

**Urban Renewal Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Special Meeting**  
**November 7, 2019**

Present: Chair Jack Trumbull, Vice Chair Pat McAllister, Abby Capovilla, Jody Behr, Amanda Goeke, Joshua Chandler

Staff: Director of Finance/ACM Will Norris

Absent: Tina Lassen

Notice is hereby given the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee of the City of Hood River will be meeting on Heights District planning activities with the Hood River Heights Business Association. No action is anticipated, and the meeting is open to the public to attend. Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2019 to begin no earlier than 5:30 p.m. at the Hood River Fire Station, 1785 Meyer Parkway, Hood River, OR

I CALL TO ORDER –5:30 p.m.

Trumbull called the meeting to order.

Norris thanked the Hood River Heights Business Association for inviting the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee to the meeting.

Norris gave a brief summary about Urban Renewal, the rolls and responsibilities of Urban Renewal and where the Height Plan currently stands. Norris reviewed the City's webpage to show where to find information on Urban Renewal. The PowerPoint will be added to the record and the audio recording of meeting is available on the City website.

Dani Correa welcomed audience members to ask questions.

Heidi – She is a business owner in the Heights. She asked who pays for the taxi that is borrowed for projects. She does not want parking meters to be placed in the Heights.

Kurt Osborne – He has lived in Hood River since 1970. He gave his history knowledge on parking meters and issues. He does not believe parking meters should be placed in the Heights.

Rachael – She is a new resident of Hood River. She wants a better understanding of the process of this development. She asked if there is an RFP process the City's goes through, to attract developers and other small business owners to meet certain specifications. What is the next step beyond developing these public spaces to be more attractive to business owners?

Ruth – She sees a large amount of money going to district identity. She asked what does that mean?

Brandon Ramey – He is part owner of a building next to the Farm Stand. He spoke about increases to property value and having to pass cost increases to their tenants. He believes there is a balance that needs to be thoughtful and how the City taxes new development in the Heights. The right balance is important. The way the City interfaces with builders has to be an efficient manner, that takes into account the overall goals of development in the Heights. The Heights is right in the middle of where everybody lives on a level. If there is robust infrastructure that supports pedestrians and cars, they will have less of a car problem and parking meter problem. He is excited to see and learn more about the traffic and development plans. Are there regulations on State roads (12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Street)? Does it have to be a double lane on both directions, and can it be switched?

Megan Ramey – She is a Heights resident. Her family walks and bikes everywhere. She is on the City Planning Commission and an organizer for Streets Alive. She was recently appointed as the Active Transportation Representative for all of Region 1 for ODOT. It is her job to put a hat on that represents the Region of four counties, but she is bias with Hood River and the Heights. Next month at the ACT Region 1 meeting, they are getting a list of all the crosswalks, sidewalks and ramps that need to be ADA complaint. She will get an update on where the Heights is on that list. ODOT has just updated all of their engineering design standards around walking and biking infrastructure. She will get to see what those standards look like. That will help shape what 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> will look like. ODOT has told her they follow what the City's transportation plan states. They try to accommodate it as much as possible. It would be the City telling the State what they want to do with the Streets. Ramey also spoke about the process of changing the ownership of 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Street, from ODOT to the City.

There was discussion regarding the City taking ownership of 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> or seeing what can be done about making the area a business district to, slow the speed limit down to 20mph.

McAllister spoke about traffic studies and the projected traffic growth for the next 20 years. There is a lot of things to consider; traffic, parking, safety, emergency services and businesses. They have a very narrow pallet to deal with and they need to keep in mind the Heights is the gateway for the valley.

There was discussion regarding Streets Alive. Concerns and ideas to consider.

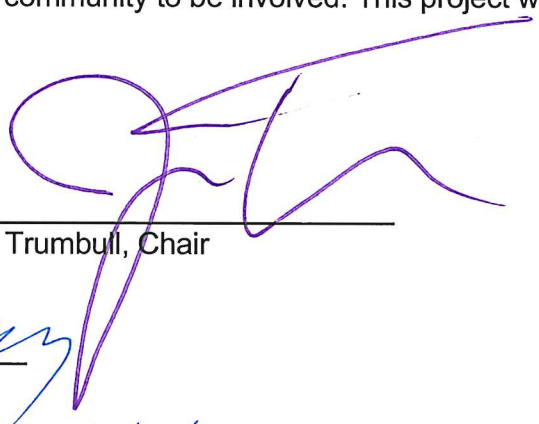
Norris added Urban Renewal as an agency only spends money, that is the only thing that it can do. It does not tell private entities what they can and can't do. It is not a regulatory group or some type of secondary government, policing the Heights in any way. Urban Renewal decides if they want to authorize expenditure funds, if it is a good idea and if it's a

good project.

Trumbull thanked the Hood River Heights Business Association for inviting URAC to the meeting and he thanked the public for attending. He welcomed the public to attend the regular scheduled URAC meetings (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month, 5:30pm), stay informed and be involved.

McAllister encouraged the entire community to be involved. This project will have an effect on the entire valley.

II ADJOURN – 7:00 p.m.



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Jack Trumbull, Chair



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Jennifer Gray, City Recorder

Approved by the Agency on 12/19/19