

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Michael Preedin      Mayor  
Andrea Blum          Council President  
Jennifer Letz        Councilor  
Gary Ross            Councilor  
Susan Cobb          Councilor

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jordan Wheeler      City Manager  
Kerry Prosser        Assistant City Manager  
Joe O'Neill           Finance Director  
Scott Woodford      CDD Director  
Paul Bertagna        PW Director  
Rebecca Green       Deputy Recorder

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:**

Patti Adair            Chair  
Phil Chang            Commissioner  
Tony DeBone          Commissioner

**COUNTY STAFF:**

Nick Lelack            Administrator  
Kevin Moriarty        County Forester

The meeting recording is available here: <https://www.ci.sisters.or.us/bc-citycouncil/page/joint-city-council-county-board-commissioners-workshop>

**1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Joint meeting was called to order by Mayor Preedin at 5:00 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Mayor Preedin took roll call and established a quorum of the City Council were present. Chair Adair took roll call and established a quorum of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) were present.

**3. INTRODUCTIONS**

Mayor Preedin welcomed County Commissioners and staff. City Manager Jordan Wheeler and County Administrator Nick Lelack were introduced.

**4. UPDATES**

**A. US20 at Locust Street Roundabout Update - City**

Manager Wheeler provided an update on the [Roundabout construction](#), stating the project was on schedule and on budget, with an expected opening of the north side of Locust Street on May 24. The detour will then require the south side of Locust Street to close through the summer. The Roundabout route will be in place and tested during the Rodeo Parade scheduled for June 8, 2024. Wheeler thanked the County for contributing \$1 million dollars for the project. The City contributed \$1.4 million, and Oregon Department of Transportation contributed \$5 million. The Public Art for the Roundabout is in process and will take time to complete. Wheeler spoke to the changes occurring at 611 E Cascade, with the Elementary School getting ready to move out to the new school at 2155 W. McKinney Butte Rd. and Sisters Parks and Recreation's move into the existing

building for a community center and community park. Councilor Ross and Chair Adair spoke to the efforts of moving this project forward earlier than originally planned. Manager Wheeler spoke to the [Barclay Improvements Project](#) that will help facilitate traffic through town.

B. Urban Growth Boundary Amendment Status – *City*

Director Woodford introduced the topic by pointing out the different work projects over the last 4-5 years that have led to the commencement of a UGB amendment, including the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, the Housing Needs Analysis, the Economic Opportunities Analysis, and the Buildable Lands Inventory. These and other studies have identified a need to respond to population projections considering our limited UGB. The City has hired consultant MIG to help process the UGB Amendment over the next 18 months. The first step is providing information and soliciting public engagement, including a project website, open houses, surveys, and community conversations. The City will work with the County in several ways, including possible representation on the Steering Committee, information sharing with the County Community Development Department, and once developed, the amendment will go before the BOCC as a Comprehensive Plan amendment. Administrator LeLack requested a tour of the UGB area to see the land under consideration, and indicated the County welcomes the opportunity to participate in the process. Council and Commissioners discussed the details of the UGB area, the value of planning ahead, and various types of housing needs in Sisters.

C. Deschutes County Transportation System Plan – *County*

Administrator LeLack highlighted changes made to the County Transportation System Plan (TSP) as it relates to Sisters. The TSP was adopted by the Board on March 20, 2024. LeLack pointed out that the priority levels for target regional bicycle connections were removed, while the suggested new projects remained in the Plan. Some of these projects include improvements of Three Creeks Road from Sisters city limits to forest service lands and Indian Ford Creek bridge replacement along Camp Polk Road. There were a number of regional bicycle connections identified, including Sisters to Bend, Sisters to Redmond, Sisters to Terrebonne, Sisters to Black Butte Ranch, and Black Butte Ranch to Camp Sherman. There were a large number - 360 written comments received related to routes identified. LeLack stated the total costs of the TSP to be \$189 million and shared the breakdown of that number by category.

Commissioner Chang spoke to the removal of priority levels. He indicated that the projects represent a vision of what could be, but that it will be up to developers and communities to implement them if and as desired. Council and Commissioners discussed the process of developing the identified paths. Commissioner Debone spoke to Oregon State's Transportation package that will come to the legislature next year and city-level revenue sources.

**D. Wildfire Resiliency Updates – City/County**

Manager Wheeler indicated the city has been working on building and hardening codes, and defensible spaces. The city is gathering information and while monitoring efforts by the state and other agencies, moving forward with developing local guidelines in coordination with the Sisters Country Wildfire Mitigation Group. Commissioner Chang spoke to the requirements and challenges to wildfire mitigation for different areas. Chang serves on the Oregon State Building Codes Division Rulemaking Advisory Committee that is developing wildfire hazard maps to be available for adoption in the next couple of months. Council and Board discussed the details of wildfire mitigation related to irrigation lands, hardening efforts, and standards for new and improved homes. Commissioner Adair announced the spring FireFree ([www.firefree.org](http://www.firefree.org)) events at various Deschutes County sites; Administrator Lelack added that for Sisters residents the Northwest Station event is on May 31 - June 8, 8am – 4pm.

**5. OTHER BUSINESS**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.



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Rebecca Green, Deputy Recorder



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Michael Preedin, Mayor