hallyburton, Boise Bicycle Project. Mark will continue his homework and present more information at the next meeting.

"Heightened visibility of FACTS" – Information booth along Boise River and Bob Hay suggested near the Sandbar...Robert Minch and Gary Segers in charge of tables and poster; Mark Eubanks has banner and boxes. What's needed is a canopy purchased from COSTCO. Further suggestion on location was Plantation Island .

*It was moved by Mark Eubanks, seconded by Paul Mann to approve the purchase of a canopy for less than \$150. No one dissented remotely. Motion carried.*

As a reminder month of May has activities planned by Treasure Valley Cycling Association, according to Gary Segers.

5. Combined discussion on Trail Usage and Etiquette (deferred to June 2021's meeting or come back for discussion in October after cities adopt finalized budgets in August/September)

Elements of budget process: Discuss where we are on each agency's effort to obtain funding. Right now, mostly stuck with fixed appropriations. Strategize friend and foe.

Jennifer Salmonsens noted that Star does not have dedicated funds in its budget. Trevor Kesner in terms of economics on construction noted that bids are coming in 3x higher than before. Setting our stakes and in the meantime devising how to put strategy together.

Bob Hay noted that all have the same general playing field because all use trails.

Trevor stated that city of Boise will be transferring one of its parks to city of Eagle located at the end of Laguna Pointe. Kim said Meridian has completed trailhead one mile north of Ustick on Five-Mile Creek. Join evening tour May 12. Of interest to Nampa, impact areas close to touching. Mark Wasdahl indicated that the Middleton to Sunnyslope curve on Highway 55 is still in the NEPA process. Underpass is hampered by the entire Seventh Day Adventist property being an historical property. Undercrossing of Highway 55 requires an extra mile on each side for approaches. SHPO (State Historical Preservation Officer) will weigh in on the 33 or 34 parcels located on Adventist property. Mark could not say much

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more until the Annual Update, which goes forward in May for public comment, then goes to the ITD board June 10<sup>th</sup>. Bill reiterated there are some significant federal funds in the FLAP grant around Lake Lowell. Mark continued that Wildlife overcrossing on Highway 21 and that an undercrossing for deer at the Banks Beach site is being contemplated. The Banks Lowman intersection is a big project. The Vallivue School District bought part of the Adventist site for its elementary school. Rhodes Bakery on Highway 55 wants to avoid a long-term lease. NEPA on the Highway 55 project will be done in September and includes 30.0% for design. Final stage on easements paperwork for EISP entry.

Adjournment

The meeting stood adjourned at 5:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hubler, Secretary