

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FR: Bob McLaurin, Town Manager

DT: December 5, 2016

RE: Town Manager's Report

Working Group Report

In December of 2015, 20 representatives from 9 agencies, including the Town and County met to discuss summer traffic congestion. From this group, 13 agencies continued meeting to further explore traffic alleviation options and have created the attached report that discusses short and long term potential solutions. The report also contains two recommendations for the Town Council and County Commission to consider as it relates to addressing traffic. The purpose of the report is to update you on the status of this committee's work. The recommendations are in alignment with the strategic objectives of the Integrated Transportation Plan. No formal action on this report is needed.

Adjustments to START Bus Stop at Deloney

The START Bus new town shuttle route changed November 25, 2016. Deloney Restrooms is a busier stop now for the Town shuttle. All of our busses depart the restroom stop heading west and START no longer needed the bus stop across the street. Based on a request from the Transit Operations Manager, the Town removed the red curb on the 35' south side of Deloney and elongated the bus zone on the north side to 45'. There was a very minimal effect on the number of parking spaces on this block.



**Recommendations for collaboratively addressing
Summer traffic congestion
October 14, 2016**

Background

In December 2015, twenty representatives from nine different agencies met to develop a shared understanding regarding the problem of summer traffic congestion and to begin discussing opportunities for collaboratively addressing this problem.

Leaders from Grand Teton National Park, Teton County, Town of Jackson, WYDOT, Bridger Teton National Forest, START Bus, Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce, Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance, and Teton Village Association ISD discussed what summer traffic congestion looks like for their agency and how it impacts their organization and our community.

Participants agreed that summer traffic congestion is a problem in Teton County, and many were concerned about traffic's impact on our community's quality of life, health and human safety, and wildlife and natural resources. At the close of this meeting, a number of participants expressed interest in engaging in a working group to analyze potential opportunities and challenges in more depth and report back to the larger group.

Process

This inter-jurisdictional working group met four times to generate a list of priorities for addressing summer traffic congestion that involve collaborative inter-jurisdictional partnerships, and recommendations for moving forward on the identified priorities.

The working group members included:

- Craig Benjamin, Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance
- Darren Brugmann, START Bus
- Alicia Cox, Yellowstone-Teton Clean Cities
- Dale Deiter, Bridger Teton National Forest
- Katherine Dowson, Friends of Pathways
- Chris Finlay, Grand Teton National Park
- Jeff Golightly, Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce
- Sean O'Malley, Teton County
- Larry Pardee, Town of Jackson
- Gary Pollock, Grand Teton National Park
- Sheriff Jim Whalen, Teton County Sherriff
- Jim Elwood, Jackson Hole Airport
- Melissa Turley, Teton Village Association ISD

The process for identifying priorities involved the group developing a broad list of potential short and long-term collaborative solutions, and discussing the challenges and opportunities offered by each of these potential solutions. The group then narrowed the broad list to a shorter list and analyzed these potential solutions based on the criteria of

whether they will actually reduce summer traffic congestion, require inter-jurisdictional collaboration, and in an existing officially adopted transportation plan.

The short-list of potential solutions discussed included:

Short-term

- Education and Messaging
- Make Stilson the center of a Hub & Spoke system
- Quickly implemented Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program with incentivizes for people to get out of their cars
- Bike Share program
- Ride sharing program and/or Van Pool
- Sharing information across jurisdictions
- Public transit pilot projects with a focus on Special Events

Long-term

- Fully developed TDM program
- START Service Improvements
- Regional: South Park, JH Airport and Grand Teton National Park
- More “Hub & Spoke” locations
- Intelligent transportation system
- Education and Messaging

Through this process, the group identified both “Education and Messaging” and “Improved Start Bus summer service” as the solutions with the most potential. The group then split into subgroups to analyze these two items in more depth, before coming back together to agree on final recommendations for moving forward.

Recommendations

Based on this process, the working group respectfully recommends:

1. The Town of Jackson and Teton County jointly hire a team of people to coordinate implementation of the Integrated Transportation Plan (ITP). The group unanimously agreed that having a team of people (which can start with the hiring of one individual) who focuses on working with all required jurisdictions to make ITP implementation a high priority would result in significant benefits in terms of reducing summer traffic congestion.
2. That select entities from this group collaborate on developing a transit program for Grand Teton National Park and JH Airport employees (service to Moose & Jackson), and consider partnering with Grand Teton Lodge Company as well on this project. The development of this service should start with a survey of employees regarding how a transit service could best meet their needs.

Next Steps

Each representative will present the report back to their respective organization’s leadership to determine how best to participate in these proposed actions.