

# CITY OF MOSIER

small enough to make a difference

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, June 03, 2020 6:30 P.M.

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## AGENDA

6:30pm	I	<b>Call to Order/Roll Call – Mayor Burns</b>
	II	Agenda corrections or additions
6:35pm	III	<b>Business from the Audience</b> - This is for Mosier residents and anyone else to express concerns, needs, or opportunities. Please keep your comments succinct and under two minutes. You may bring in written materials for Committee and Staff to review. The Facilitator can assign the issue to a future Committee meeting, or to an appropriate Committee or staff member. Please realize that we cannot always offer a response immediately but will give the matter due consideration. We encourage the participation of all stakeholders in our community.
6:45pm	IV	<b>Approval of: 05/20/2020 Council Meeting Minutes</b>
	V	<b>BUSINESS</b>
6:50 pm	1.	ODOT West Gateway Presentation – Abbey Driscoll, ODOT
7:50pm	VI.	<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>
8:00pm	VII.	<b>ADJOURN</b>

# MOSIER CITY COUNCIL MTG MINUTES

May 21, 2020

Phone Conference City of Mosier City Council MTG

6:30 call to order

**Attendance:**

**Peny Wallace, Colleen Coleman, Mayor Arlene Burns, Witt Anderson, Acacia Berry, Lacy Gries, Ron Wright, Charlie Cannon, Scott Here County Commissioner, John Grim City Engineer, Jayme Bennett**

**Agenda correction or additions (Agenda item: 4.5) :**

**Mayor Burns:** Commemorative wine for a fundraiser for the school, City of Mosier as a promotional partner, not financial, just supportive. 50% of the proceeds from the wine sales go to Mosier School.

Acacia: update on our council

**Business fro the Audience: NA**

**Minutes additions or corrections: May 6, 2020**

Peny: first page, where it says there was an incident in Yakima etc...

Next sentence - regarding recreation and food supply.... We should add "in Mosier" to clarify our concern is in Mosier, and it was a packing house.

Capitalize **F**riends of the Gorge (page 2)

Colleen name spelled wrong -

Add Carol Schmidt to attendance

Acacia: Motion: regrading the sidewalk option number one vs. number two - then formed a committee to decide etc: motion to staff level decision with participation, not clear in motion, need to clarify.

(Lacy, Witt, Arlene committee for sidewalk review)

Strike motion and bring findings to council - option 1 unless it radically changes

**Motion to approve the minutes:**

**Peny Wallace with above mentioned changes**

**Second: Acacia Berry**

**Motion passes, no opposition: 7:05**

Agenda I

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Report to Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ):

John Grim: reviews regulations on why we have to do this. Bureaucratic regulatory requirement, stemming from the Clean Water Act. They identify pollutants for Mosier and Rock Creek - specifically the steelhead in Rock Creek.

DEQ wrote a plan for the larger area, a resulting requirement is the implementation plan to carry forward their initiatives. Dotty Devaney (former City Planner) left, it never was completed. DEQ reached out, with a 6 month timeline, first pass was sent to DEQ and it went good with a few minor revisions.

The plan is supposed to help us reduce the temperature in Rock and Mosier Creek, prior to reaching the Columbia River. The City has little to no authority over most of the stream. It is fragmented in several districts. Department of Fish and Wildlife (DOF), Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and Wasco County. City of Mosier has to write a plan, currently there is no district working together, ideally this would have gone to the Water Shed Council, they would have written the plan for all relevant or affected jurisdictions.

When Kathy and Dotty did the planning, they identified two significant steps/action points:

1. a new regulation for protecting the riparian area of Rock Creek (75 foot setback each side of the creek - no vegetation removal).
2. Low impact development code for the City of Mosier - all storm water run off has to be controlled on site and infiltrated (on the street, it gets warm, and goes in a creek).

ie: Tanawashee and Mosier Bluff's (new developments)- roads and subdivisions require infiltration trenches then infiltrated into the ground instead of flowing into the creeks.

Little else Mosier can do with the 3,500 length within our city limits. The clear cutting, streets with no ditches for infiltration etc compound the issue. Our ability to control the impact is limited. We are doing regulatory compliance, because of the timing, we just pushed it forward. There is no significant cost to the City. Requirements are limited to an annual report to the council about anything we have done with temperature mitigation, and identify new development impact. Outreach publication with the schools, education, low impact information can be distributed. There maybe an opportunity to do some mitigation in ODOT gravel pit in the future. No significant fiscal impact going forward.

Colleen gives background on process in Oregon. In Washington: regulation is based on best ability to address the issue, in Oregon it is jurisdiction based, land holding/ownership etc. Typically we would work closely with the Mosier Watershed Council. We have the responsibility of the report and enforcing our mitigation points, beyond that we don't have any burden.

Acacia: this is an opportunity to do more. The Columbia River is warming, the fish are looking for creeks to spawn in, and the creeks are too warm. There is a larger part than just the compliance piece. We have an obligation, but we also have a voice. Our creeks aren't cool enough to rescue the dying salmon, and there has been a lot of movement around the temperature of the Columbia River. The Ninth Circuit Court is now regulating the temperature as a pollutant. Our

creeks are how we tie into this. This gives us a voice. It is important work. It ties into our motto, our vision and our strategic plan.

Mayor Burns: in conversation with DEQ - theres a guy we mentioned this to, with the idea we communicate up the watershed from the City of Mosier/Mouth of the creeks to the Columbia. The city as the gatekeeper, can work more closely with the watershed going forward. DEQ as partners - we asked them for some resources to help us achieve their and our objectives. They are very interested in doing something. It is not something they normally do.

Any resource they can bring to alleviate the city of the financial burden are welcome. Coleen attends the watershed mtgs. Already.

Colleen: there are funding paths for temperature recovery efforts, Kathy Fitzpatrick did one in the Rock Creek basin. If we can identify some mitigation actions via our TMDL - over the next couple years, we can put it in our action plan going forward. We can start making relationships with some of these agencies (forest, logging etc).

Witt Anderson: John said little cost and little time. My entire career is TMDL - we have little practical ability in the city - certainly outreach and land use planning, infiltration; we can be a model in that sense, but when it comes to performance monitoring and annual reporting, riparian restoration funding- this is staff admin burdensome. If we really had an opportunity to reduce the load physically in the creeks, we have done it already. So, Coleen, what is your estimate to achieve this requirement and plan?

Colleen: report to council annually and a 5 year update more comprehensive plan with Colleen attending watershed meetings until an issue surfaces that needs acted upon to address the concerns of the TMDL.

Witt: how much time or money then?

Colleen: materials and services in our staff and consulting time, theres always something unexpected that comes up. We can't get down to the \$1,000 or \$500 items. So I would say it is in the budget in the general fund. Maybe \$1,000 a year if that.

Witt: so it seems to me this is right for volunteers, council members, community to step up for the outreach and documentation. This was a \$5,000 expense for the current report/plan, and there's too much on your plate already.

Colleen: we need to plan for the following year budget going forward.

Charlie Cannon: I didn't catch all the acronyms, it is the DMA that is the management that oversees the water to the headway? DEQ overall?

Charlie: follow up point: it seems like each person down the creek should follow precedent of the person above them, and who is the party responsible for the temperature monitoring?

Colleen: typically the Soil and Water Conservation District or the Mosier Watershed has a monitoring branch, and they come to the lead agency and address the issue -the overarching agency informs the individual entity.

Acacia: my concern is our purpose. The water is arriving too warm, but we have a voice. It is an opportunity to recognize an issue we are all responsible for, in some way. These are important issues, and they will become more important. In no way am I suggesting we use staff time or resources to address it immediately.

Just like our water goes down to Mexico. They receive our \_\_\_\_\_ (runoff?)

Mayor Burns: point source of pesticides with runoff from agriculture is a concern as well. The school could participate, especially in the education and outreach. What are people putting down their sinks and toilets? Pharmaceuticals, chemical cleaners, what are we doing for awareness and education for what goes in the dishwasher, washing machine, can we be stewards and assist in advertising a source for a more sustainable approach? That is an approach that reaches each household immediately and carries little to no burden for the residents or staff.

Ron Wright: Clarify: question for the responsibility of the city vs. the valley-

Mayor Burns: however: if the water comes down warm to the city, we are responsible. DEQ isn't going to force action to hold us accountable for further temp regulation.

Grim: we need to update our comprehensive plan to reflect our vision for what the city is doing to regulate the temp in creeks.

Witt: everything you said I am on board with. Especially the outreach. Pages 11-14 that's where the meat is. We are committing future staff and council to do things we are consenting to. Just to further clarify: this is a normal routine annual regulatory report- I am hearing Colleen say: not a problem we are funded.

Colleen: it is not a problem

Witt- DEQ was very understanding in the conference call.

Colleen - The report we just did is not the annual report. It is much larger.

Witt: pages 11-14; did you read it?

Colleen going to watershed quarterly mtgs is outreach. Any pollutant or chemical mitigation, endangered species mitigation etc is not a one budget year solution, it is a plan we make on how to address an issue - then meet with the partners, bring the watershed in, and get a technical grant and do a scope of work within that technical grant. The result would be a project needing funding. We would seek funding first. It would then be in our budget year/annual plan.

Witt: DEQ allowed us to informally submit it, they accepted the draft with revisions?

Grim: yes

Witt: Why don't we say that in this document. What we are committing to? We should say it in here. We should say what we can commit to rather than talking around it.

Mayor Burns: We should over perform rather than overcommit, always. If we need to tweak something, they would be amenable to it.

Peny: In new construction: will this tighten the construction permit process for the future homes?

Grim: The low impact standard has been in place for close to 10 years already.

Mayor Burns: we have a stormwater SDC, we are asking people to deal with it on site, so why are we collecting the fees?

Grim: yes, you are correct, great question. The city has a deficient system on our streets. We need to write a stormwater plan on how to deal with the downtown portion. The SDC portion is strictly for the stormwater plan, we almost have enough money to do that.

Witt: I feel bad about bringing up so many concerns, but just as a matter of practice, when the city is making commitments to states, organizations etc or whatever it is, we need to run it through council going forward - something to think about going forward as a policy.

Mayor Burns: good point

Colleen: in going back in reading all the public outreach, a lot of what is in there is already happening in the permitting process. The coordination that happens at the Watershed Council, gets disseminated in their newsletter.

Burns: you would have preferred to have this discussion before John Grim did the plan rather than after?

Witt Anderson: yes, a regular practice (great staff work you guys, by the way) should be to council, because we recommitting future council, future budget, it is a longstanding commitment to our successors.

Colleen: did DEQ say we remain in compliance if we offer less commitment than this?

Grim: in March, the DEQ representative asked to include any new implementation measures.

Jayme (City Recorder) drops call dials back in (less than 90 seconds).

....Colleen....overarching generic requests are asked. How have we already done all of this? What are we already doing? We use more generic language - it is the language that is typically used in these TMDL's - this is how we can be a small town and still be in compliance.

We can't write our own book every time.

Witt: these are our words, not DEQ's words. We should say what we mean and understand what that is.

Acasia: coming from a background of grant writing (these specific grants), how do we incorporate the language into the document relating to the outcome we aim to achieve with also not boxing ourselves into a corner so much so, that we aren't capable of the performance metrics for grant compliance anymore?

Colleen: public outreach plans with broader strokes can prevent that. We will get more specific as needed.

Ron Wright: is being more general to make room for a plan modification in the future going to result in them also taking more room than we are able to accommodate or support?

Mayor Burns: we have a good relationship with DEQ and they are wanting to work with us.

Grim: I am happy to work with you and revise that section- hardly any time or cost.

Witt: I'd be happy to, but I go back to not having time or resources as a concern.

Colleen: yeah, if you want to do that, happy to.

Mayor Burns: are we ready to move on?

Scott Hege: Our planning department just finished two of these reports and filed them, we have some resources for your review if you think it would be helpful in any way?

One of our reports was on the Mosier area (upper valley).

I will find it and share it.

### **Comments for Council on where things stand and what the strategy is regarding**

**Covid-19 and reopening:** there is a state structure there, we aren't making the structure or de-

termining anything. We are following rules and criteria which allows opening to phase one, and, approved by the State of Oregon, tentative openings as people are ready and compliant. Encouraging people to follow best practice. Wasco County is up to 18 cases and 1 death. I have not confirmed with where are today exactly.

Mayor Burns: when is the influx of agricultural workers in your area?

Hege: you should start to see some early arrivals - bulk of the influx coming in two weeks - one thing we had a larger discussion on regarding public health is that they feel we are well prepared for our pickers and making provisions for the challenges we may face. Whatever happens, it is not for lack of planning - a lot of work and thought has gone into this.

Mayor Burns: I can attest to the coordination and planning going into that.

Hege: Tourism in the Maupin area: reopening (soft) with exception of tribal lands (still working on mtg to discuss the logistics- referencing tribal resources and needs etc) - the only way you can get off the river in phase two for take out is sandy beach, which is tribal land. Everything is in the process of reopening - lot of thought put into it. Concern of tourism from other areas and everyone is aware of the challenges and well monitor closely.

Will the Twin Tunnel Trails open this next Wednesday?

Hege: I don't know the answer to that.

Mayor Burns: anything else?

Hege: We are all examples for our community - we all need to wear a mask, practice the social distancing. Once it is too late, it is too late.

Let's be more on the careful side.

Witt: specific to Mosier - no big discussion - I was asked by resident about the gate -

It is on people's minds - we as a governing body, we should be thinking about the decision factors that go into our process long term- food for thought for going forward.

Mayor Burns: it is such a tiny site, we are providing access, we are keeping crowds down, and it encourages people in our watershed to stay healthy and active during these difficult times. I worry about the event site in Hood River not being open or other parks not being open, we could see an uncomfortable influx. We should be conservative.

Hege- Columbia River state parks and facilities - valid point, the other sites are opening, so others aren't going to be flooding to the smaller areas ideally.

Garnier Vinyard School Fundraiser: they are doing two commemorative bottles and we can help encourage the fundraiser for the school - didn't think we needed council permission - so we are officially on the label - so tell your friends. Who is doing the update on the website and facebook?

Colleen - yes I am and John W.

Mayor Burns: maybe we can post stuff on our office door too?

Colleen: Yes

Staff Plan Review: Colleen: (John Grim should stay on call, as he can answer a lot of the questions easier). Maybe Hood River incrementally comes on board to Mosier to provide service we can expand it to take over more operations - we will come to council and tweak it as it evolves. Auditor will recommend a third person for internal control purposes.

Mayor Burns: budget mtg?

Colleen: this is our second planning meeting then we have a budget meeting June 3 then we adopt 15th

We did this process last year -

Witt: so colleen is prioritizing and projecting the projects we have on our plate once council gets on board, we put the money to it

Colleen: yes

Mayor Burns: do you feel in general we are financially sound?

Colleen: yes, my conversation with the auditor was direct and their findings are procedural and staff shortages. Identifying 4-5 staff members as a requirement - time for data entry and bookkeeping being a shortfall.

Mayor Burns: are you intending to open the office to the public?

Witt: keeping closed is good plan- getting public engagement piece - how best to accomplish it - proposal to stay closed makes sense - need to keep the public engaged.

Peny: when you contract out other bookkeeping - the future audits won't be so burdensome - correct? So this year has been kind of a blessing?

Colleen- just to explain that - the new auditor - they are doing a deep dive, we lost 6 months of data when we came, then no one in the position for 6 months - so Jayme started behind - can't get ahead - have to deal with whats in front of us right now, all the time.

Mayor Burns: if the bookkeeping isn't what Jayme is going to do what is the plan with Jayme - we took a big leap with this staffing, now we need more staffing?

Colleen: once the capital projects are out the door and finished - we can scale back. Theres a lot of work thats not getting done, she needs to focus on City Recorder duties. Jayme is half bookkeeper and half recorder - straddled - can't get into one or other.

Auditors concerns are with record keeping and ordinances not aligned with charter. We need to update our charter.

Jayme offers to reduce hours/role immediately or as needed.

Acacia: our FTE vs budget is short on staff - that's how you look at things often. Where are we on the fiber optics broadband projects?

Colleen: Century Link has put broadband through the valley and Todd Reeves has done the rest throughout town, but many people have broadband access -

Acacia - the fiber optic is out there - but nothing has come to fruition for access in the heights area.

Mayor Burns: Colleen, do you want to walk us through some more of this:

Colleen: self explanatory - public works, SDP response as needed - long range plan activities and council training. Colleen goes over the rest of the work plan and the rough outline of council training - historic costs for delivery of public services, fee based analysis, rather than comparative other towns

Mayor: comparison is also important for acid test etc. as we are also part of a larger gorge community.

UPRR: The UP admin staff has taken a 25% pay cut and is working from home, so the communications are difficult for the time being.



Witt: on the point of the Mosier Fire District action regarding the funding- we need to be going after some funding - we asked the Mosier Fire District to do some pre-applications to see what they can borrow - Kris McNall is contacting the USDA etc. good news- they are making headway.

HWY 30 and West Gateway: Colleen: I am behind on Abby's emails on this topic- John did you read her last email - she sent it yesterday?

John Grim: they are getting ready for receiving comments on their latest design set. Their deadline is June so we need to review their latest design set.

Mayor Burns- let's make sure we get council review in the early June meeting.

Colleen- I have Abby on the draft agenda for that meeting.

#### Water System Project:

John Grim - We are looking in the valley again for an alternative site - one is across from Acacia and one is in the valley, the city's priorities are changing - in terms of what we want, this backs up well to be. The water quality is a higher priority than the resiliency now.

With the manganese in flux - unknown metrics from the health authority etc.

Mayor Burns - another concern is the water at the site by Acasia or is it cost?

John: there are some things on that site that have come up recently- more expensive to develop - still within the budget - but when the hydrogeologists got into the site, they asked for a test well - they aren't sure if there is water - so it is a new risk - and lends some weight to looking again at the water shed.

Mayor Burns: so you have opened up in terms of thinking outside of the box?

Grim: I am also uncomfortable looking in town when you, Witt and Colleen have valley preference. Neither is ideal, both have a lot of faults. The new data we have makes the valley more optimal as a consideration.

Mayor Burns- for me the issue is more the level of service we are providing our rate payers. The location whether it is here or there, a water quality that isn't contaminating our existing system is a priority. I am glad to hear there are other issues for you that make this alternative more viable for our team.

Acasia: we have had this long discussion over many council mtgs and we came to a decision and I had a neighbor come to me and ask me about it. Now it is in flux again? So is this an item for another council meeting then?

Mayor Burns: there were more findings that Grim and team were not aware of when the tide was going in that direction - and John I can turn it back over to you for any more details.

Witt: I have a preference for the most disciplined objective decision - new information has come to the table that implores us to take a harder look at the valley. We are being smart about it. That's our preference.

Charlie: before we proceed down any path, especially after we made a decision already, any further decision should come to council. I thought we were going to the city well site (by Acasia) for emergency only, with repairing our existing system, before any effort was put forward - some info to council in the future is key prior to action.

Mayor Burns: we are the ambassadors to the citizens, we need to be informed and align our messaging to avoid confusion.

Colleen: the progress that was made is an extension of study, not just of the valley, but also the site across from Acasia.

Mayor Burns: before the telemetry project was happening simultaneously, and now it is being prioritized. It is the most urgent need for the city.

Witt: thank you for the great document I look forward to the numbers - I look forward to the point when we deliver to the city and tax payers for services.

If we as council deliver the goods to the citizens we can all feel good about our efforts and our process. I look forward to that and the numbers being put to it.

Colleen: the numbers will come to you in the form of a budget.

Mayor Burns: anyone else?

Acacia: are we going to do the budget meeting via zoom? Are we getting the document in advance?

Colleen: you have a budget schedule in the email - it says 22nd but you will get it Tuesday - and that's the 26th and the mtg is the 3rd of June.

Peny: Colleen you wanted us to all think about what we want to take on - Lacy said something about neighborhood watch - when will that happen - didn't want to bring it up tonight - but it relates to everything in the future and now?

Mayor Burns: League of Oregon Cities training in June - let's do it then?

Colleen: Jayme will do the meeting coordination and agenda going forward.

Mayor Burns won the primary- maybe she can go on and do both mayor or co mayor -  
Colleen: and we can video in on vacations for life and work balance as needed.

**Adjourn**  
**9:12**





## US 30: Mosier Conn over UPPR to Mosier Creek Bridge

### Project overview

- Streetscape improvements on US 30 from River Way Drive to Mosier Community School
- Reconfigure the intersection of US 30 and Rock Creek Road
- City system improvements at Center Street, Washington Street, Main Street, 2nd Avenue, Oregon Street and Idaho Street.

### Why this project is needed

US 30, also known as the Historic Columbia River Highway, has no pedestrian or bicycle facilities as it passes through Mosier. This makes it difficult for residents and visitors to walk and bike to school, local businesses, and other popular local destinations. Residents have also expressed concerns related to driver speeds on US 30 through town.

### What is proposed

The City of Mosier and ODOT have identified opportunities to improve conditions for people traveling on foot, by bicycle, and in cars. These improvements include marked pedestrian crossings, bicycle facilities, and sidewalks on US 30, many of which were identified in the 2015 document, *The Slow Mo' Main Street Concept Plan*, *West Gateway* segment and the city Transportation System Plan.

Project components include:

- Install sidewalk, planting strip and bike lane on the south side of US 30 between River Way Drive and the east side of the Mosier Community School.
- Reconfigure the intersection of US 30 and Rock Creek Road to a t-intersection and remove the existing eastern leg of Rock Creek Road. Install crosswalk and other pedestrian improvements at the intersection.
- Repave and restripe the intersections of US 30 and Washington Street, Main Street, Oregon Street and Idaho Street.
- Improve sight distance at the intersection of US 30 and Center Street.
- Install bollards and signs to close the intersection of US 30 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

#### Timeline

Project Design	Fall 2017 – Fall 2020
Bid Opening	December 2020
Construction	Spring 2021

#### Estimated Project Budget

\$555,500

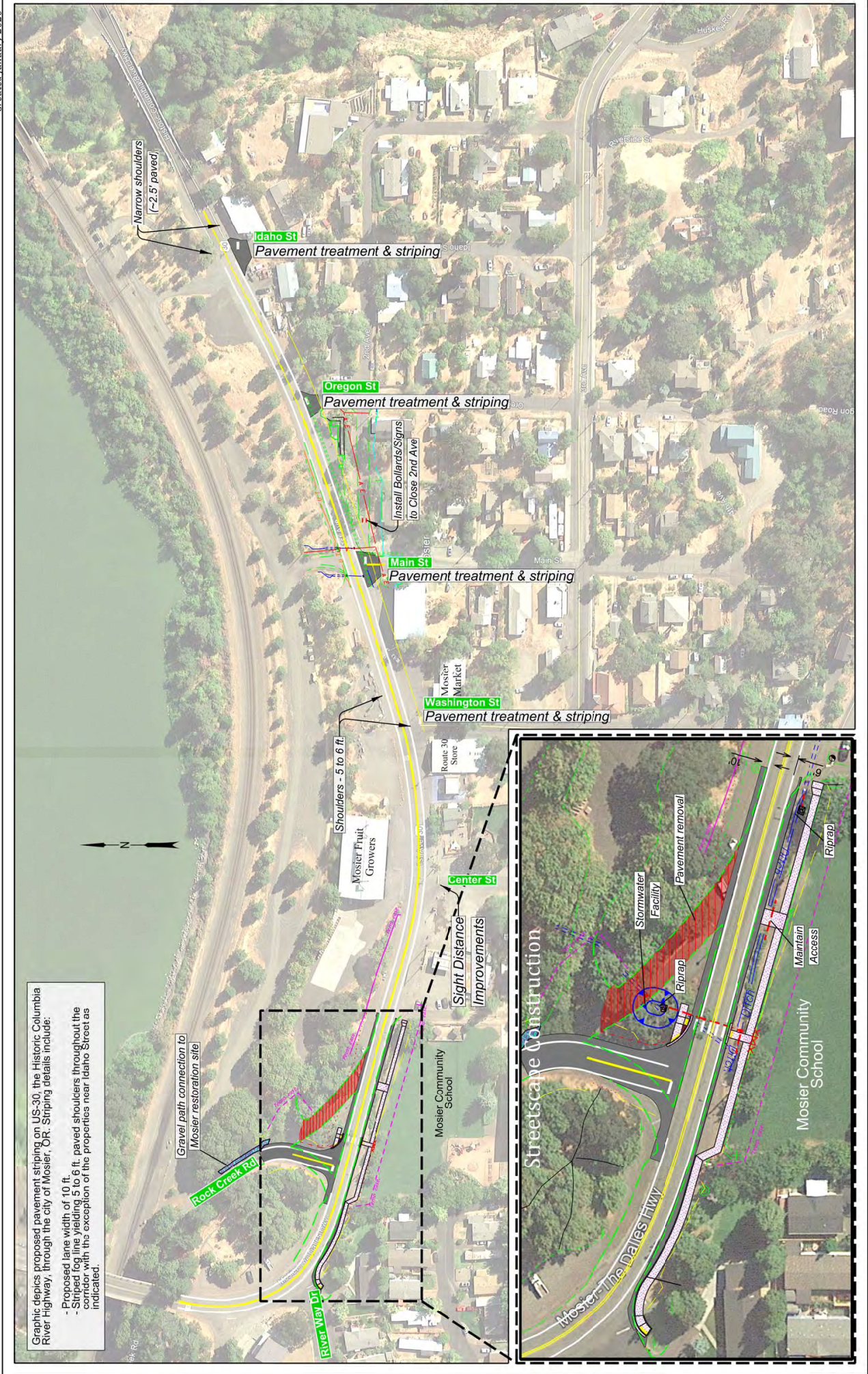
### More Information

Abbey Driscoll, Project Manager | 541.388.6064 | [abbey.driscoll@odot.state.or.us](mailto:abbey.driscoll@odot.state.or.us)



# K20272 US30: Mosier Conn Over UPRR to Mosier Creek Bridge Roadway Improvements Overview

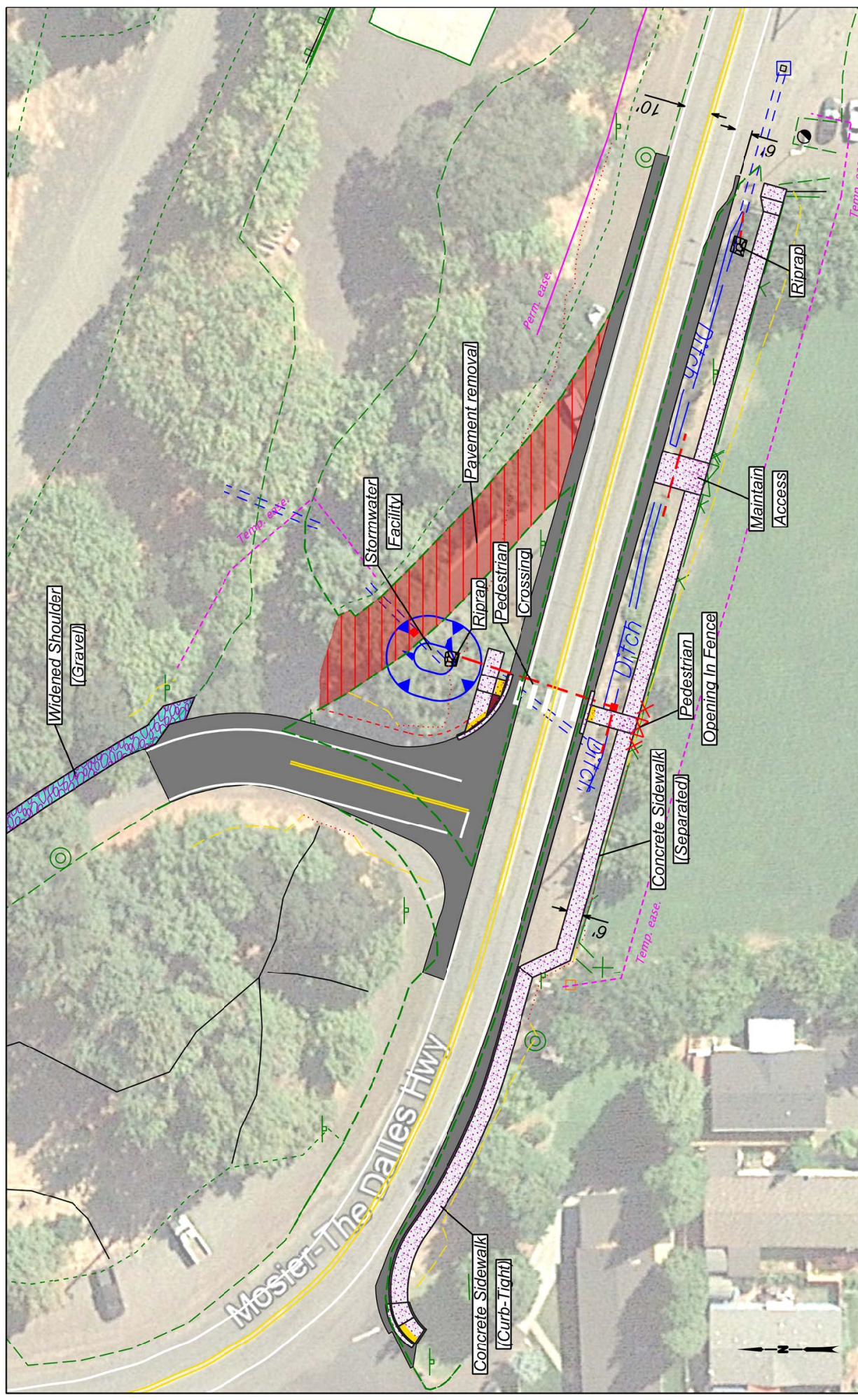
Created January 2020





K20272 US30: Mosier Conn Over UPRR to Mosier Creek Bridge  
Proposed Rock Creek Road Improvements

Created January 2020





# K20272 US30: Mosier Conn Over UPRR to Mosier Creek Bridge Low-Cost Intersection Improvements

Created January 2020

