



MINUTES
KEIZER MULTI-MODAL SAFETY COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 19, 2026
Robert L. Simon Council Chambers
930 Chemawa Road NE
Keizer, Oregon

1. CALL TO ORDER Vice Chair Sangster called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present:

Michael Welsh
David Dempster
Hersch Sangster, Vice Chair
David Philbrick
Matt Myers

Council Liaison/Staff Present:

Council President Starr
Mike Griffin, Storm Ops & Streets
Martin Powell, Police Liaison
Dawn Wilson, Deputy City Recorder

Absent:

Michael De Blasi, Chair
Trevor Lewis
Lazlo Montoya Mendoza, Youth Liaison

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. February 2026 David Philbrick had a correction to the minutes to change the word "crossbar" to "crossing guard" under item number 6 (Committee Member Input).

David Philbrick moved for approval of the February 2026 Minutes as amended. David Dempster seconded. Motion passed as follows: Dempster, Sangster, Philbrick, Myers, and Welsh in favor with De Blasi and Lewis absent.

3. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED PERSONS

Carolyn Homan, Keizer, West Keizer Neighborhood Association (WKNA), accompanied by Mandi Hansen, Vice President of WKNA, explained that as a way to promote safety on neighborhood streets, WKNA had purchased "Slow Down" signs for interested neighbors to post in their yards. She noted that Jennifer Hewit and Michelle, who had previously testified about Michelle's cat being run over, now have these signs on Shoreline.

Ms. Homan acknowledged that the Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan

(NTMP) was a formal step that Michelle may be pursuing, though it could be somewhat daunting. Since speed limits and stop signs were discussed at Monday's Council meeting, she wanted the Committee to know about this grassroots effort. Six signs cost \$30 and provided neighbors a way to show their concern about speeding traffic.

Hersch Sangster mentioned that pre-COVID, Oregon Traffic Safety's Bike Pedestrian Program had promoted similar "Sasquatch slowdown" signs and had given hundreds to Cities. He had contacted Heidi Manlove with the Transportation Safety Office for the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) on Monday, who said they no longer have a budget for the signs, but supported the neighborhood effort, as long as the signs are placed on private property. The Transportation Safety Office would appreciate feedback on how the signs worked in neighborhoods. Committee members expressed support for the initiative.

The discussion confirmed that as long as signs remain on private property, there are no issues. The Committee also discussed how neighborhood associations could potentially use their annual City budget allocations or fundraising for such initiatives.

4. DISCUSSION ON ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR THE ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT

a. Input Requested for Volunteer Attendance Policy, History, and Resolution

Deputy City Recorder Dawn Wilson explained absenteeism issues with some Committees and sometimes Committees struggle to achieve a quorum due to last-minute absences, creating uncertainty about whether meetings could proceed. As such, a policy was needed if members were falling short of the 75 percent attendance requirement in the resolutions.

Council President Starr shared that the intent was to receive feedback from all of the Committees on an attendance policy. The Volunteer Coordinating Committee had developed five bullet points for a suggested policy, and staff was seeking input from all committees before making recommendations. Council President Starr clarified that this was intended to gather feedback from all Committees to ensure consistency across the board, even from Committees like this one that haven't had attendance problems.

Mr. Sangster shared that most of the members who hadn't shown had reasons to be excused.

Mr. Sangster shared that the Marion County Parks Commission had a policy that five or more missed meetings, excused or not, would be a discussion

point by the Chair.

Mr. Sangster had a reference point that if a member can't attend, let the Chair or the Deputy City Recorder know.

Mr. Philbrick suggested that under item # 3, it might be appropriate that any decisions would be made jointly between the City Recorder's Office and the Committee Chair.

Mr. Sangster liked the idea of 75% attendance requirement and keeping the Chair involved of the process.

Mr. Philbrick pointed out that the 75% attendance requirement was already in the resolutions for the Committees.

Committee members agreed that the 75 percent standard (equivalent to attending 8 of 11 annual meetings) was reasonable and that **having a clear process would help Chairs know how to address attendance issues.**

The Committee provided positive feedback on the proposed policy with the **suggested modification to have joint decision-making between the City Recorder's Office and the Committee Chairs.**

5. PROJECT SPREADSHEET REVIEW

a. Active Items

Mr. Sangster reviewed the active projects on the Committee's spreadsheet:

The Lockhaven and River Road bike lane painting was still wanted, and the Committee confirmed that Chair Michael De Blasi would submit the budget request that had been previously prepared.

The Pedestrian Bike Project at Walshway and Chemawa remained active and continued to be appreciated by residents based on recent neighborhood association feedback.

Regarding the Pedestrian Flag Program, the Greater Northeast Neighborhood Association was still active, and they only replaced one flag.

It was noted that the request for residential street speeds to be reduced to 20 miles per hour, and the City Council declined the speed reduction due to the excessive cost of all the signs needed. Council President Starr suggested speed reduction options that could be considered in all areas by adding alternative language to explore other options.

Officer Powell provided detailed data analysis on vehicle-pedestrian

crashes, reporting 56 such incidents over approximately 2.5 years (about 2-2.5 per month). Of these, only 12 resulted in drivers being cited as at fault. Most involved pedestrians or cyclists who were illegally in the road, riding the wrong way, impaired, or on sidewalks. The majority of incidents occurred on River Road, particularly at driveway entrances rather than intersections, where pedestrians were using the center turn lane inappropriately, or cyclists were riding on sidewalks faster than walking speed.

Mr. Sangster suggested having more crossings on River Road farther north versus south when funding was available. Discussion ensued about the need to avoid creating new driveways on River Road where possible, suggesting this recommendation be passed to the Planning Department for new developments.

Officer Powell emphasized that while 56 incidents over three years sounds significant, it's actually relatively low considering the high volume of daily traffic on River Road, and many of the incidents were extremely minor with no injuries or damage.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. **Joint Work Session with City Council Tentatively 06/08/2026 ~ Create a List of Items to Take to Council**

Mr. Sangster shared the tentative Joint Work Session with City Council on Monday, June 8th, encouraging Committee Members to prepare topics for discussion over the next two meetings.

Council President Starr suggested that the Committee use this meeting to identify topics, then refine their suggestions during April and May meetings to be ready for the June work session. She recommended reviewing the Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan (NTMP) process as one key topic, suggesting the Committee develop recommendations for that discussion.

Mr. Sangster identified the first topic as gathering neighborhood association feedback on their experience with the traffic management plan as currently written. He agreed to work with Ms. Wilson to send requests to all neighborhood associations.

Mr. Philbrick noted that this Committee should be actively involved in the TSP update process, and Council President Starr confirmed that while the City received a grant to update the TSP, work hadn't started yet, making the Work Session an appropriate time to reiterate the Committee's desire for involvement.

The members identified the following Work Session topics:

- Committee to review of the NTMP process

- Request input from the Neighborhood associations on the NTMP process
- Traffic-calming procedures and designs
- General discussion of pedestrian and bike safety and neighborhood liability: look at crosswalks, speeds, and curb cuts.
- Issues affecting connector streets (Verda, Alder, Manbrin, Shoreline, and Dearborn): look for certain actions to reduce speeds by considering traffic engineering changes to reduce speeds by causing drivers to feel more inhibited.
- Transportation System Plan (TSP) update and this Committee's involvement
- Traffic safety education component (the "three E's": education, enforcement, engineering)

Committee Members discussed the need for traffic safety education, noting that while they address enforcement through police and engineering through public works, they haven't focused on educating the public about bike lanes, sidewalk use, and traffic rules.

Mr. Sangster commented on the electronic bikes and gas-motorized bikes being a safety issue. He mentioned Travis Gordon, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, who does driver education and posts traffic safety content on Facebook, as a potential resource. It was noted that staff would need to check about sharing external content. The Committee would like to invite Mr. Gordon to speak at a Multi-Modal Safety Committee meeting on safety that would be coupled with the City's Facebook outreach.

Michael Welsh requested that the Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association's concern about maintenance needed on the Keizer Station bike path be included in the Work Session discussion. Storm Operations and Streets Division Manager Mike Griffin explained the maintenance responsibilities for the Parkway section of the bike path that paving and potholes were handled by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). The Keizer Station Property Manager handles the Keizer Station portion, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde manage the section near the overpass. Mr. Griffin noted he had established contacts for addressing issues in each section.

Council President Starr offered to follow up on this issue to save time.

Council President Starr suggested that the members attend each of the neighborhood associations to obtain their feedback as a follow-up to the email.

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER INPUT

Mr. Welsh commented that the GNEKNA had their request for the Keizer Station bike path addressed.

Mr. Sangster shared that the KeizerFEST would be from May 14th to the 17th, and the parade would be on the 16th on Lockhaven and River Road. Also, April 26th would be the Monster Cookie Ride. Safe Routes to Schools would follow at McNary High School.

Mr. Meyers thanked Tammy Kunz of GNEKNA for the email that was extensive and well-written.

Mr. Philbrick shared that the Monster Cookie Ride had a new route that would start in Keizer and go down to the State Capital in celebration of the 50th anniversary and head east. There would be a Mini-cookie Ride starting at 10:00 a.m. at McNary High School followed by a Bike Rodeo.

8. STAFF REPORT

Storm Operations and Streets Division Manager Mike Griffin shared that they had taken down deteriorating pin oaks from two island sets (across from Keizer Permanente and past Stadium Drive) and replanted them with raspberry spear crabapples with pink flowers and skyrocket junipers as backdrop trees, creating an attractive new look coordinated with the Keizer Station theme.

Regarding the Verda Lane improvements, Public Works was assisting the water department with moving water services and fire hydrants in preparation for street widening and sidewalk addition. The contractor should start shortly with completion expected by August.

He noted that the City would get the Summer Resurfacing Bid out shortly for the streets to be paved after July 1st.

Mr. Sangster reported that the pump was broken in the bike repair station at the Keizer Event Center after about 12 years of service. Mr. Griffin confirmed they would look into replacing the pump and noted that Keizer Rapids Park also has a well-used bike repair station.

9. POLICE LIAISON REPORT

Officer Martin Powell shared that for March, there were almost no motorcycles on the road because the Police Department was training patrol from within patrol cars. He had been asking the new patrol officers to monitor certain problem areas while they were writing reports.

Officer Powell shared that they had received new equipment, a traffic data collector for studies, and were learning to operate the new system. He didn't have the data from the speed assessments yet for the neighborhood associations, but would share the data with them after he had it.

10. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Council President Starr shared that she received clarification about Ms. Kunz email that was sent out today. She reminded that budget request forms need to be submitted. She suggested that this Committee listen to the Joint meeting with City Council and the Community Diversity Engagement

Committee on March 30th and the Joint City Council and the Neighborhood Associations on April 13th.

11. MEMBER REPORTING TO COUNCIL: Trevor Lewis on April 6th at 6pm

Trevor Lewis would report to Council on April 6th. Mr. Sangster offered to help Mr. Lewis or fill in for him.

12. NEXT MEETING: April 16th

It was noted that the next meeting would be on April 16th.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned: 7:09 p.m.

Minutes approved: _____