
South Central Association of Neighbors



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May 8, 2024 - SCAN Monthly Meeting Minutes

Board members present:

Wally Benson, Victor Dodier, Brian Hart, Ariel Loveall, John Prohodsky, Ron Rubel, Jim Schepke, Jeff Schumacher, Lorrie Walker, Evan West, Mark Wigg

Jon Christenson, Roz Shirack, and Brian Sund were excused from attending the meeting.

Guests were present as well. **See Exhibit A - Attendance Roster**

President Victor Dodier called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm with a quorum present.

1. The April 2024 meeting minutes were accepted without corrections.
2. City and County Reports:

Councilors Nishioka and Nordyke were at a City Budget Committee meeting and did not attend the May meeting.

- a. Deb Romano, Salem Code Enforcement

Enforcement actions against the drug house on Howard Court and Rural Ave. are progressing.

3. Announcements

Jim Schepke said the mayor found money to prevent further cuts to the Library budget. Money was taken from the Transit Occupancy Tax fund and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) which were to be used for deferred maintenance on the Bush House and Children's Village.

Wally Benson said the 21st was the last day to vote.

4. Bridge repairs in SCAN

Nicollette Roth and Aaron Edelman described the work to be done on the Mission Street bridge over Pringle Creek. Design work started in 2023 and construction is expected to start

in 2025. The work is funded by the Safety and Livability Bond that was approved by voters in 2022.

Mark Wigg asked if wildlife will be able to pass under the bridge. The clearance under the bridge is too low and they will not be able to pass under the bridge.

John Prohodsky asked if the deck surface will be replaced. Yes, it will be. The work done on the bridge will increase its resistance to flooding. He asked if the bridge is functionally obsolete. It is not.

Mark asked if the bridge will be seismically reinforced. No, it will not. The work is being driven by changes in how ODOT calculates bridge load carrying capacity.

Victor Dodier asked when the bridge was built. They don't know. He asked if the City considered rebuilding the bridge instead of rehabbing it. Replacing bridge railings was considered but it was cut from the project.

Evan West asked if other bridges in SCAN will be worked on. The Mission St. bridge is the only bridge in SCAN being worked on.

Victor Dodier said the Church Street Bridge over Pringle creek has footing scouring and there were no funds in the bond measure for repairs to that bridge. The bridge can carry the weight of a fire truck and is not load rated, i.e. it is not structurally deficient.

5. Neighborhood Engagement Committee

Victor, Ariel and Evan are members, and the committee is looking for more members, up to 8 total. The focus is outreach to neighbors.

6. Neighborhood Safety Committee

Angela Oberly proposed a committee whose focus is neighborhood safety. Some committee members will be liaisons to parks, schools, etc. The focus is taking tangible actions. South High School assigned a vice principal to be a liaison to the committee.

The committee was formed to answer questions such as "what can I do" and "how can I do this".

Lorrie Walkers said she sees others taking action. An example is Salem Keizer collaboration where members of both cities come together to share information and determine how Salem and Keizer can work to address issues in the Salem-Keizer area. Between 50 and 100 people attend those meetings. Susan Ramos of the Salvation Army leads those meetings.

John Edmonds from Can-Do neighborhood said the orange sheet with contact information provided by the City is a valuable resource.

John Prohodsky said the committee needs a charter. Evan said the committee fills gaps and there is a possibility that it might be absorbed by the communications committee.

Angela is the committee's volunteer coordinator. She sees the committee taking actions to improve SCAN and as an umbrella for providing services and volunteering.

7. Annual meeting

Dr. David Lewis of Oregon State University will speak about the history of indigenous people in the Willamette Valley at SCAN's Annual Meeting. Volunteers are needed to provide light snacks for the meeting. Signing up for snacks will be done by email.

Irma Coleman said goals need to be set for 2024-25.

John said Board members will need to provide contact information.

Evan said that the bylaws will be revised. He feels the mission and vision need changes and an equity statement needs to be added.

8. SCAN Communications

Our Instagram site has had over 1000 hits. Brian added a function that allows website visitors to subscribe to SCAN's email list.

Irma did a training on newsletters. She learned that neighborhood associations want a general email account.

John said the secretary will provide monthly meeting visitors' email addresses to the Communications Committee.

Victor said that SCAN producing a newsletter is music to IRMA's ears.

Irma said the City will be promoting neighborhood associations on digital billboards.

John said that the City should try to promote neighborhood associations on screens in the waiting rooms of medical clinics. Also, posters can be placed in local businesses.

SCAN's Communications Fund balance is about 840.00. Its Engagement fund balance is \$1.5K. If the engagement fund is not used by June 30th the unused balance will disappear. Irma can pay for things or reimburse. When asked if either fund could be used for projects associated with SCAN's Heritage Neighborhood designation, Irma said they could not be used for that.

Victor said that Jim Scheppeke has SCAN's banner. The sandwich board that is placed outside of where SCAN meets needs to have the two inserts updated with SCAN's new logo. Lorrie Walker made a motion to purchase:

- New sandwich board inserts,
- Print door hangers promoting SCAN's annual meeting on one side and SCAN on the other side,
- Refrigerator magnet with useful City contact information, and
- Business cards with useful City contact information

using money from SCAN's engagement fund, up to funds available. Jim Scheppke seconded the motion.

The vote was Yes: 11; No: 0; Abstentions: 0. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Committee Reports and Chair Report

a. Land Use Committee

The Land Use Committee did not meet in April. The Committee Chair's report (**Exhibit B**) is attached.

b. Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens Committee

c. The Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens Committee did not meet in April. April was a quiet month, there is no report.

d. Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee met in April. The Committee Chair's report (**Exhibit C**) is attached.

Ian Davison, a principal proponent of Bike Vision, and Ben Fryback, a Bike Vision supporter discussed Bike Vision strategy, incorporate improved bicycle infrastructure when the City plans street improvement projects. Victor said SCAN's approach differs and is asking the City to implement the Transportation System Plan's family friendly bikeways. The buffered bikeway under construction on Commercial Street was discussed. The buffering is a 2 ft. wide painted line which will result in narrower lanes for cars. It has a problem, the Y where liberty diverges from Commercial St. Bikes can't cross it safely unless traffic is stopped. Bicycle crossing lights will be installed at that intersection. There will be a space for bicycles to wait for the crossing light to stop traffic. Below is a picture showing Liberty St. diverging from Commercial St.



A neighbor at 330 Oxford St. contacted Victor about being included in the parking district on Oxford St. It's the only house that is not in the parking district. To include it in the parking district will require signatures from the residents at 330 Oxford St. and 1905 West Nob Hill St.

Jim Scheppeke moved that SCAN approve of 330 Oxford Street being included in the parking district, pending receipt of the required signatures. Mark Wigg seconded.

The vote was Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstentions: 1. Motion passed.

Note: Subsequent to the meeting, the required signatures were received and forwarded to the City.

e. President's report

There was a vote by email to approve a \$300 honorarium for Dr. David Lewis for speaking at SCAN's 2024 Annual Meeting on June 12th. There were 14 yes votes, 0 no votes, and no abstentions. The motion was unanimously approved.

SCAN sponsored projects include:

- Having a table at the Deepwood plant sale
- Forming a Bush's Pasture Park graffiti abatement team

Volunteers are needed to staff a table at the McKinley School fair.

There is interest in having a second street mural in SCAN, specifically in Fairmont Hill, neighborhood clean-up(s), a SCAN garage sale. The Highland Neighborhood Association has sponsored a garage sale trail.

Brian Hart said he would work on grant applications for a second street mural.

No applications have been submitted by Willamette University for approval or needed changes to their baseball field for summer collegiate baseball.

Emergency response preparedness and neighborhood watch were briefly discussed. It is desirable to have a SCAN coordinator for emergency preparedness and neighborhood watch. Joe Hutchinson was mentioned as a speaker to talk about emergency preparedness for either the July or September meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35

Exhibit B
Land Use Committee Report

The Land Use Committee did not meet in April.

We received preliminary notice of two minor developments in the 2300 block of Commercial St. SE. One is for a new replacement canopy at the Chevron Gas Station at 2315 Commercial St. SE. The other is to expand the Big Red Car Wash with a 2nd washing bay and coffee kiosk at 2390 Commercial. No site plans have been completed yet.

Partition of 995 Fairview Ave SE-Approved

The Committee reviewed a partition application for 995 Fairview Ave SE and sent a comment of “no concern” to staff. It would partition the long, narrow 20,520 sq ft lot into parcel #1, a 4,600 sq ft lot with an existing dwelling; and parcel #2, a “flag lot” of 13,300 sq ft at the back. Parcel #2 is limited to a maximum of two dwellings. A site plan for the use of that parcel is not required for the partitioning decision.

City Council’s Proposed Rule Changes, including call-ups and appeals

At its April 22 meeting Council directed staff to further analyze which, if any, types of administrative land use decisions involve staff discretion (eg. approving adjustments to development standards) and should remain subject to Council call-up. Council directed staff to reach out to neighborhood associations to discuss staff recommendations. Staff will likely not return to Council with any code amendment recommendations for about a year, after which there would be notice of a public hearing.

Willamette University Baseball Stadium Changes

Willamette University has not sent any site plan to the City.

Submitted by Roz Shirack, Chair

SCAN Land Use Committee

Exhibit D

Transportation Committee Report

The SCAN Transportation Committee met at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 by Zoom. Attendees: Victor Dodier, Jim Schepke, Cheryl Hummon and Mark Wigg with guests Ian Davidson and Ben Fryback of Bike Vision.

The agenda was:

- Bicycle Infrastructure in South Salem
- Affect of construction on bike lanes
- Adding 330 Oxford Street (a residence) to the Residential Parking District
- Traffic impacts on High and Cross Street of baseball proposal
- Other items suggested by committee members

Bike Vision

Ian Davison, a principal proponent of Bike Vision, and Ben Fryback, a Bike Vision supporter and also a member of the Morningside NA board, gave a background presentation on Bike Vision's strategy to improve bicycle infrastructure in Salem. Essentially, Bike Vision advocates to incorporate improved bicycle infrastructure when the City plans street improvement projects. Examples include a project on Union Street.

Victor explained SCAN's slightly different approach ... asking the City to implement the family friendly bikeways that are planned in the Salem Transportation System Plan but not implemented. One example of success is the signage designating the bike way connecting Bush Park with Clark Creek Park. SCAN has a pending request to redesignate High Street as a local street (from a collector) and route a bikeway over it from Vista in the south to Leslie in north and connecting to the bike way on Church Street.

We discussed drawbacks of both approaches. Because the City's street improvement projects do not necessarily connect with one another, Bike Vision's approach can lead to a disconnected segments of bikeways. For instance, when the City announced project to improve Commercial between Oxford and Madrona, Victor had asked if the bikeway improvements could be continued onto Liberty Street. The City's response was no, there was not money in the budget.

SCAN's approach can lead to routes with out-of-direction travel and steep gradients. Ben Fryback noted that the Winter-Maple family friendly bikeway travels out-of-direction; it is also not yet complete. He noted the difference in gradients between Commercial and High; Commercial tends to be flatter than High. Ben also used a bike trip from his residence near Fred Meyer South to WinCo to illustrate how hard it can be to use local streets to get safely from one place to another by bike.

Ben gave us a detailed review of the bike infrastructure improvements that are part of the Commercial Street: Madrona to Oxford project using the project's engineering drawings. The design shows that the buffer between the travel lane and the bike lane will generally be a

painted area two feet wide. He noted that the transition through the Commercial / Liberty split is not well thought out. The current drawings would have cyclists traveling south on Commercial wait at a bicycle signal while parallel to traffic on Liberty Street before proceeding across Liberty Street with the signal and onto Commercial; the usual designs have space for cyclists to wait perpendicular to traffic.

We went on to discuss the need for traffic calming on Liberty Street S north of the “S” curve and the opportunities to improve the bike lane and perhaps bus stops on Liberty Street. We agreed to continue to work on both traffic calming and bike infrastructure on Liberty Street.

Affect of construction on bike lanes

We returned to an issue identified in March. Contractors use large steel plates to cover construction trenches and cuts; these plates usually have asphalt or plastic wedges to make the transition onto the plate smoother. John Prohodsky had identified a plate that had transitions in the travel lane, but not in the bike lane portion of the street.

Cheryl raised this issue with Public Works. While the particular issue identified by John was quickly addressed, she learned that some contractors are better than others when it comes to placing plates and providing for transitions. She is going to raise the question at the Citizen Advisory Traffic Committee (CATC) to see if there is a systematic approach to this issue. Meantime, she is reporting this type of issue to Public Works Dispatch when she encounters it as a cyclist.

Residential Parking District

Victor reported that he had been contacted by the neighbor at 330 Oxford Street who wants to be included in the residential parking district. So far as Victor could tell from the parking district map, 330 Oxford Street is the only residence on Oxford Street east of Commercial and west of SSHS that is not included in the parking district.

He said that he had asked City staff (1) if there was a reason that 330 Oxford Street was excluded from the residential parking district and (2) what process would be required to expand the parking district by one house. Jim commented that he was surprised; he recalled that all the residences were included when the parking district was formed.

Subsequent to the meeting, City staff responded that the residential parking district was initially formed on Oxford Street to the east of West Nob Hill and then expanded to residences along both West Nob Hill and East Nob Hill. It is just happenstance that 330 Oxford Street was left out. In terms of process, City staff provided a petition to expand the residential parking district. Expansion will require signatures in favor by the residents at 330 Oxford and at 1905 West Nob Hill. The reason that 1905 West Nob Hill is included is that the property is a corner lot; the house faces on West Nob Hill but the side yard is on Oxford Street. In addition, the SCAN board will need to endorse expansion of the parking district.

This information was provided to the neighbor at 330 Oxford Street.

Submitted

Victor Dodier

Chair, SCAN Transportation Committee