

# MINUTES

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**March 8, 2023**  
**McMinnville Economic Vitality Leadership Council**  
**Regular Meeting**

**3:00 pm**  
**Zoom Meeting**  
**McMinnville, Oregon**

**Members Present:** Carson Benner, Chris Chenoweth, Steve Patterson, Dani Chisholm, Deven Paolo, Erin Stephenson, and Mike Morris

**Members Absent:** Walt Gowell, John Dietz, Heather Miller, Trena McManus, Ellen Brittan, and Gerardo Ochoa

**Staff Present:** Gioia Goodrum - McMinnville Chamber of Commerce, Jeff Knapp - Visit McMinnville, Patty Herzog and Heather Hadley Blank - McMinnville Economic Development Partnership, and Heather Richards – Community Development Director

**Others Present:** Dave Haugeberg and Brett Baker – Newberg Dundee Bypass Parkway Committee and Jody Christensen – Community Development Special Projects Manager

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## 1. Call to Order

Chair Benner called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

## 2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

This item was not discussed.

## 3. Minutes

- October 12, 2022

There was no quorum present to approve the minutes.

## 4. Discussion Items

- Newberg Dundee Bypass

Dave Haugeberg, Newberg Dundee Bypass Parkway Committee Chair, spoke about what had been accomplished for Phase 1 of the Bypass and the money that had been raised. He explained what was next for Phase 2 in purchasing right-of-way, engineering, realigning

Wilsonville Road, and constructing the interchange on 219. Construction for the interchange was set to start in 2024. The next piece needed was from 219 to 99W and Rex Hill.

Brett Baker, Newberg Dundee Bypass Parkway Committee member, discussed the funding needed and possible sources.

Mr. Haugeberg discussed working with legislators for the funding and strategy for Phase 3. The groups were working as one unit to get the project done.

Community Development Director Richards said the portion from Dayton to McMinnville was not yet done. Was there a way to have it be Phase 4?

Mr. Haugeberg said it might be a long time before that was completed, and they needed to make sure things were in place to make it possible.

Mr. Baker explained how lobbying worked and Springboard Enterprises' contribution.

There was discussion regarding threats to the project, how the Parkway Committee and partnerships had been critical to the success so far, and the need to function as a team.

Mr. Haugeberg asked if Committee members could promote the project to elected officials.

- MESO 40/60 Forgivable Loan

Jody Christensen, Community Development Special Projects Manager, reviewed the projects funded by the 8212 or Noble Grant which helped businesses with recovery from the impacts of Covid. This proposal was to develop a loan forgiveness program with Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon. The point of a 40/60 loan program was to help businesses not ready to go to a traditional bank. She had been working with MESO on the 40/60 loan, which originally had been up to \$500,000, which would mean \$10,000 loans with \$4,000 forgiven. The terms were to be 36 months with a grace period of 4 months to make the first payment. However, MESO expressed concern about the appetite for \$10,000 loans and building connections with the businesses. The money had to be obligated by June 30, 2024 and fully expended by December 31, 2026. MESO came back with \$20,000 loans instead with \$8,000 forgivable with 24-month terms, and the City's \$235,000 would be the entire amount for the program. MESO would administer the loan program and charge \$500 for technical assistance.

There was discussion regarding making it work with MESO or looking at other alternatives such as local banks who could contribute to the program or reaching out to the Council of Governments. There was further discussion regarding risk, timelines, repayment, interest on the loan, grants vs. loans, and possibly moving this money to the current business assistance grant program.

There was consensus to move forward with the loan program with the terms suggested by MESO.

- At-Large Vacancy Position

The Committee gave suggestions for possible candidates to fill the at-large vacancy position.

5. Rumor Mill

None

6. Citizen Comments

None

7. Committee Member Comments

None

8. Staff Comments

None

9. Adjournment

Chair Benner adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m.