

City Council Meeting Minutes

**February 28, 2023
Library Meeting Room
951 Spruce Street
6:00 PM**

Call to Order – Mayor Pro Tem Fahey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. **Roll Call** was taken and the following members were present:

City Council: ***Mayor Dennis Maloney
Mayor Pro Tem Deborah Fahey
Councilmember Caleb Dickinson
Councilmember Barbara Hamlington
Councilmember Dietrich Hoefner
Councilmember Chris Leh
Councilmember Maxine Most***

Staff Present: ***Jeff Durbin, City Manager
Megan Davis, Deputy City Manager
Kurt Kowar, Public Works Director
Cameron Fowlkes, City Engineer
Ryder Bailley, Finance Director
Meredyth Muth, City Clerk***

DISCUSSION/DIRECTION – LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

Director Kowar reviewed the process for annual pavement evaluation and scoring; the lifespan of streets based on use; the factors that influence pavement quality; and the goals for citywide pavement quality.

He noted that in 2015 the Council set a citywide goal of a 75 PCI and we have hit that metric. Now that the metric is met funds for bringing the PCI up could be for other projects if Council is interested.

Kowar reviewed the funding for paving in Louisville versus other cities. He reviewed projected costs to keep the City at the goal PCI rate and he reviewed the budgeted numbers versus the projected costs and the areas where there might be surplus.

Members discussed the PCI goal and what makes sense financially over the long term.

Director Kowar noted the estimated costs for the Future 42 project is about \$92M. The projects have been broken out into phases and there are possible grant opportunities that could be sought. He reviewed the history of the project and the proposed various phases. He noted that when funding becomes available we will need to be ready to move forward on the project.

Public Comments

Sherry Sommer, Louisville, asked if the Council would get public input on the target PCI and paving needs.

Josh Cooperman, Louisville, asked Council to consider transportation options that reduce the City's climate footprint. He suggested providing high quality pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to encourage more use. He would like to see consistent consideration of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in all transportation planning.

Mayor Maloney stated this program has worked well and has gotten the PCI to the goal, especially for those roads in the worst condition. He advocated for keeping the PCI goal at 75. He agreed that there is the need to have better walking and biking options to get people around town. Highway 42 needs to be addressed for better mobility for both pedestrians and bikes. He noted the City does not want to miss the funding opportunities for 42; that money is the only way it is going to happen.

Councilmember Leh asked if multimodal changes are considered at when doing maintenance and repair. Director Kowar stated that is always considered as an option when doing work.

Councilmember Leh stated that providing good roads is one of the Council's most basic city services. There are always competing priorities for the funding, but he advocated for keeping the PCI at 75.

Councilmember Leh asked why South Street underpass is being suggested as a higher priority than the one on South Boulder Road and Highway 42. Director Kowar stated there might be a way to do both given the funding that may be available.

Councilmember Dickinson asked if there is the ability to do both the South Street underpass and the South Boulder Road and Main Street underpass. Director Kowar stated that the Main Street underpass may be doable on its own, but it may not be the first priority given all the safety improvements already made. He noted that 60% of the traffic on Hwy 42 is Louisville/Lafayette traffic so making it more bike/pedestrian friendly may reduce traffic as it is within the bike commuter area.

Councilmember Most would like consideration of an underpass on Hwy 42 at Griffith to get kids to Louisville Middle School. She would like more priority put on safe routes to school.

Councilmember Hoefner stated it appears the program has worked and it is producing a budget surplus so it makes sense to stay the course. Hwy 42 has potential to get major funding so that is an obvious place to try to get funds. If there is a need to move paving money to get matching money for Hwy 42 we should do that.

Councilmember Leh noted there is money from the Revitalization Commission for these projects.

Councilmember Most would like more considerations made for safe routes to school in all areas as it is an equity issue.

Councilmember Dickinson stated he supports moving forward with the Hwy 42 plan and he noted that doing so does not preclude continuing work on the underpass at South Boulder Road and Main Street.

The consensus was to maintain the 75 PCI average and to continue work on Hwy 42 and trying to leverage dollars for the project. Council would like to initiate conversations with the Revitalization Commission regarding funding for the South Street/Hwy 42 underpass.

ADJOURN

Members adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Dennis Maloney, Mayor

Meredyth Muth, City Clerk