

Kachemak Drive Path Committee



Friday
June 17, 2011
Regular Meeting 5:30 p.m.



City Hall Cowles Council Chambers
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

**MEETING NOTICE
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AGENDA APPROVAL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
 - A. Minutes for the Regular Meeting on May 26, 2011 Page 5
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA**
- 5. RECONSIDERATION**
- 6. VISITORS**
 - A. Jocelyn Biloon, Alaska Department of Transportation - TBD
- 7. STAFF & COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION REPORTS**
- 8. PUBLIC HEARING(S)**
- 9. PENDING BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion on the Final Agenda Items for the Public Open House on June 23, 2011
- 10. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Memorandum dated June 9, 2011 Re: Committee Schedule - Four Meetings Page 9
- 11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**
- 12. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**
- 13. COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF** *(If present)*
- 14. COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE**
- 15. ADJOURNMENT/NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR _____**
AT 5:30 P.M. A PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE ON JUNE 23, 2011
5:30 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M. All meetings scheduled to be held in the Homer City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Kachemak Drive Path Meeting Notes 5/23/2011

1. Meeting called to order at 6:33pm.

Present: Bumpo Bremicker, Lynn Burton, Joe Litchfield, Beth Cumming, Dave Clemens, Ingrid Harrald

2. Approval of Agenda: Ingrid motions/Joe seconds. Motion passes.

3. Approval of minutes: Lynne motions, Joe seconds. Motion passes.

4. Public Comments:

Jack Lentfer (a Homer resident)- commends committee and trail work going on East from base of spit. This trail will not be suitable for bikes, so he strongly supports working towards a trail on Kachemak Drive, widening lanes also a good idea. Especially liked Joe's idea of lowering speed limit on K Drive during summer months.

5. Visitors: None

6. No commission reports

7&8. No Staff Reports or public hearings.

9. Pending Business:

Path Location and construction:

Reports:

A. Dave Clemens Proposal for Expanding Road Shoulders-

Put together overview for the public meeting in June. Has Pros and Cons. Included wording from non-motorized traffic plans. The big difference is that it needs to be 4 feet with signage on either side of road to have it "labeled" as bike lane. Liked the expanded shoulder, better than nothing. Kevin though we could get 5 feet on each side if we narrow road. It is a possibility. Expanded shoulders of any width still have many benefits. (see handout)

Discussion about different ways to present the different options. Decided that we would like the shoulder option to be the 4 foot official DOT bike lanes with signage. Beth was concerned about the north side at base of spit but thinks we should support the idea anyway. Focus is that it is the most cost-effective path and best option for increasing safety.

Bumpo- Kachemak Drive is all no-passing zone and that the road is straight and this might allow the adding of a passing zone on the straight areas. There are three areas that this could happen.

B. Joe – Reduce Speed Interim Plan

– Not a permanent plan. He would like to suggest this plan for a two or three year period– something we can do as we work towards completing the other bike path. Would like it done this summer. The plan is to reduce speed limit along Kachemak Drive to 25mph during summer “stud-less tire” months. The road is very dangerous and reducing speed would make it safer. This would be fun making it bicycle-friendly and he has asked many property owners and they are all for it. The lower speed limit would only add 2 minutes to commute. This will be a mini solution until we get the bike lane in. During this period, there could be some data taken on road use etc. And the local police could help. (see handout)

Discussion on how enforcement of speed control would be handled. Would police be enough? That combined with narrower lanes would help to slow people down. Discussion on whether it should be year round or during just summer months. Mixed opinions. Would like to make it that pedestrians and bicyclists have the right of way, not cars. Make it a “scenic drive” and put consistent speed signs along road. Right now we are going to start with just a summer change.

Pros- not costly

- only the cost of a few signs
- can be done immediately, would have to check with state to get their approval, as long as the city requested
- would bring out many more people biking on that road.
- On Homer’s Non-Motorized Transportation and Trail Plan

Cons -

- people driving on this road will be slowed down.
- Enforcement – will it be enforceable?

C. Bumpo – Power line ROW Separated Recreation Trail:

Power line right-a-way along already existing along Kachemak Drive.

- This trail begins at spit road along the proposed high tide trail, up airport access road, under power line on south side of K drive.
- Crosses K Drive to the north side of road at the boat yard. From there it runs under power line on north side until Arctic Tern Rd. It may have to go out in road at Benson house and adjacent lots.
- From there it goes back to power line along to Morris Avenue where it cuts away from road for a tenth of a mile and then joins the road power line easement around mile marker 3.
- It continues to follow the power line ROW until just before NE boatyard where it crosses to the South/East side of road due to deep ditches and narrow shoulder.
- Will continue on south side until crossing over to west side at the city property.
- Not necessarily paved trail, could be gravel.

Dave commented - not a great plan to have the trail mimic the road, as it makes for bike/car interaction.

Pros

- does not use private land, only easements
- close to K Drive along most of route
- clearing already done under power line
- trail safety off the power line
- on Homer's proposed non-motorized transportation plan

Con

- need agreement with HEA and land owners
- trail must be low enough for electric company maintenance
- some wet areas may require bridges
- may need AC Engineers and wildlife permits
- expensive gravel, path, paving
- road crossings are too many

Beth is looking into crossing in aviation land. Not getting anywhere with it and she would like to look into the NERR land – frustrated that she can't do anything else. She will wait until these plans move forward and are approved by city council.

Beth – we need to decide what level trail this should be and what materials they should use. Floating walkway will not work here. She would prefer natural organic material.

Ingrid thinks this should go to commission and then make it to city council. Beth does not want the committee to be disbanded. Beth would like to revisit the initial goal.

Proposals

-should get copies to the city to Renee to type up and get her to pull some maps to us.

Renee's Questions:

1. The committee will be holding the public open house.
2. We will be talking about the proposals for three trails.
2. Would like to send out a public mailing/invitation and a survey.
3. Yes. Maps and proposals written up.
4. Yes. We would like a comment form similar to Spit plan to get the public comments.
5. see above.
6. No – we would like to present in a low-key way with things presented in various places.

7. We would like approximately 1 to 1.5 hours
8. Yes. We would like to have at KBBI and Homer News – can I make flyer
9. Yes, City Council, Carey and Walt would be great.

No visitors

11. &12 – No comments from audience or staff.

Comments of members:

Beth –work party on trail at base of spit on Sunday. Volunteers lined up. Clearing a place along what has been cut. Next beach logs need to be moved.

Lynne- I'm not ready to give up on this committee – let's keep going

Ingrid- will Lynne and Beth put together a proposal for the open house?

Dave – really work hard on those proposals and get them ready for next meeting.

Bumppo- thinks we're making great progress. Work on proposals and get to Renee asap.

Next meeting at June 17th at 5:30pm.

Meeting ended at 8:29pm.

Office of the City Clerk

Jo Johnson, CMC, City Clerk

Melissa Jacobsen, CMC, Deputy City Clerk II
Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I



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MEMORANDUM

TO: KACHEMAK DRIVE PATH COMMITTEE
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I
DATE: JUNE 9, 2011
RE: NEXT MEETING SCHEDULES

This is the last Regular Meeting scheduled for this Committee please review and determine which dates below work for the meetings through September. Please note when considering the dates for your meetings that they may change or be cancelled due to the ongoing construction at City Hall over the next several months. Current dates available as of June 9, 2011 are:

THE MONTH OF JULY HAS THE FOLLOWING DATES AVAILABLE.

Thursday July 7, 2011 & July 28, 2011 (Preferred Meeting Day)
Wednesday July 6, 2011 & July 13, 2011
Tuesday July 19, 2011 & July 26, 2011
Monday July 11, 2011 & July 18, 2011

THE MONTH OF AUGUST HAS THE FOLLOWING DATES AVAILABLE.

Thursday August 4, 2011 & August 25, 2011
Wednesday August 10, 2011 & August 31, 2011
Tuesday August 23, 2011 & August 30, 2011
Monday August 1, 2011 & August 15, 2011 & August 29, 2011

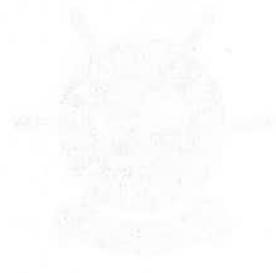
THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER HAS THE FOLLOWING DATES AVAILABLE.

Thursday September 1, 8, 22, 29, 2011
Wednesday September 14, 2011
Tuesday September 20, 2011 & September 27, 2011
Monday September 19, 2011

Recommendation

Recommend the committee review and determine which of the dates available will work best and submit to Staff the following day so they can be entered into the Clerk's Meeting Calendar to reserve the Council Chambers.

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2. The second part of the document is a list of names and titles, including "The Hon. Mr. Justice" and "The Hon. Mr. Justice".

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