

## Historic Columbia River Highway Advisory Committee

October 31, 2001  
Gorge Discovery Center  
The Dalles, Oregon

Members Attending:	Bill Pattison, Carolyn Wood, Sally Donovan, James Hamrick, June Carlson, Wayne Stewart, Jeffrey Plummer, Mandy Cole, Kevin Price, Jerry Igo.
Staff Present:	Jeanette Kloos, Robert Hadlow, Kirsten Anderson, Gary Larson, Sam Wilkins.
Others Attending:	Diana Ross, CRGNSA Forest Service; Bob Willoughby, City of Cascade Locks; Ted Davenport; Nancy Russell and Susan Crowley, Friends of the Columbia Gorge; Diane McClay, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.
Bill Pattison, chair, called the meeting to order.	
Minutes of the July 31 and August 13 meetings were approved as mailed.	
<b>MOSIER MOUNDS</b>	
<p>Kirsten Anderson, ODOT Archeologist, discussed her proposal to nominate the Mosier Mounds to the National Register of Historic Places. The site has already been determined eligible and this process would place the 12 acres of rock features on the Register. It will not reveal specifics about the site, including the location. Kirsten has coordinated with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs and the Yakama Nation. They express concerns about protecting the site, but are supportive of the nomination. Kirsten hopes to submit the nomination in December.</p> <p>Mandy Cole asked if there was any potential for interpretation off-site. Kirsten indicated that there is probably not a potential for interpretation, given the expressed wishes of the Tribes.</p> <p>Gay Jervey sent a letter to President Bush on two topics, one of which was support for naming the Mosier Mounds as a World Heritage Site. Very little is known about this designation, but OPRD has expressed doubts that the designation would complement the Tribes' request to limit access to and knowledge of the site, to enhance protection.</p>	
<b>SCENIC BYWAY CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE</b>	
Jeanette Kloos reviewed the Resource Protection and Enhancement portion of the HCRH Corridor Management Plan, noting the number of items that have been completed since the plan was adopted in 1997 (see attached pages). Based on previous HCRH AC discussions and recent funding requests and approvals, Jeanette suggested additions to the plan.	

It was suggested that the charts be rearranged to indicated more clearly which projects are completed, funded or need funding.

For the portions of the HCRH that are open to traffic, the AC suggested that another action item should be added to repair rock work (caps missing) and to manage plant growth on the rock walls.

For the HCRH State Trail, the AC suggested adding an item to resolve the ownership of the Ruthton Point section and to repair the vandalism (one of the seats in the observatory has been stolen).

For Scenic Views, Kevin Price asked that vegetation management to re-open views at Latourell, Shepperds Dell, and Portland Women's Forum be added. The Advisory Committee brainstormed potential funding options, including getting the American Society of Landscape Architects involved, potential foundation grant proposals to Paul Allen, Murdock Trust and/or Meyer Memorial Trust or the Oregon Community foundation. Diana Ross indicated that the Forest Service might be able to provide Landscape Architect services in this effort, but that the majority of the effort is really the completion of the resource reports needed for the development review (particularly avoiding wetland impacts and impacts to sensitive plants and animals). While this is included in "seek funding for further implementation of the Corridor Visual Inventory," this item will be added to give it more emphasis.

Finding funds to reprint the HCRH brochure was added to the Interpretive list.

Jeanette Kloos will revise the charts as requested. The next HCRH AC meeting will include a more general review of the Corridor Management Plan, to determine what other things need to be updated. Committee members were requested to review the Plan and bring issues to the next meeting.

James Hamrick complemented Jeanette Kloos on the updates included before the meeting, making the update easy for the committee members.

#### **CASCADE LOCKS STREET LIGHT PLAN**

Jeanette Kloos introduced the issue, including the proposal from the City of Cascade Locks, Robert Hadlow's suggestion of alternative street lights and James Hamrick's recommendation to the HCRH AC of the "Lodi" light, from the Union Metal Corporation catalogue.

Bob Willoughby, City Administrator for Cascade Locks, said that the request for street lights was based on several studies completed for the City, concluding that tourism will be a major part of the economic base

for the City and that the City needs to undertake efforts to make the community more attractive and the add more events and things to do. He clarified that the proposal intends to add ornamental lights on the south side and keep the existing cobra head luminaires on the south side of WaNaPa for illumination. The ornamental lights do not need to be functional. He has shown the "Lodi" drawing to people within the City and has received negative reactions. He would like to pursue something different (fancier), perhaps like the concrete ones included in Robert Hadlow's memo. The city would like to use the new lights in the gateways, as well as along WaNaPa.

Carolyn Wood cautioned that the City should not assume that they will never remove the existing lights; think about overall illumination needs. Five years ago the city of The Dalles placed several street lights as a test. Now they are proposing changing most of the street lights, but the new ones will be slightly different.

Bob Willoughby said that the number of lights needed and the spacing would change if the existing lights were removed. It would take more lights and be more expensive to have all the lights be ornamental. When asked, he said that there was no lighting plan for the downtown at this time, but that the City has a TGM grant for a streetscape plan.

James Hamrick expressed concern that the street lights not be so fancy that they do not relate to the existing historic features of the city. The lights should not be Victorian.

Bob Willoughby and Robert Hadlow will meet to discuss other street light options.

Jeanette Kloos will send a copy of the Troutdale downtown design standards to Bob Willoughby.

### **HOOD RIVER CASINO UPDATE**

June Carlson said that she has not heard anything new since the last meeting. Diana Ross said that she has received a NEPA document (Environmental Assessment) from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The CRGNSA Forest Service has responded that the proposal is "inherently against the CRGNSA Act".

Ted Davenport presented the attached letter to the HCRH AC. He believes the casino is going to be located at the site east of Hood River and that efforts should be focused on making it happen with the least problems. He proposed that employee parking be located in Mosier with a shuttle over the HCRH State Trail and an overhead tramway be constructed from Stanley Rock. Jeanette Kloos mentioned that the development review

conditions and the Oregon Transportation Commission resolution both prohibit vehicle usage of the HCRH State Trail, outside of management activities and the antique vehicles. June Carlson said that no decision has been made on when or if there would be a casino and that any consideration of Ted Davenport's proposals is premature.

James Hamrick said that the State of Oregon's response is still in draft form; the Governor will sign and send it before the deadline, which he thought was November 15.

Nancy Russell suggested that The Dalles could absorb a casino more easily than Hood River or Cascade Locks. Ted Davenport said that he has heard that the Tribes do not want to locate as far east as The Dalles.

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

### *Warrendale to Moffett Creek*

Jeanette Kloos reported on an October 30 project meeting. The cost estimate for this project is now \$9 million. The project team leader asked what amount of savings would be enough to make an alignment at the Interstate 84 level preferable to the mid-slope alignment? Wayne Stewart said, based on the field review, that the mid-slope alignment should be chosen. Difference in cost is the wrong question to ask. The purpose of the path is recreation and the experience is much better mid-slope. The freeway level is obnoxious, due to the noise. Jeffrey Plummer agreed. Kevin Price disagreed, saying that money does need some consideration. Having a completed trail is better than an incomplete trail. However, he also stated his preference for the mid-slope alignment.

The Advisory Committee discussed potential funding options. June Carlson discussed Transportation earmarks, noting that they can be proposed by a Congressional member, the general public or by ODOT. All options should be explored.

### *Starvation Creek to Viento*

Construction is basically complete. There will be a plant establishment period.

### *HCRH Interpretive Sites and Signs*

This project has been on hold pending additional obligation of funds. This should occur in the near future. Concepts for the parking areas and the signs will be sent for review before the next project meeting.

### *Toothrock Trailhead Access Road*

The Forest Service requested ODOT's permission to apply for this project (partially located on ODOT property); permission was given. Expect the development review to be sent to Multnomah County in the near future.

### *West Oneonta and John Yeon Trailheads*

These projects are now under contract (same contractor as Vista House).

*Vista House*

Kevin Price circulated a photo book showing the progress at Vista House. A concrete barrier will be added to block vehicle access into the construction area. The building will remain closed until all work is completed. Construction is expected to stop until Spring. The dome recently erected around Vista House to provide a framework for an enclosure was found to withstand only 50 mph winds (not 150 mph as anticipated), so it will not be used much. The Friends of Vista House will try to keep the interpretive trailer open on weekends during the winter.

*Gutter Restoration*

Dave Sell, Western Federal Lands Highway Division, Federal Highway Administration, reports that surveying is underway on this project.

*Millennium Legacy Trail Art Project*

Oregon Arts Commission has issued a Request for Proposals for an artist, with a due date of December 1.

*2001 National Scenic Byway Conference/AASHTO Award*

Jeanette Kloos thanked those present that helped lead the Mobile Workshops for the 2001 National Scenic Byway Conference. While originally planning for 400 people, the conference drew almost 600. Several people remarked on the last day that the mobile workshops in the CRGNSA were the highlight of the conference for them. The Hood River to Mosier segment of the HCRH State Trail and the HCRH Interpretive Panels (together) won an American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Byway Best Practices Award (see attached flier, which indicates the many partners in these projects). The plaque was displayed during the meeting.

*ORPA Award*

The Oregon Recreation and Parks Association awarded their Best Management award to the Hood River to Mosier Project, specifically the work on the Mosier Mounds. The three partners were recognized: ODOT, OPRD and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation.

**ACTIVITY STATUS REPORTS**

*ODOT*

Sam Wilkins said that discussions are continuing on a potential land donation east of Mosier. There is concern that the access to the site eastbound is unsafe. The area has received almost an inch of rain in the last two days, resulting in the need for almost hourly patrols of the HCRH for fallen rocks.

James Hamrick asked if anyone is monitoring rocks falling onto the Catchment?

*OPRD*

Kevin Price brought the paint color chips for the replacement OPRD office building at Rooster Rock. The building is scheduled to be complete by March 2002. Kevin also brought photos of the mural on the Bridge of the Gods at Cascade Locks.

On October 13, OPRD celebrated its volunteers at the Twin Tunnels Visitor Station. Six antique cars transported people to the tunnels. Many volunteers said that they would come back with their families.

*USDA Forest Service*

Diana Ross said that the major cost for vegetation management to open views is in the environmental documentation. The Forest Service can offer the services of a Landscape Architect; they like the chance to cut trees. The Gorge Discovery Center has proposed a sign that will be visible from Interstate 84. The Multnomah Falls ADA project will probably be awarded to Kessler (the same contractor as Vista House).

**DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS**

Jeanette Kloos reported on the pre-application meeting for the "super Wal-Mart" proposed for Country Club Road in Hood River. The proposal includes a relocation of Country Club Road intersection with Cascade Avenue (HCRH) and a new signal. The proponent has been advised that any widening of the HCRH would be an adverse affect on the historic district and would need to be mitigated to "no adverse affect" level.

**MEMBERS ISSUES**

Jerry Igo said that the giant knotweed at Tanner Creek has increased in area by almost 1/3 in the 18 months since he noted its existence to Charlie Sciscione. It is now into the creek and 16 feet tall. Jerry noted that the knotweed will keep getting worse. Application of a strong herbicide is needed during the spring, once the weed begins growing again. He had discussed this with Tim Butler, Oregon Department of Agriculture, who offered to help. Jerry also noted that the Japanese knotweed on the HCRH just north of Interstate 84 at the Tanner Creek bridges is getting worse and will increase by 50 percent per year if not treated aggressively.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next HCRH AC meeting will be January 31, 2002. Robert Hadlow has reserved the Wood Village City Hall.