

Meeting called to order by Heather Richards, Planning Director.

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- A Reminder of What You Accomplished in Phase A
- Phase B and C Project Process and PAC Role
- Review of Functional Alternatives
 - A.) Seek a short-list (no more than 3 options) by end of December PAC
 - B.) Discuss relevant evaluation criteria for PAC consideration
 - C.) Confirm any next steps and updates for January PAC (selection of single functional alternative)

Attendees

Scott Hill, Mayor
Jeff Towery, City Manager
Heather Richards, Planning Director
Anne Pagano, Public Works Director
Susan Muir, Parks & Rec Director
Adam Tate, Associate Planner
Josh Adleman, Engineering
Ben Weber, SERA Project Manager
Dave Renshaw, Public Works
Kelly McDonald, Murac
Kelly Menke, City Council
Dave Rucklos, McMinnville Downtown Association
Heather Miller, McMinnville Downtown Association
John Dietz, Mac Water & Light
Mike Morris, Murac
Ken Diener, Architect, resident
Chelsea Nichol, The Bindery
Jeff Knapp, Visit McMinnville
Steve, Chair of Public Art Committee
Carson Benner, Economic Vitality Council
Alejandro, Murac, Golden Valley Brewing
Gerry, MDA Board Member
Walt, (lead the meeting)

(There may be a couple I missed on here)

Heather: gave wrap up of work completed so far.

Presentation of 6 Functional Alternatives: Ben Weber, SERA

Ben Weber presented the 6 functional alternatives.

1. Rebuild to Existing Cross-section
2. Expand Curb Extensions
3. One-way w/Bike Lane
4. Wider Sidewalks/One-Sided Parking
5. Chicane
6. Full Pedestrian Mall

Ben also discussed the project timeframe and next steps.

Functional Alternatives: Today

Street Tree Alternatives: Jan-Feb

Design Theme Alternatives: Feb-April

Discussion of 6 functional alternatives by the group

Group members debated and discussed the perceived merits and drawbacks of the proposed alternatives in terms of traffic flow, parking, pedestrian access, bicycles, aesthetics, traffic calming, business, landscaping, etc.

Group was very concerned about parking and ensuring vehicular access to Third Street. They did not like 6. Full Pedestrian Mall as an option or 5. Chicane.

Others expressed concerns about moving forward with decisions without consulting their constituents; business and property owners along Third Street.

Some members present professed a desire for a One-Way Street conversion, Ben from SERA informed them that it is a model most cities are reverting away from, but that it might be a successful model for McMinnville.

Group consensus was very in favor of increased sidewalk width, whether by limiting parking on one side of the street, reducing the street to a one-way, or reducing the two-lane travel lanes from 12 to 10 feet wide. Group was also very interested in expanding the curb extensions.

After much discussion Heather, Ben and Walt called the group to a vote conducted as a Zoom Meeting Poll where participants were instructed to select their top 3 choices among the 6 proposed alternatives.

Poll Results

The top three proposed alternatives from the poll results were the following:

4. Wider Sidewalks/One-Sided Parking (89%)
2. Expanded Curb Extensions (79%)
1. Rebuild Existing Cross-Section (47%)

Group discussion then resumed on what options to discard. The group quickly decided to eliminate 6. Full Pedestrian Mall and 5. Chicane and 3. One Lane w/Bike Lane

After much discussion the group was leaning most towards either option 4. Or Option 2. But was not ready to eliminate Option 1.

Parking concerns were brought up again, but several were keen to point out the large availability of parking on adjacent streets, the option to introduce angled/chevron parking on side streets and the large size of the parallel spots along Third Street, meaning that the space could be better utilized and loose minimum if any parking.

The group is very interested in wider sidewalks by any means possible, but not sure about parking on just one side of the street. Some mentioned that the parking side of the street could alternate every block, but Ben pointed out how that would be quite similar to the chicane option that most in the group did not feel was in keeping with McMinnville's historic aesthetic.

The group liked the idea of a creating a 4A and a 4B option
4A being wider sidewalks, two-way traffic and one sided parking
4B being wider sidewalks, one-way traffic with parking on both sides

There were concerns brought up though about how one-way traffic on Third Street would affect the rest of downtown and its traffic flow, so that needs to be carefully studied and considered if the 4B option gains traction.

Meeting was wrapped up by Heather, Ben and Walt. Group members were instructed to talk with their constituents on the issue and prepare for PAC Meeting #2 on January 24th from 10:00 AM till Noon.