

## Idaho Transportation Board Subcommittee on

### State Highway System Adjustments

October 16, 2019

Idaho Transportation Board (ITB) Subcommittee on State Highway System Adjustments Chairman Jim Kempton called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) in Boise, Idaho. ITB Members Julie DeLorenzo and Bob Hoff were present.

Also in attendance were ITB Chairman Bill Moad and Members Dwight Horsch and James R. Thompson, and key principals from ITD Chief Engineer/Highway Development Administrator Blake Rindlisbacher, District 3 Engineering Manager (EM) Caleb Lakey, District 4 Engineer (DE) Jesse Barrus, District 4 Manager Walter Burnside, Planning Services Manager Ken Kanownik, Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Larry Allen, and Executive Assistant to the Board Sue S. Higgins. Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC) Administrator Jeff Miles was also present.

ITD Planner Robert Beachler participated via teleconference from District 1, and District 6 Operations Manager (OM) Wade Allen and Planner Mark Layton participated from District 6.

May 29, 2019 Meeting Minutes. Member DeLorenzo made a motion to approve the May 29, 2019 Subcommittee meeting minutes as submitted. Member Hoff seconded the motion and it passed unopposed.

Because the Subcommittee is comprised of three members, Chairman Kempton said motions will not require a second. (Note: A motion is properly before the Subcommittee once stated by the Subcommittee Chair.)

Also, a discussion was held to clarify provisions of Board Policy 4061 stating that “In the event the agenda includes a proposed adjustment to the Highway System in a currently appointed board member’s district, an additional member shall be appointed to the Subcommittee for that item.” DAG Allen confirmed that the language did indeed authorize a four (4) member Subcommittee, each being able to vote on the item under consideration. The policy does not specify who makes an appointment for a fourth member.

SH-55 and Deinhard Lane/Boydston Street Exchange, District 3. EM Lakey said the City of McCall is interested in exchanging local roads Deinhard Lane and Boydston Street for SH-55 in McCall. The exchange would remove about 2.4 miles from the state system and add about 2.6 miles. The portion of SH-55 under discussion is in an urban setting with about 153 accesses. Motorists aware of the local route often use it as a bypass to avoid downtown. The roads are in a more rural setting with higher speed limits and about 48 access points. The city would like to control the highway in downtown, and believes safety could be improved with the exchange.

EM Lakey said ITD has a \$1.3 million project planned on SH-55 in 2025, which could be used as part of the negotiations with the city. He said Midas Gold, which is pursuing mining operations east of McCall, has been involved in the discussions, and has offered improvements at the intersections of SH-55 and Deinhard Lane and SH-55 and Boydston Street that would serve their business need, but would also make the intersections better for all trucks. What Midas Gold is proposing, what the city wants, and what ITD needs will all need to be reconciled as part of negotiations. In response to Member Hoff's question on impacts to the airport, EM Lakey said there have been discussions about the airport's proximity to Deinhard Lane, and the city was working with the Airport Manager to discuss with the Federal Aviation Administration. When the route was improved over 10 years ago, the alignment curved away from the airport. Options for that area are being explored.

EM Lakey requested authority to proceed with a feasibility study on the proposed exchange. A consulting firm would conduct the study, and the city and state would share the estimated \$80,000 cost. He believes the study can be completed by late spring/summer 2020.

Chairman Kempton stated a motion requested and framed by EM Lakey authorizing staff to conduct a feasibility study with the City of McCall on the potential exchange of SH-55 for Deinhard Lane and Boydston Street. In response to Member Hoff's concern with the airport, Chairman Kempton confirmed that the feasibility study will take the airport into consideration. The motion passed unopposed.

DAG Allen clarified that upon completion, the feasibility study will be presented to the Subcommittee.

Relinquishment of SH-75 Spur, District 4. Because Idaho Code prohibits the relinquishment of a state highway to a municipality with a population less than 5,000, Manager Burnside said the District has held discussions with Blaine County on the proposed relinquishment of the SH-75 Spur. He also met with officials from the Cities of Sun Valley and Ketchum. Based on negotiations with Sun Valley, he believes the 3.3 mile section of the SH-75 Spur in Sun Valley could be relinquished for \$3,112,500 to mitigate for a future restoration of the highway, a new signal, two years of winter maintenance, and one year of summer maintenance.

Manager Burnside said negotiations have not commenced on the .3 mile section in Ketchum; however, based on estimates of future roadway costs and summer maintenance costs, about \$240,000 would be required to relinquish the portion in Ketchum. He added that the city provides winter maintenance.

Manager Burnside requested confirmation that the District is proceeding in the right direction and approval to finalize the negotiations and proceed with the steps necessary to relinquish the Spur. He added that the draft agreement would be presented to the Subcommittee before any final action is taken.

Member Hoff made a motion confirming that the District is moving in the right direction; authorizing staff to proceed with negotiating the relinquishment of the SH-75 Spur with the pertinent parties; and confirming that efforts should proceed with the 3.3 miles in Sun Valley

even if the City of Ketchum is not receptive to the state's relinquishment of the .3 mile in its jurisdiction. The motion passed unanimously.

Relinquishment of SH-48, District 6. OM Allen presented a resolution from Jefferson County stating it is not interested in accepting jurisdiction of SH-48.

Relinquishment of SH-33 in Rexburg, District 6. Planner Layton said discussions are continuing on this potential relinquishment. The city would like additional information.

Relinquishment of US-93 Spur in Challis, District 6. OM Allen said the City of Challis is receptive to assuming jurisdiction of the .4 mile US-93 Spur. He requested permission to pursue that transaction.

Member Hoff made a motion authorizing District 6 to pursue the relinquishment of the US-93 Spur in Challis with the stakeholders. The motion passed unopposed.

LHTAC Administrator Miles said he will assist with this potential relinquishment. He believes it may involve a highway district instead of the county.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 PM.

*Sue S. Higgins*  
Respectfully submitted by:  
SUE S. HIGGINS  
Executive Assistant & Secretary  
Idaho Transportation Board