

Oakridge Chat Forum

Private group · 2.8K members

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- Community home
- Overview
- Admin tools
 - Admin Assist (5 actions, 6 criteria)
 - Member requests (4 new today)
 - Badge requests (0 new today)
 - Membership questions
 - Pending posts (0 new today)
 - Potential spam (0 new today)
 - Scheduled posts
 - Activity log
 - Group rules
 - Flagged by Facebook (0 new today)
 - Member-reported content (0 new today)
 - Moderation alerts (0 new today)
 - Group Status
 - Community roles
- Settings
 - Group settings (Manage discussions, permissions and roles)
 - Add features (Choose post formats, badges and other features)
- Insights
 - Growth
 - Engagement
 - Admins & moderators
 - Membership
 - Support
 - Help Center
 - Community Hub



Oakridge Chat Forum

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Dawn Kinyon Admin · Top Contributor · March 18 at 12:19 PM · 🗨️

Do you want to see lane reductions on Highway 58 through Oakridge?

yes 7% > ✕

no 90% > ✕

maybe 3% > ✕

Add poll option...

View insights 1.5K post reach > 19 reactions 530 Votes 459 comments

Like Send

All comments ▾

Audy Splethof · 2w · Like · 12

No lane restrictions

Erika Aguilar Stalcup · 2w · Like · 7

No I wanna see a health board being made for tenants living in black mold here in oakridge because Eugene Springfield won't come out and do anything for us here in oakridge

Ben Ward Top Contributor · 2w · Like · 37

Would rather see crosswalks and traffic signals clean up the highway stop only focusing on 1st street slow traffic make this a place that people want to stop instead of being in a rush to get out of here as fast as possible. If the highway had focus on clean up and getting business on it people would want to see what all the town has to offer, only way id agree to lane reduction is if the business on the highway get there parking lots back , that would never happen they would end up bike lanes and when the large events get hosted in greenwaters away from town they dont much come in to Oakridge and support small businesses. Yes the biking is important but before catering to one group by jamming up the highway maybe clean it up 1st get the owners of derelict buildings to do something with them, crosswalks and stop lights. Make this town a destination not more of a nightmare

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor · 2w · Like · 4

Ben Ward Actually the lane reduction is to keep the parking lots. If we keep 5 lanes and add sidewalks etc then parking lots go away in some places.

Ben Ward Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman point really is you still need a few traffic lights and cross walks or no one is ever crossing the highway , and the highway needs cleaned up and the business restored so people actually want to stop here visit sisters and Jacksonville this town has the same potential make it better before making major change that could make it a lot worse

About

This group is intended as a discussion board/forum for topics arising locally, primarily Oakridge, Hazeldell and Westfir. Share local news, inf... See more

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Only members can see who's in the group and what they post.

Visible
Anyone can find this group.

Oakridge, Oregon

May include flagged content
Admins may allow some posts and comments to be visible in the group even if they're flagged by Facebook's systems. Learn more

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RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC
GET YOUR DOGS AND CATS PROTECTED!
SATURDAY
APRIL 6, 2024
10 AM to 12 PM
Dogs MUST be on a leash.
Cats MUST be in a carrier or travel crate.
PORTAL PAID - WATER - OVER THE COVERED BRIDGE
Cost: \$15.00 per vaccine. **FREE** for members

Soil Testing
The Master Gardener's Plant Clinic Box
Sunday April 7th, 1:30-4:30 at the OAKRIDGE SEED SWAP, TREE SWAP: A community sharing event
We visit plant whopseers Desk at the "Plant Clinic" booth and your soil, bring 1 cup of soil in question and \$2.00 for your name and location and purpose of garden (vegetables, ornamentals, etc.)
Herbs, Plants, Fruit Tree Grafting, and more!

See all

2w Like 5

Ben Ward Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman plus in my case i already have sidewalks and most of the highway does

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Ben Ward Most of the highway doesn't have sidewalks. It stops really close to the bowling alley. There isn't really any across the street and then heading to eugene.

2w Like 2

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Ben Ward Remember, it's not our highway. So any extras you want cost us the city. They also will not put in street lights.

2w Like 2

Ben Ward Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman case and point the existing side would get screwed the opposite side might benefit a little, but ultimately the focus is in the wrong place, fix what exist 1st stop light cross walks finish out side walks, narrowing the highway as it sits now will just back traffic up and cause angry drivers ultimately causing more danger then already exists, hell the rice rockets fly down the higheay now as it stands you narrow it they will just use the turn lane to fly past people and ultimately will kill someone and i know for a fact they gwt away with it all night long ive got cameras and a business on the highway nothing ever happens you shrinknit it gets worse again focus is in the wrong place and i know the larger picture is to create bike lanes which is bull shit not the group that needs focused on yet

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Ben Ward We can't get lights or crosswalks without coming up to the highway code. At least it is extremely difficult. It's like trying to tell your neighbor how to build their house. They have codes to follow and if you are polite and work with them, sure maybe they will make a change to help you, but they still need to follow the codes. Plus it's still their house and their money that they are spending.

2w Like 2

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Ben Ward This is an article I read recently about bike lanes and economic development. The point is, you are going to get more business when you have all modes of transportation passing in front of your business. When it's just cars it really limits your potential customers.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/bike-lanes-good-for...>



BUSINESSINSIDER.COM

I read all the studies on the economic impact of bike lanes. Here's what I...

2w Like 2

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Not saying this is an exact match to Oakridge, but it's something to consider.

2w Like

Ben Ward Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman not disagreed but please hear me out this town has the potential to be like Jacksonville and Sisters the one thing they lack is the ability to expand there highway, we already have it so why not push to make it better and thrive like the other small towns, we are a step ahead of those guys lets focus on fixing up the highway and making this a destination especially one where traffic is controlled but easy to flow, im telling you from experience stop lights and cross walks, ir odat wants to. Fight then lets fight back not lay over on free money for a half ass job

1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Ben Ward I completely understand what you are saying but I think you will quickly find out that you will piss off another entire group of people on the south side of the highway. The ROW for the highway goes pretty close to the front door of the liquor store. They would then need to take all of that back and turn it into highway to get the bike lanes and sidewalks that would be required by the highway "code". Also up across from Rays and actually next to your building there will be some massive changes due to the steep terrain. So that will be a much longer project to complete instead of the one or two years. Secondly we get 5-8k cars a day on our highway. The cutoff for a 4 lane highway to get installed is 20k cars per day. So that means they can't justify the budget, which means Oakridge will pay for it. We can't even repair our own roads. I agree we are on our way to being a destination spot. It will come slow but it is happening. You would be amazed at the amount of people who don't want that to happen either. And just to be clear, I'm not 100% for the road diet either, but as soon as I say I want to see some something done on the highway people start accusing me of crap, so I just gave up and said sure, yeah, narrow it, that's me. If we cross the 20k cars per day threshold then we can widen it

and the funds will be justifiable. There people in Oakridge that don't even want me talking to ODOT, so then you have that crowd. I talk to a lot of people about this and a lot of different groups within the state to try and understand our options. It's not an easy fix. You have what some in Oakridge want on a road that we don't own. You have ODOT who owns and operates it and has budgets and justifications they need to make for those budgets. Their road, their budgets. We only have so much we can shoot for before they say, that's on your dime.

1w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Ben Ward I hope that all makes sense, if anybody has some magic bullet for us to get what we want yet still have ODOT pay for it, let me know.

1w Like



Rosemarie Moore Top Contributor

Ben Ward well put Ben

2w Like



Sarah Frieze Top Contributor

It's going to cause way more wrecks! People already fly through town it's going to be 100xs worse! Your going to have people trying to pass cars through town. Good luck pulling out anywhere. Camping season, people going to willamette pass! Hope no one with an emergency needs to get through..because your not going to be able too! The people that think this is a great idea! Have lost their damn minds!

2w Like



Georeneh Bullman

Sarah Frieze Have we forgotten the State assigned Hwy. 58 the designated Truck route. Those big rigs aren't going away.

2w Like



Georeneh Bullman

NO. NO NO WAY. NOPE NO

2w Like



2w Like



David Hadley

How about three more lights in town? Hill and 58, rainbow and 58. And west 2nd and 58. And don't senclarize them.

2w Like



Robert Henderson Top Contributor

David Hadley This would work SOOOOO much better than narrowing the road. Speed demons and half-asleep truckers will still blaze through a narrow road at 55+MPH. They HAVE to stop for a stop light and cannot really accelerate beyond 35 before they would hit the next one. That is an actual viable solution to our traffic problems.

2w Like



David Hadley

Robert Henderson my thought exactly

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Robert Henderson You better start bugging ODOT because they were very clear that was not an option. Maybe with enough bugging they will reconsider.

2w Like



Robert Henderson Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman It wasn't my idea. I just agreed with him that it was a better idea than the ones being proposed. I think you tagged the wrong person.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Robert Henderson Sorry, I meant that for David. On my phone its sometimes hard to click the correct person

2w Like



Robert Henderson Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman no worries. It happens. I've done it, too.

2w Like



Katherine Whittenberg

David Hadley I agree.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

David Hadley You better start bugging ODOT because they were very clear that was not an option. Maybe with enough bugging they will reconsider.

2w Like



David Hadley

Dirk Poncho Tarman I don't have the time our the energy to educate the engineers at odot. There so full of there owe "stuff" theyll do as they please with our tax dollars

2w Like



Kim Allen Top Contributor

this is so sad they are clueless and ignorant right up to the people in planning. especially those in planning. i wonder if they even come to the site? evidentially those in planning

are the worst, those and those that won't let things be and keep bringing it up so they can continually post arguments about why it would be so lovely, some people love a good controversy and continual argument

1w Like



Gary R. Carl Top Contributor

What % of our population uses The Chat Forum?
How about taking some leadership. Instead of simply eliciting responses (from an unrepresentative sample), as an elected official help determine what will be in the best long term interests of our community, then educate your constituents.
In the past there have been a large number of respondents opposed to lane reductions... so are you simply regurgitating this information (and to what purpose?), or leading the way forward for a better Oakridge for everyone?

2w Like



Michelle Coker Top Contributor

Gary R. Carl

This is a good way to start again, people have said NO, yet we still have those whom keep wanting to shove this down our throats.
Thanks for posting **Dawn**

2w Like



Marsha Craft
Michelle Coker 100%

2w Like



Jason Mason Top Contributor

Gary R. Carl there are probably more people watching on here on a day to day basis than at actual town meetings IMO. Instead of asking a question that is obviously pointed at how unreliable you think this is, Dawn is doing something, how about you get mailers or go door to door and find the actual % of people that even care. Dawn does a ton from what I've seen.

2w Like Edited



Aaron Davis

Gary R. Carl how many times do you want to beat a dead horse exactly? This TOWN does not want the road diet. Only people with businesses that are catered to mountain bikes do. THATS IT. You are thinking only on your interests and not the towns.

2w Like



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Aaron Davis - I have heard so very little of this highway discussion to be about the mountain bikes or tourism that it brings us. Maybe **Dirk Poncho Tarman** can share additional details since he's been in contact with ODOT most recently & done extensive reearch on the topic, hearing from both sides & numerous perspectives.

2w Like Edited



Aaron Davis

Vanessa Tharp I've talked to residents in multiple other cities where this has happened, they all absolutely hate it, it will make 58 more dangerous, it will increase commute times for working families in this town as most of us are required to commute to have a living wage job as apparently no one here can bring in good paying jobs, the highway was expanded decades ago due to the influx in traffic on 58. Counselors listen to constituents not the other way around, an overwhelming amount of citizens have said on multiple occasions NO, yet it keeps being brought up. Focus on bringing some businesses to this town that will employe 20-30 people and can pay a decent wage.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Aaron Davis Ask Dawn and Michelle to quit bringing it up then. It will be brought up again when it needs to, because it's required to be brought up. So at that point it will be brought up.

2w Like



Aaron Davis

Dirk Poncho Tarman keeps citizens in the loop that this is still being discussed apparently. Instead of the citizens having blinders on so shit like this can be slid through under there noses. It doesn't need to be brought up again period the citizens said no.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Aaron Davis Keeps them in the loop of what exactly? You can't just pass a TSP under the citizens noses.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Aaron Davis it will be brought up again because it's required by the state. Eventually we will need to discuss it.

2w Like



Aaron Davis

Dirk Poncho Tarman you get the right officials in place sure you can, bills get passed every year that have no business being passed, the general public doesn't peruse 1000 page legislation.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Aaron Davis I'm not 100% sure but I think we are required to do a public forum, etc. There is an entire process to get

the public involved. I would need to look it up or ask the specifics.

2w Like

Patch Pennywhistler

Gary R. Carl What do you care? You're leaving!

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Patch Pennywhistler Gary told me he was just moving into a different house in town.

2w Like

Robert Henderson Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman bummer. I got excited there for a moment.

2w Like

Jason Mason Top Contributor

Robert Henderson you and me both. Gary Carl has been a pain since gomez was CA.

2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Gary R. Carl and you wonder why you lost your re-election campaign. Behaving condescendingly and treating the people you want to elect you like they're a bunch of dumb hicks doesn't exactly inspire confidence in your leadership.

2w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1

Gary R. Carl it sounds like you are suggesting that lane reductions is in the best interest of the city, and that I should educate people to agree with you? I personally like to assume that people are capable of having their own opinions, and I want to hear them.

The purpose is to "hear" the people.

2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Dawn Kinyon THANK YOU! One of my biggest frustrations with City Administrators- especially our sitting mayor, a couple of current and former city councilors, and others from that camp- is that they seem to insist that we the people are too ignorant and stupid to know what we want and what is best for us. I am not some dumb kid. I'm 35, have two degrees, and research the hell out of everything that I need to understand better to vote my conscience. I greatly resent being told by the people who are supposed to serve us that they know better than the people whom they are supposed to represent. I would advise all of those currently in office to actually listen to us instead of telling us passive-aggressively to sit down, shut up, and let the grown-ups work. We know that's what is happening and that's why many of us don't trust our leadership.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Dawn Kinyon - what other methods will you use to "hear" the people?

2w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1

Vanessa Tharp when this topic comes back to the actual table, I'll get a formal petition and go door to door, so I can ask everyone what they think. I'll bring a copy of the ODOT rules where they state they will not implement the lane narrowing without the support of the community and the support of the trucking industry, and a copy of their estimates of what it WILL cost the City.

2w Like

Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Vanessa have you checked into all the methods we did already do this last go around? Which one did we miss?

2w Like

Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Dawn the only other method I can think of, is that it's never been put on the ballot. I still think that we should explore that more and see if it's an option.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Dawn Kinyon I would like to see that.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Dawn Kinyon is there a specific reason you are making a Facebook poll today on this topic?

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett - many new people live here now & moved during the pandemic & are in the city leadership - never hurts to ask again and include everyone. Please send me the list & process, organizations involved & any data from the last time - I would love to see it.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Dawn Kinyon - why did you feel compelled to bring it up again? What prompted this poll?

2w Like Edited

Kim Allen Top Contributor
Chrissy Hollett when you put it on the ballot remember only those with in the city limits are being polled here. there are many many more people living in this area impacted besides the ones that live with in the city limits.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kim Allen I see people that live in Eugene and further who answered the poll.

2w Like

Kim Allen Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman i am not talking about the poll i am talking about specifically **Chrissy Hollett's** mentioning of putting this on the ballot. this would only be getting the opinions of those living inside the city limits.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kim Allen Sorry, your statement was confusing when I read it. It said that only those within the city limits are being polled here. So I thought you were saying this poll only got people within city limits.

2w Like

Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1
Kim yes. That's true. 😊

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon - thanks for explaining that.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Chrissy Hollett - please show me where & how data & details are collected for community opposition in the past.

2w Like

Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1
Vanessa I joined Council in Jan of 2019 and the topic came up fairly soon, lots of work had already been done. There was multiple presentations by ODOT during city council meeting that were advertised for the public to attend. That includes power points with all sorts of data from ODOT. There are probably documents you get get from city hall if you wanted to read through them provided by ODOT. You can do so by filling out a public records request. To find the many meeting go to the city's website and choose to search for meetings including "TSP". Use the date range of Jan 01, 2019 to April 30, 2020 (we ended in April). You'll find so many.

ODOT also held 3-4 open houses with presentations from multiple speakers, mock-ups of what the highway would like with their top officials here in Oakridge to answer Q's. I know one of them was July 16th at the WAC, but there was more. They worked with city staff on the presentations and held them at both the WAC and the Greenwaters community building. These were intended for the purposes of engaging with the community, answering fears and also honesty of how changes would take effect. There was a tremendous amount of information and they were nicely done and well attended from both in favor and opposition. I attended all of them.

Multiple Planning Commission meetings over the course of possibly 2 years, you'd have to review their meetings. It was a big topic from Jan 2019 to at least April 2020. I didn't attend those because councilors are not supposed to. You can also find those meetings on the city's website.

Also a joint City Council / Planning Commission Joint Work Session Video available for Discussion of the Oakridge Transportation System Plan January 7th. I think there was actually another one too.

We were "Meeting'd to death" over this topic.

Survey Monkey Poll was sent out by the city. It was sent out in the city's water bill and also available for paper copies at city hall. We left stacks of surveys and several of the businesses in town. It was posted on the city's Facebook page Feb 21st, 2020. The link was shared and re-shared all over social media.

Facebook polls were never included in city data, although one could also probably find that here in this group or Oakridge Uncensored, or the group specifically intended to discuss.

Dead Mtn Echo also had information on this before they closed as well and I don't have access to that.

There was also 1-2 citizen protests on the highway in 2020.

Lastly the huge public hearing, unprecedented attendance, we held at the WAC in April of 2020. This meeting was open public comment and discussion. As I've said before the line was way out the door, 6 speeches in favor and over 60+ in opposition. This meeting ended at 11pm with people still waiting to speak in opposition.





2w Like 2

Patch Pennywhistler
Chrissy Hollett Yes. I was a part of the TSP committee as "Citizen at-large". Chrissy's recollection is quite accurate. ...

2w Like 1
Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon - are you "hearing" them for personal use or as a council member? This seems to be conflicting to saying this has nothing to do with current council or city work. ...

Robert Henderson Top Contributor
Gary R. Carl you seem to have a misunderstanding of how representative leadership works. This is not the military. We do not elect our leaders so they can tell us what is best for us. It is not the job of city leadership to educate the population. We have schools for that, and almost everyone today has access to the internet, libraries, newspapers, and numerous other excellent sources of reliable information. I don't care what title someone has, they are not going to have any better input about what is best for this town than the people of the town itself who actually have to live here with the results. Elected leaders are elected from the same pool of local folks that you are implying are incapable of having an educated opinion on their own, so they are no better or different than any of us. One day Joe the plumber, next day it is Mayor Joe. We elect our officials so they can listen to US, the people they are supposed to be representing, and transmute our will into action through the collective power of the municipality. That's the basis of our system of government. That is also the reason I didn't vote for certain individuals some time back. There are around 2,700 members on this Facebook group. Even allowing for the fact that the admins do admit people who just have a connection to the community, like people who used to live here and such, that is a very significant representation for a tiny little town of just a little over three-thousand citizens. Keep in mind that population includes those who cannot vote, like newborns and young children. I am not an admin, so I don't have the ability, laborious though it would be, to sort out the citizens from those who used to live here or have some other connection here. I would argue that those voices have value, but even after even sorting them out, this is definitely the best existing forum to reach the largest portion of the population. Very few citizens go to city council meetings or watch them online. Not that many of us read the local gossip rag, either. If anything, it is you who are out of touch here. We live in a modern world, even in Oakridge, and I applaud Dawn for using the modern tools available to solicit feedback from the largest available sampling of the local constituency. At least she is asking the people. If you REALLY want to hear our opinions on it, let us vote on it via ballots where everyone in town of legal voting status gets to vote. Oh, wait! We did that and now it is STILL under debate! That's why a lot of us are tired of hearing about this. We already officially said no and certain individuals think they know better than their constituents, so they keep beating this dead horse. The horse is gone at this point and they are beating a hole in the ground. When is enough enough? ...

2w Like 14

Patch Pennywhistler
Robert Henderson Bravo! ...
2w Like 5

Kim Allen Top Contributor
Gary R. Carl there is a reason why your not on council any more. people got fed up with your malarkey. and listening to your pomposity. ...
2w Like 1

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Gary R. Carl - what are the rules on a quorum by council members? 5 of them engaged in this post.
Why was this even asked about again if it's "not on the council's agenda?"
Many people have so many perspectives and thoughts & even some good & new ideas if we go through them. I truly hope some can be considered, a compromise will probably have to happen - I hope we are up for that challenge.
I hope we can all work together more frequently, with leadership leading the way & have it be ok to question or disagree & still get along.
More action, less arguing. Especially on an online community chat forum! 😊 ...
2w Like Edited 1

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Vanessa Tharp except you're sewing quite a bit of discord yourself. I've been watching you all day taking digs at Dawn and Chrissy suggesting they're committing wrongdoing while trying to flatter them at the same time. At best you sound disingenuous, at worst you're talking ...

from both sides of your mouth.

2w Like



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge - interesting perspective - I don't feel a straight answer has been given to why this post was made. I do know **Dirk Poncho Tarmen** was asked by state leadership about his thoughts & efforts, etc. on Monday in a city meeting that some but not all council members were at & then this "personal curiosity poll" came up. Then the tune changed when I asked about a quorum. It's ok to keep people accountable. Look to find his comments on it.

I don't think "digs" were made - I can appreciate people's work and involvement in the community AND not agree with them on every point.

Also - their use of this chat forum and mixing political business has been brought up several times as a conflict of interest, I now see this as a prime example & yes, I am speaking up. If it's not - then great, I want to better understand that - but it feels to me like it's walking an ethical line, so yes, I am calling them out by questioning.

2w Like Edited



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge - also, if I understood one of your previous comments, you said that when you went to the city council and gave opposing views or spoke your opinion, you were called a troublemaker or something. Basically I got the impression it didn't feel good. However, if I am in here and asking questions or possibly not agreeing with everything or everyone, are you not doing the exact same thing to me?

I continue to advocate that it is absolutely OK for everyone not to agree, to ask hard questions, and to ask for more transparency, communication, hold people accountable, and just being upfront about what people do and don't want, and that there is basically nothing in this community that we absolutely all 100% agree on as far as city politics.

I do standby that we all should operate with the best intentions and want great and even better better things for our community of Oakridge.

2w Like Edited



Gary R. Carl Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp getting to the core of it now!

2w Like



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Oh, and **Nicole Ross**, I don't care if my remarks ticked you off or not. I'm done with double standards and hypocrisy and I will call it out when I see it.

2w Like



Nicole Ross Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge good to know

2w Like



Kenneth Steelman

Absolutely not!

2w Like



Michelle Coker Top Contributor

This has been voted down sooo many times.

2w Like



Andrea Kristal

Michelle Coker exactly, why do they keep asking the same freaking question.. it's a no!

2w Like



Kim Allen Top Contributor

Andrea Kristal because one person is not happy with the NO answer.

1w Like



Scottina Marino

No

2w Like



Tami Jo Kephart

No

2w Like



Lisa Elaine Samuelson

No no no no

2w Like



Suzi Salcido Top Contributor

We should be focusing on actual infrastructure like drainage, road maintenance etc. Not fixing something that's not broke.

2w Like



Sarah Frieze Top Contributor

Suzi Salcido amen!

2w Like



Nan McNatt Top Contributor

State funding for infrastructure like drainage, road maintenance, etc., is contingent on our town's coming into compliance with regulations that mandate lane reductions. Whether we want lane reductions is less an issue than whether we want monies for infrastructure like drainage, road maintenance, etc.--and we do,

right?

2w Like

5



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Nan McNatt Yes, we do.

2w Like

2



Robert Leaming

Nan McNatt Now we're hearing from the 6%, WoW

2w Like



Suzi Salcido Top Contributor

Nan McNatt I'm confused at what any of the that has to do with city maintenance? 58 is fine (and what your talking about), but look at the other streets, most don't even have drainage, which cause potholes deeper than my cars clearance.

2w Like



Nan McNatt Top Contributor

If a thief tells me, "Your wallet or your life," **Robert**, I don't necessarily want to give him my wallet.

Poncho thinks lane reduction is a good idea. Maybe time will vindicate him; maybe not.

I think lane reduction is likely a necessary idea, in some ways akin to giving a thief my wallet. The State has said it will only allot funding for the kind of city improvements that **Suzi** mentioned, including stormwater and sewage pipes that run alongside and under Hwy 58, which are nearing end of their expected life and which the city doesn't have the funds to fix, if Oakridge consents to lane reductions.

These are funds that have been collected over years, in part from Oakridge taxpayers. We're being told, "Your lane reduction or no funds." I think we're best off choosing "lane reduction."

2w Like Edited

6



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Nan McNatt Perfect example is Jones Rd. It needs storm water mitigation. Majority of the water that runs onto it comes from the highway. If the highway is redone, ODOT is responsible for getting rid of that stormwater on their own. That is a road that many people complain about and has issues from the water. It causes potholes etc. We could literally mostly solve a perpetual problem that people want fixed by allowing ODOT to do their job.

2w Like

4



Jason Mason Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman but only on "their" road. Once you move from the highway its just shit roads again. Ya know what. Im turning notifications on this post off and Im walking away. Which is what it feels like your goal is. Well congrats. Have fun. I really hope you have the city's best interests at heart but I have a feeling this is more of a gary carl, custer, brian thing. I cant compete with people that have a ton of money and no empathy for anything except their ideas of whats right. The little people are disappointed.

2w Like Edited

6



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Jason Mason So we fix our road yet the water continues to pour from a road we don't own onto ours. I don't se how that is fixing a problem.

2w Like



Robert Leaming

Nan McNatt I like your analogy, it seems the State, ODOT, is using a form of fear and extortion to get Their Way. They are funded by the populous and are supposed to be working for The People. But if you don't do our song an dance ,No \$\$\$

We had one lane each way in 63 when my folks moved here. Then there was a turn lane added. Speed limit was 45 then 35 then 40. We actually had officers writing tickets. Later we got two lanes each way and that took away parking from many businesses.

I could go on and on but I believe the government should work for the people

2w Like

6



Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Nan "Your wallet or your life".... Excellent example.

2w Like



Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Robert "Extortion" was also the term I felt too. It has been difficult going the process and hearing multiple threats over the years. All that does is shut people down and there's no room for compromise. It's too bad. There could be some middle ground here but it won't happen from threats.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett I don't think I would call it extortion when it's not your property. As in the city.

2w Like



Robert Leaming

Dirk Poncho Tarman How is this not Our property, we all

pay State taxes Gas tax and City an County Tax's.
The hiway goes through Our town.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Robert Leaming We don't manage it. We as a city own city hall and other properties. The state owns the highway. Your taxes don't go just to hwy 58. They go all over. So when we turn down money for upgrades, we turn down our own tax dollars and other peoples tax dollars and they go to some other community. So the final decision on what the final design of the highway isn't up to us. It's up to ODOT. Now if we owned it, we could do whatever we wanted that fell within street "codes" for a better word. But we don't, ODOT does so they need to follow the Federal "codes" and then they have to go justify their projects and the costs to get funding.

2w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Nan McNatt is this something you have heard? Or seen it in writing from ODOT? Because I remember a very different version in our council meetings with ODOT.

2w Like

Nan McNatt Top Contributor
[Still Matthew here:] I'd welcome hearing you and **Poncho** talk this through with an ODOT official, **Dawn**. A clear answer to this question is "precisely" the kind of conversation that I think needs to be clipped to the city's website, so it can be referenced here. If what **Poncho** says (immediately above the question you're asking here) is correct... then it doesn't matter much whether Oakridge Citizens "prefer" the highway narrowed, if we can't pay for our infrastructure liabilities. (See my analogy above.) It matters whether Oakridge needs access to funds to pay for our infrastructure liabilities.

2w Like Edited

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Nan McNatt there is already a video of this conversation with ODOT and the city council back in Feb or March of 2020 posted to the city YouTube page. Councilor Tarman wasn't a councilor at that time, but these questions were asked and answered.
That's the part of transparency that I truly appreciate.

2w Like

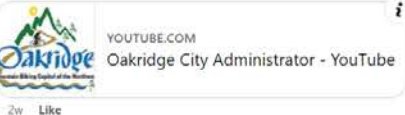
Nan McNatt Top Contributor
The oldest videos I see are from 1 year ago, **Dawn**:
<https://www.youtube.com/@cityofOakridgeCouncilComm.../videos> . What am I missing?



YOUTUBE.COM
City of Oakridge Council & Committee Meetings - YouTube

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Nan McNatt
<https://www.youtube.com/@oakridgecityadministrator.../videos>



YOUTUBE.COM
Oakridge City Administrator - YouTube

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Nan McNatt There was another account that has older videos. I think a new account was made about a year ago.

2w Like

Nan McNatt Top Contributor
Thanks, **Poncho**; it turns out I was already "Subscribed" to that channel, but it wasn't coming up for me. On the City Administrator's YouTube, I was able to find the council's discussion of ODOT maintenance of the rest area, **Dawn**, but not yet any video discussion(s) with an ODOT official about highway and infrastructure maintenance. Any leads?

2w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Nan McNatt oh dear. If I had the time today I would look through all the agendas and minutes from about Dec 1 2019 to April 2020 and find the exact meeting date, through the city website, then there should be a link to the video right there. I may have time this weekend, unless you want to go that route before then? Also it's hard to sort on you tube because the names of each video are not consistent, and it's possible that the video is just not posted. But if that is the case, we can request it to be posted.

1w Like

Nan McNatt Top Contributor
[Nan's husband, Matthew, again:] No rush, **Dawn**; I really appreciate your willingness here. I devoted over an hour yesterday to looking but, having not been in the meeting when it happened, I don't have the same sense of what I'm looking for. To the extent there's a discrepancy between

what you and Poncho are taking away from conversations with ODOT, I'd definitely appreciate more data points.

1w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Nan McNatt The people at ODOT are pretty open and willing to discuss things also. Our local area manager actually lives here in town. Well I think right outside of city limits.

1w Like



Nan McNatt Top Contributor

Thanks, **Poncho**. I think unless we can surface a past, public conversation that led **Dawn** (and perhaps others) to one impression, we'll be missing data points in future conversations with the folks who left you with another impression. I'm all for more (recorded, indexed, publicly available) conversations in the future!

1w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Nan McNatt No problem. Since it's not moving forward to a council decision at the moment, there have been no public meetings on it recently.

1w Like



Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1

OK, I popped into this site and it changed my mind on the date range to search for...<https://oakridgetsp.com/>



1w Like Remove Preview



Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1



1w Like



Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1



1w Like



Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1



1w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Nan McNatt My only other thing to say is, I have no idea if things have changed in what they can do since it was last discussed 4 or 5 years ago. I think we should look at what is said in the past and then bring it back up again to see if the same answer sticks. My main emphasis was how to get a bunch of stuff fixed for our town but keeping the cost and maintenance off of Oakridge. Because things like the crosswalk that keeps getting ran over being our problem, I don't like.

1w Like



Nan McNatt Top Contributor

Thanks, **Dawn**. Here's the video from the 2020.06.16 meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULBkAi1Zic>. I don't see a video of the Planning Commission and City Council from October 7, 2019, posted to the City Administrator's YouTube channel.



1w Like Edited

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
It may be this one? <https://youtu.be/iBvXkubqYk4?feature=shared> but I have to head to work now so I can't review this video right now.



1w Like Remove Preview

Vera Blackwell-Weddle
I'd rather see road REPAIR!

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Vera Blackwell-Weddle That is one giant road repair on a road we don't own.

Robert Henderson Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman 58 isn't that bad. It's the roads in town, the ones owned by the city, that are so desperately in need of repair. We have potholes that should have their own addresses in this town.

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Robert Henderson I agree that other streets that we own need attention. 58 we don't own and don't need to pay for. Now yes, somebody will say, but we do need to pay. But that all depends on what extras you ask them to do. ODOT is aware we don't have money for those so they have grant writers that help you to secure the money. 58 is not in great shape. When it rains I have friends who live along it that have their yards flood from the run off. They would like to see it redone and have that stormwater taken care of by ODOT.

Vera Blackwell-Weddle
Dirk Poncho Tarman I'm not talking about 58, I talking about city streets.

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Vera Blackwell-Weddle I know that.

Jason Mason Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman if we don't own it. Then why are you so concerned about it? Makes no sense. Odot is going to circumvent oakridge UNLESS we restrict access? People are coming through. A lot of them. I worked during the pandemic and I work now and I have seen the traffic increase. It just doesn't make sense that they will go around unless we make it harder. And if it isn't our road? Why do you keep pushing that agenda. Quit fighting with the citizens and start working FOR them. I know, I know. You are. But you aren't listening to the people. You are just trying to force your opinion on the populace. Quit beating the same dead horse and start working on a live one. Almost like you have some hidden agenda. You getting a pay out if it happens? Last time that happend gomez and hanson were dipping in each others puddin. My point is you aren't looking very good trying to force everyone to see your view. Civil servant. Not Civil gaurdian. Not civil parent. Not civil boss. Servant. Listen. To. The. People.

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Jason Mason I guess I can ask the same question. If we don't own it then why do you care what ODOT does with it. What happens when ODOT gets tired of us kicking the can down the road. That's when they bypass you, not when you try to work with them. There are more people speaking up to me about wanting it changed than I see on Facebook. So who do I listen to. The majority I hear in person that say they don't want to speak up on Facebook because the hate and name calling that they receive or do I also speak for the people who ask me to continue. Once again, I didn't bring this to Facebook for everybody to get all worked up. But yet here we are.

Kathy Felty
No!!!!

Jason Mason Top Contributor
How about we clean the roads and junk the RVs before we try another scheme to narrow roads.

Robert Leaming
Jason Mason the Moter homes and trailers along the street slow traffic, especially if you don't want to have a head on with other drivers. The idea of 3 more lights, that have crosswalks is a great way to slow the traffic. I'm thinking that would work better than the ran over flashy thing by the liquor store. That had more hits than a crash test dummy. I'm saying No to narrowing the hiway!!.

Enforcement would really help too.
Speaking of beating dead horses, just forget the foolish idea of
Narrowing the hiway..

2w Like Edited 5

Jason Mason Top Contributor
Robert Leaming I've never been against lights and other safety measures. Just the handful of people that are more concerned about bikes and lane narrowing than citizens. These are the same people that painted "Welcome to Oakridge" on the water tower but they aim it at the people up the hill with the money. No one traveling through even notices it. And all because someone threw a tantrum and painted it anyways. So it's not tourists or anyone else we are welcoming to Oakridge. Just the money on the hill. Really shameful in my opinion. And I would love to forget about it. You have to convince Poncho and the others to forget it. But everyone needs a legacy and I guess this is theirs. 🙄

2w Like Edited 3

Robert Leaming
Jason Mason Their actions are very visible. ...

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Jason Mason So who brought this up today on Facebook? Was it me? no it wasn't. I haven't been rude to anybody, I hear what people are saying. I'm allowed to represent all people. Even the people you don't agree with. Do I think it's really bad form for us to take all mention of Hwy 58 out of the TSP and have zero plans, yes. That's why I ran and I was very clear about it. Are there multiple councilors, and it's almost as if we all vote and the decision gets made then, yes. Why can't you accept that others have different opinions than yours and they also get to be heard through their representatives?

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Jason Mason - is ODOT working on a program to do that? ...

2w Like

Andrea Kristal
No, why would anyone even support this? ...

2w Like 5

Michael Dopkus
The worst part is our votes won't matter. The highway gets super busy but we are small. The people that will benefit are the only ones that get heard.

2w Like

Sarah Frieze Top Contributor
Michael Dopkus yup! So true unfortunately ...

2w Like

Michael Dopkus
Sarah Frieze yea. It's normal but small towns are the worst for this

2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Michael Dopkus I think that's why more of us are making more noise instead of sitting back and letting them do whatever they want.

2w Like 4

Michael Dopkus
Kristyn Dodge I wish that made a difference but it hasn't for years

2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Michael Dopkus I get that and even feel it to some degree. I find comfort in the knowledge that even if it amounts to nothing I can at least say I used my First Amendment Right to let my representatives know how I feel about their garbage lol.

2w Like 2

Michael Dopkus
Kristyn Dodge I totally stand with you on that. Just knowing how this town runs... they don't care about any of that sadly

2w Like Edited

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Michael Dopkus Don't I know it. All Cutchen and Co does is sit on their posteriors and try to push policies to maintain the status quo and I'm beyond sick of it.

2w Like 3

Trudy Hammond Top Contributor
Michael Dopkus there are vacant city council seats coming up. Taking action is better than just talking but that works best for those who will "agree" on things. I've seen it from both sides of our current divided council!!! I served on several committees for years and applied for a council seat three times. But another person for two times was solicited to apply and received the votes. One of those apps I had to withdraw because of family matters. But still, I would not have received the votes. Lol. This is going to be the craziest election year ever, imo. I will not sit on council unless the

public writes my name in.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Michael Dopkus - we could work on working with ODOT vs against them. Sounds like a better use of time since they own the highway & we dont.

2w Like

Michael Dopkus

Vanessa Tharp I get what your saying and respect your thoughts on this but nothing ever goes how they say it will and I could think of way better things for our tax money to be used on.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Michael Dopkus - it may not be up to us. I would take improvements & safety over losing it. It's state money & state organization. Which yes, is in still a part of our tax money.

2w Like Edited

Kim Allen Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp odot is not pushing this one councilor is.

1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Kim Allen I'm not pushing for it to be voted on. I'm just on a campaign to make people understand what's involved. Because when I understood what was involved it made me realize we may have made the wrong decision.

1w Like

Raquel Erdman
No

2w Like

Marty Clark Top Contributor

Who keeps pushing this?

2w Like

Robert Leaming

Marty Clark nobody with any common sense!!!

2w Like

Michelle Coker Top Contributor

Robert Leaming

100%

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Marty Clark - ODOT is my understanding - the people who actually own the highway.

2w Like

Marty Clark Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp odot hasnt been posting on facebook. Maybe they should

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Marty Clark - I hope that they have a lot more to focus on than the Oakridge Chat Forum. 😊

2w Like Edited

Marty Clark Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp true. I hope they put out something that allows all our voices to be heard. Unless, of course, its some law they are abiding by. Cant deny the law

2w Like

Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Marty it's not being pushed again by ODOT. The Lane Reduction was left out of the last TSP plan in 2020. We have one city councilor that would like to see this happen and stated he's in contact with ODOT. He would like to see it happen, but it hasn't been pushed at a Council level.

2w Like

Marty Clark Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett thanks.

2w Like

Marty Clark Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett i think he should canvas his constituents, all of them, and push what they want

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Marty Clark that's what I'm doing, or at least trying to do. We spoke, I know how you feel.

2w Like

Marty Clark Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman are you going to change your objective if consensus is to not change the road?

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Marty Clark it all depends on what the final plan involves. That's why there are 7 of us. It won't pass if the majority don't want it.

2w Like

Kim Allen Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett i remember after their conversations with custer. just perfect. reminder to all of you down there be careful who you vote for. isn't the city suppose to come up with matching funds or money? i know one of the people working on this from country fair. david helton. this is not in the best interest of businesses thriving or surviving in this town. as a councilor to go out on your own and pursue and promote this with odot and people who work for odot in coming up with the plan david. seems sort of wrong. as a group if you all wanted to get more info wouldn't you all discuss it and decide a contact person rather than pushing something going sort of lone and rogue on your own. are you folks a group?

1w Like

2

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Kim Allen So there are things that councilors work on during their own time. It's completely allowed. Our city staff is so small and over worked, that if we didn't help, pretty much nothing would get done. If we had public meetings for everything that councilors discuss, or what the mayor discusses then we would be having meetings probably multiple times a week. Everybody is a volunteer. What you do is go gather info, work through that, when it gets to a point then you bring it forward and council then gets to go through and look at the info and decide. Once again there is an entire council to vote on this. You act like I could just make a change and presto, new highway. That's why we have the city government we have. So things like that don't happen.

1w Like

Kenneth Hopper
Nope

2w Like

Jayda Olsen Top Contributor

It amazes me how many times the community will voice their opinion on something and vote no against it, just for it to be asked over and over again like we're going to change our minds. It's like a toddler repeating themselves over and over again to get what they want. It's a no, it's been a NO leave it at that.

2w Like

43

Paula Solis Top Contributor

Jayda Olsen this right here

2w Like

5

Jayda Olsen Top Contributor

Paula Solis how many times are they going to have us vote no, until they just do it anyways. Just like the safety fee.

2w Like

13

Paula Solis Top Contributor

Jayda Olsen totally agree, like you want me to tell you in English and Spanish?

"NO & NO"

2w Like

9

Amy Buchmeier Top Contributor

Paula Solis that was good

2w Like

4

Jaron Stubblefield

Jayda Olsen I note that the guy who pushed for an even bigger safety fee than was imposed, won election to the mayor's office with more votes than anyone in at least 40 years.

2w Like

3

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Jaron Stubblefield



2w Like

Ashlee Renee

Jayda Olsen it blows my mind they even would suggest it it wouldn't work during summer months at all.. all the additional travel and campers ect it would make it so congested.

2w Like

8

Georgeneh Bullman

Ashlee Renee plus at least 30 big rigs a half hour. Picture that traffic jam.

2w Like

3

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Georgeneh Bullman La Pine actually gets a little more than we do.

2w Like

2

Jeryka Cornella Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman and?

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Jeryka Cornella it's not a traffic jamb. ...

2w Like



2

Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Jayda Olsen it amazes me how people don't understand that we don't own the HWY. ...

2w



4

Jayda Olsen Top Contributor
Holly Tarman a wild concept, they'd keep asking the community how they feel about it just to ignore them. Why even ask then? ...

2w Like



4

Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Jayda Olsen because it's going to happen! They would just like our input. No is not a option 🙄 ...

2w



2

Jayda Olsen Top Contributor
Holly Tarman exactly. It's to make face. Try to look like they actually care about the community and how it'll be affected, in all truth they couldn't care less. ...

2w Like Edited

Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Jayda Olsen it's because they need to upgrade codes and infrastructure. Sorry you can't grasp that. ...

2w



2

Jayda Olsen Top Contributor
Holly Tarman how does adding a second lane to the highway through town upgrade anything honestly? Besides car accidents, traffic, and build up? Especially since OPD can't even keep track of one lane properly. Where will the merge happen? Where will the passing lanes end for the one crosswalk that's been ran over multiple times already? Or are these points to hard to grasp? How long will the roads be full and closed for people to drive on, where will the detour start? What of the people who live on 58 and the businesses that will be forced to stay closed during this, what will come of the revenue list to them so this caos can be started. There's no reason it's NOT up to the community, we build this town, we pay the taxes, damn, we even pay for the mess ups of the ones asking us for our input. Maybe they'd be smarter to actually listen to us so there's not another fee we're stuck paying for. ...

2w Like



8

Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Jayda Olsen When ODOT fixes the Hwy through town they will have to meet updated codes. I'm not gonna pretend to know all of the codes that they will have to meet. Maybe Dawn could further educate us on that. From what I understand the city would have to update their infrastructure that lies under the Hwy at the time of the ODOT fix. It's also my understanding that ODOT was and possibly still is willing to help Oakridge procure funding to help offset the cost of their upgrades. Again, maybe Dawn could educate us further. Eventually, probably nowhere in the really near future the Hwy is gonna need 'major' repairs. It would be better for the citizens of Oakridge to have some input on the design of the new one than to just let ODOT design it without our input. ...

2w



5

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Jayda Olsen at least the toddler is adorable! 🥰 ...

2w Like

Jayda Olsen Top Contributor
Kristyn Dodge sometimes 🙄 ...

2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Jayda Olsen well yes, that's true. ...

2w Like

Leona Boerste No!!!! ...

2w Like

Tammy Barton Absolutely not ...

2w Like

Larry Sweet No NO AND No ...

2w Like

Ja Schindler
Is there community awareness that ODOT is planning the first phase of this by adding a westbound passing lane near the west end of Laduke between Harbor and the old logging scale? It's going to make that stretch more dangerous, and make it harder to turn on or off westfir rd, and is going to heavily impact LaDuke rd property access ...

2w Like



4

Ja Schindler
I live across from LaDuke where the proposed project would take place, we are opposing it but need help. It's a horrible plan, a curve in the road and a wetland ...

2w Like



3

Amy Buchmeier Top Contributor
Ja Schindler and the elk are if I remember right. ...
2w Like 2

Patch Pennywhistler
Ja Schindler And, to add insult to injury, the passing lane will benefit traffic AFTER it passes through Oakridge, just to make sure we don't miss out on any of the gestures or colorful language commonly associated with road rage. ...
2w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Ja Schindler yes, I've known that was coming for a few years. They also sent a mailer to all homes in Oakridge recently, with links to websites about the new passing lanes. If I remember correctly, their goal is to reduce the amount of speeding and passing while in Oakridge. ...
2w Like

Ja Schindler
Dawn good to know. Doubtful it will affect the way people drive in Oakridge, but virtually guaranteed to make it more dangerous for Westfir. We are trying to get them to move it one mile west on the straight stretch between scales and westridge rd where an extra westbound lane would be beneficial. ...
2w Like Edited

Darla Nelson Top Contributor
No ...
2w Like

Marissa 'Mar' Lopez
No. It's hard enough to pull out on hwy 58 as it is. (Also, thank you for doing a poll! I personally appreciate it) ...
2w Like Edited 12

Michelle Coker Top Contributor
Marissa 'Mar' Lopez
This!! My husband and I both work off of 58 daily and cross it multiple times, it's a nightmare sometimes now, I couldn't imagine 2 lanes!!
Not much brains or thought have gone into this but certain people whom support this just want "the looks" that it will change and they don't care about the safety factors. ...
2w Like Edited 6

Marissa 'Mar' Lopez
Michelle Coker yes, I pull out on it every day... multiple times a day...
It's already a challenge. There are ways to 'beautify' it still. For instance, Sweet home has two lanes going each direction, it's charming looking! Lots of flower baskets and plants. A little bit of a walk way. It can be done. ...
2w Like 2

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Marissa 'Mar' Lopez and that is the type of improvement I would gladly open my pocketbook for and it might even bring more folks to us. I've had friends drive down 58 on their way to other places and tell me that the visible parts of Oakridge are... less than inviting... If anything, the lane reduction would make the effect even worse. ...
2w Like 4

Marissa 'Mar' Lopez
Kristyn Dodge exactly, I hear that all the time at The Campfire. When people get 'lost' off of 58 and discover McFarlin or the fish hatchery, they are always flabbergasted that our 'frontage' looks the way it does.
I mean, even a row of tall arborvitae's to offer the mobil home parks some privacy would be amazing! ...
2w Like 2

Linda Swisher
Michelle Coker dont think I have any thing to say is , what's going to happen if that TV Butte gets passed what is going to happen with all the trucks that's coming up and down this highway with a one lane .nobody's getting out on highway 58 off the side streets .just saying any one thinking of this ??????? ...
2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Linda Swisher That adds 100 vehicles a day. We currently get 5k-8k a day. The cutoff to even consider a 4 lane highway is 20k a day. ...
1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Marissa 'Mar' Lopez Changes like that require private citizens to make the changes since we don't own the highway. Plus it's not in our TSP so it won't happen from ODOT, it will need to be on private property and those owners will need to do it. ...
1w Like

Katherine Whittenberg
It ticks me off , they collect and use our tax dollars and then refuse to resurface the road and make the changes we do want. System built to force compliance. ...
2w Like 4

Jake Ripley
Yes, also add 2 stop lights. ...
2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Jake Ripley - definitely could help with speeding! ...
2w Like

Josh Corley
Yet we keep electing people who want it. ...
2w Like

Kim Allen Top Contributor
yes. exactly. you folks down there need to be more careful about who it is that is on council. please. ...
1w Like

Krystal Dewhirst
No ...
2w Like

Marsha Craft
Krystal Dewhirst 100% agree ...
2w Like

Larry Roberts
This put me down as a yes vote when I looked to see how many yes votes were recorded. I had voted no a couple hours earlier. ...
2w Like

Scottina Marino
Larry Roberts wow ...
2w Like

Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1
Larry just click on the other one you want and it will update. ...
2w Like

Jaron Stubblefield
Larry Roberts I noticed it is easy to accidentally change my vote when I'm merely looking to see what the current vote count is and who voted which way. ...
1w Like

Denis A Nielsen
If they do that there'll be more accidents in town ...
2w Like

Sandy Greene
NO!! ...
2w Like

Trudy Hammond Top Contributor
Would like additional pedestrian crossings. Obviously the one existing is in an inappropriate location since it has been smashed twice that I know of... ...
2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Trudy Hammond - yes! Another good potential need! ...
2w Like

Frances Reinhardt ...
 ...
2w Like

Rodney K Samuelson
NO ...
2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
I'm for it but I'm sure everybody knows that already. ...
2w Like

Shane Stephenson
Dirk Poncho Tarman why though? I don't see a reason for it just see more hassle than anything ...
2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Shane Stephenson If you want I can have a beer and explain it. It's extremely complicated and involved on why it's important for the longevity of our town. The number one reason though, not our road, we don't own it. ODOT is bound by the courts to not be able to do a full repave on the highway until we come up to the federal highway code. They also are extremely limited on repairs and upgrades until we meet code. Also our old infrastructure runs the entire length of the highway, water, sewer, power. ODOT can help with access to grants to replace that while the highway is out and we could have the backbone of our entire infrastructure brand new and buried out of the way of, fire, tree fall and other disasters. But there are about 15 other reasons that it's important also. ...
2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Shane Stephenson Oh yeah, also stormwater. ODOT is responsible for all stormwater on the highway. This would allow them to take care of one of the things I see people asking for in this thread and other threads. ...
2w Like

- Shane Stephenson
Dirk Poncho Tarman yeah we should definitely do that ...
2w Like
- Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Shane Stephenson I think people look at it to black and white and don't think big picture sometimes. ...
2w Like
- Shane Stephenson
Dirk Poncho Tarman if you're for it I know there's a reason ...
2w Like
- Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Shane Stephenson I have a ton more reasons. I just keep explaining one person at a time. ...
2w Like

Dianna Lamb
This is all the rage of the 15 min city folk. ...
2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
This topic needs to go to Hell and never come back. People have said no and get ignored as per usual. I don't know if the people pushing it are hoping for some sort of kickback or what, but when your own constituents say no, you had damn well better listen to them or you won't have a position at all. ...
2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Kristyn Dodge - some constituents do say yes or maybe and many haven't been asked - as indicated in this thread. We don't all agree.
Accusations for people to receive a kickback are out of line. Especially for you claiming that I'm here making "digs" to people. ...
2w Like Edited

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Vanessa Tharp I didn't accuse anyone of anything, lady. I just don't understand why it's being pushed so hard when the majority voted NO in 2020. But I also know what side butters your bread so I can't be surprised you're trying to put me in a "gotcha!" situation. Have a nice night. ...
1w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Oh, and don't bother replying. I turned notifications off for this post this morning and will do so again now. I have nothing more to say on the subject and I've had my fill of interacting with you and your buddies. Take care. ...
1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kristyn Dodge You did say that people who want lane reductions must be getting kickbacks. That's an accusation of somebody doing something illegal. I believe it's also called slander if it's false an unproven. ...
1w Like

Karin Thompson Top Contributor
I'm less concerned with lane reductions, but very, very interested in having a traffic light next to the shopping center that includes the pharmacy, Lion Mtn. K's Flowers, etc. I know this has also been discussed to death with DOT, etc. but I am so sick of the horrible driving on 58 through Oakridge. I take my life in my hands every time I pull out from the street I live on. We need a traffic light to slow down semi's and some others who drive 50-60 through town. ...
2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Karin Thompson - your experience & many others is a huge reason I think a dialogue & compromise needs to happen - SAFETY for those needing services, walking, biking & more. My care for helping others is worth me taking 3 more minutes to get through town. ...
2w Like

Jeri Allyn Reed Top Contributor
I have a daughter that wants to be able to ride her bike places. I don't feel comfortable riding with her along the highway or walking with her along the highway. Without sideways it is very dangerous. ...
2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Jeri Allyn Reed - this is a huge reason I do think I am more for this possibility than against it. ...
2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor ...

2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Just in case my position on this topic wasn't clear. 😊

2w Like

Jaron Stubblefield
To hear this forum in the months leading up to the 2022 election, you might have thought former mayor Hollett was going to win a full term as mayor in a landslide. That is what I expected (not that I am somebody who knows much). But not only did she lose, the winner got more votes than anyone in recent memory - maybe ever. And I have to think they knew his position on things like lane reduction. Not that I am trying to put Hollett down (she got plenty of votes too in an election that was UP on participation), but I think it's a good example of why the vote of this forum might not be a great bellwether of a vote of the whole town. I won't say what my thoughts are on lane reduction, but I honestly would not be confident that the town is overwhelmingly against it just by the vote in this forum.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Jaron Stubblefield I agree with that statement.

2w Like

Jaron Stubblefield
The rest of my family is probably a solid no on lane reduction from what I have gathered when I asked some of them, in case anyone gets mad at THEM based on MY opinions, which may be different than theirs. As far as I know I am the only one who would vote "maybe" on a question like this.

2w Like Edited

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Jaron Stubblefield I don't see the need to get mad at anyone just because of where they fall on the issues. I only get angry when someone says something to the tune of "If you disagree with me then you are too stupid to know better."

2w Like

Jaron Stubblefield
Kristyn Dodge Well, I think elected officials should listen to the people and strive to be respectful of them even if they disagree, even if some people are truly ignorant of the facts and argue just to be arguing sometimes.

But sometimes I think Oakridge is a good example of how pure democracy doesn't always work very well.

It seems like the majority of the people would complain about the lack of police while at the same time voting against every money measure proposed for the purpose of paying for police. It makes no sense. If every decision were made by way of a pure democratic referendum, I fear the town would be an even bigger mess than it is.

Come to think of it, take the decriminalization of drugs in Oregon as an example. The voters voted to decriminalize drugs. Now the legislature is voting to re-criminalize drugs after decriminalization didn't turn out to be such a good thing.

So I find myself agreeing with those who say that sometimes leadership involves listening to the populace while being willing to make hard unpopular choices if they are needed. Of course we have the option of voting them out of office in the next election if their actions didn't work. This is not like Russia, where the leaders don't have the same fear of losing an election.

But I don't know. Maybe we are not in the same desperate need of lane reduction that we are in need of police and other services. Maybe this is not the same kind of hard yet needed decision that some other decisions might be.

I think the highway proposals that include lane reduction have good points and possible drawbacks. When I first heard about lane reduction, I was against it for many of the same reasons that opponents are against it now. But after listening to the proposals more in depth, I am not as certain that the proposals are as bad as I thought at first. They actually have some good points. It would slow traffic down. It would make the area seem more busy. It might help businesses on the highway. There could possibly be extra lanes outside town that mitigate any problems that might arise from fewer lanes in town. I'm at least willing to listen.

2w Like

Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1
Jaron I don't think anyone uses social media as a one source factor. It's just one way to source opinions quickly from the community where people can very freely speak their opinions, mostly uncensored. That doesn't happen from surveys and public forums.

I think that there's many factors with the Mayoral Election and the two comparisons are vastly different when looking at the communities majority. Campaigning is a big deal, even in a small town, and I greatly missed the boat. Raising money for yourself is big... I could go on but it's not important. I think this topic is so divisive in our community I wish we could find compromise and everyone put their egos aside and come to the table with open minds to find middle ground.

2w Like

Jaron Stubblefield
Chrissy Hollett Well, you may be right in that the mayoral

vote vs. the vote on "lane reduction" could be two different things in terms of how indicative they are of the opinions of the whole town. I admit the 91 percent who voted "no" here is a pretty high percentage, enough to make me worried if I were actually pushing seriously for the highway improvements that are commonly referred to as "lane reduction." If the 400 or so people who voted "no" are actually registered Oakridge voters, then you have to hope the rest of the town breaks in sufficient numbers in favor of lane reduction to cover the ground.

But I don't know. The town elected Poncho to the City Council knowing full well what his views were. Maybe the town as a whole is more open to changes to the highway than this forum would indicate.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Jaron Stubblefield You would be amazed at the amount of people who talk to me in person about this topic. They say that they won't post on Facebook about it because of the nasty comments and also they just don't like to use Facebook for political stuff. They also deserve to be represented. ODOT owns a giant road through our town that they operate. They might be the biggest land owner next to the railroad. We should be talking to them often and making plans for the future. Currently we have zero plans. It just seems like really bad running of a city to do it that way.

2w Like



Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Jaron yes I would agree that this poll is skewed because all people in this group are not registered Oakridge voters. Most live here, but truly not all. I also see people on both side of the votes who don't live in Oakridge, but that goes on the 6% side, so the percentage is smaller than 6%.

Yes Poncho was forthright that he was in favor of a lane reduction while he ran on the ballot. Keep in mind that if you look at the poll numbers, he was not the front runner in the Councilors race. That was both Jan Hooker and Michelle Coker whom have been opposed to a Lane Reduction. But there was third open Councilor seat so there had to be a third one elected. No matter if he was opposed or in favor of lane reduction, the way the election works, the third person with the highest votes also wins. Poncho was third place. There was also a 4th person that was in favor of lane reduction, and they did not win because there wasn't a 4th seat. So if you were to look at it that way, all the pro-lane reduction candidates fell to the bottom of the votes. Poncho was also part of Bryans PAC with money and campaign things going on... So I guess my point is that I think there's so many factors that come into play during election time, even in our small town. I also see your point as well that social media is not the end all source of info. I think most people just use it as a quick gauge of their audience. The only true way is putting it on the ballot, but I think we looked into that and it was a not possible.

Thank you for your tact. It is much appreciated 😊

2w Like



Jaron Stubblefield

Chrissy Hollett I knew Poncho came in third place. But if the current Mayor is in favor of lane reduction (is he?), then the pro-lane reduction candidates were at the very top AND the bottom of the winning votes. With the artis in between.

I admit I am one of those people in the forum who don't actually live in Oakridge. I'm in the forum because I grew up in Oakridge, and when I joined the forum, I was still coming to Oakridge to see the doctor and visit family and do other things, and I was very interested in following elections and other drama going on at the time. Maybe I really shouldn't be commenting and voting on these things when I'm not even a resident technically, but I do care about Oakridge and consider it my hometown. I TRIED to move back to Oakridge about a year ago but couldn't find a place I liked that would let me have cats.

I take it you are opposed to lane reduction?

2w Like



Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Jaron I am opposed to working against the will of the citizens. I believe the majority of our community is opposed to it. I have watched this first hand for over 5 years as a Councilor and at least a decade before that as a citizen. I sat through a meeting from 6pm to after 11pm (we cut it off) hearing 6 speeches in favor and a whopping 60+ speeches in opposition. That was overwhelming. I truly listened to people that elect us. Citizens have valid concerns. Their thoughts and opinions were heard. I am here as a voice of the citizens, it is not and will never be my goal to try and convince people that I'm smarter and my way is best. And that is sincerely what I've seen from prior councilors and Mayors. This FB poll here is just a reiteration of what we've already seen through public hearings, community surveys and multiple open houses showcasing expertly done diagram mock-ups of a new beautiful highway proposal. It was a landslide no, and if that doesn't tell a person that our community isn't ready for this, a person is intentionally not listening to their constituents.

Period. I have bigger issues to focus on for Oakridge that can greatly impact our growth and sustainability. Wouldn't it be better to put this SAME amount of time and effort in uhhhh HOUSING or fixing our own city-owned and residential areas that NEED sidewalks too? My street is terrible with zero sidewalks too. It's terrible all over. I would much prefer to see kids riding bikes in the residential areas far greater than I ever care to see them riding their bikes in a transportation hwy, hwy 58. That comes from my mom hat, my City Councilor hat as well as my emergency responder hat. That is not because of the speed or because it's 4 lanes, 2 lanes or 8 lanes.... It's because it's a "transportation hwy" that hundreds if not a thousands semis cross each day, not to mention other very large big rigs. Those vehicles have a difficult times seeing over the top of their cabs and the potential for not seeing a small child riding their bicycle on the highway is greatly increased... add in some environmental factors like weather, and human errors, and I see increase of accidents. I drive fire trucks and ambulances for over 20 years. I know this. I feel this is a far greater safety concern and I honestly don't care to play tit for tat and argue with others, but Im well aware not everyone will agree with me, and that's okay. We don't all have to agree, this perspective comes from my years of boots on the ground, working in the highway accident field.

With all that being said, I would like to see a new TSP committee formed with both ends of the spectrum, not a hand picked committee. I think there is work to be done on the hwy and improvements needed. I also do not believe that the only way to do that is by lane reduction. At one point ODOT had and offer on the table to only narrow half of Oakridge and that was taken off the table. I've seen that ODOT has not allowed for flexibility and I find that very frustrating knowing many of the current lane reductions throughout the state have left multiple towns very unhappy, which are still fixing issues caused by the narrowing, bump-outs and all sorts of now needed reconfiguring their brand new lane reductions. Sounds like these other cities need to work out the bugs before we start designing ours. I personally polled multiple community's around the state and listened to their feedback as well. There are also maaaaaany towns across Oregon going through the same with ODOT and unwilling to look at Lane Reductions because of the same reason Oakridge is not. This topic is so devisive that I wish we could leave it alone for a few years.

Whew... that was a lot 😊😊

2w Like Edited



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett but also very well said. I know as a constituent, I often don't feel heard or valued (not by you, **Michelle**, or **Dawn**, of course) by elected officials. I've been called a troublemaker at City Council meetings for expressing concerns about wages during a budget crisis. Also, when we all voted down the bond for the Safety Fee and it was implemented anyway, I felt deeply betrayed by my representatives. Since then I've been fighting even harder to be heard and am honestly on the verge of giving up. The PAC has a wall built and they don't want to hear anything that they disagree with. Heck, I was called a liar on this post last night because I disagreed. Then again, I'm hoping to move away in the next couple of years, and then Oakridge's fate will no longer be my concern. In the meantime, my significant other and I are trying to leave Oakridge in better condition than we moved in.

All of which to say, I really appreciate that you try to listen to us and represent us instead of having an agenda. You're one of the very few reasons I haven't thrown my hands up in the air and let the ashes fall where they will.

2w Like



Jaron Stubblefield

Chrissy Hollett I think City Councilors and Mayors should listen to their constituents. If it turns out that the populace in Oakridge is just too overwhelmingly against the proposed highway changes, then it will have to be abandoned or modified.

But spending too much time listening can be paralyzing. I think being a great leader involves more than just listening. Voters can be fickle and act like people who need, well, a leader. Sometimes being truly great involves pushing for unpopular changes and being willing to push through opposition to see it done. If you want to accomplish anything, you cannot be someone who takes the first "no" for an answer or who is afraid to risk failure.

I personally think it's good to have people in City Council who fight to get improvements for Oakridge, and who have a spine when it comes to dealing with opposition. Some of the opposition to the highway proposals comes from people I respect, but some of it comes from people that strike me as saying no to everything and having no proposals of their own.

If I were on City Council, I'd find it intimidating to have to vote for a tax or some other thing that was unpopular, especially if people in my own church or family were the ones against it. So I hate to criticize the actual City Councilors too much. They have a hard job.

But I think we need people on City Council who can make hard, unpopular decisions, take the likely immediate blowback, and be willing to wait for vindication that might come at a later date. In a nutshell, I guess there is a time to stop listening and just do the right thing.

1w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Jaron Stubblefield - well said. That is the same point I was trying to convey as well.

2w Like

Dan Craft Top Contributor
Stupid ideal NO!!!

2w Like

Marsha Craft
No!!!

2w Like

Natasha Solomon Top Contributor
I'd rather see speed cameras and intersections. We used to be known as a place you couldn't speed. Revenue from tickets would fund all kinds of things.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Natasha Solomon - another great idea and why we do need up to date discussions.

2w Like

Faith Adams
I know this is a contentious topic, but I wholeheartedly agree with the proposed changes for safety, aesthetics, and what these improvements could mean for attracting tourists and business — but especially for safety. We need sidewalks and crosswalks.

Has an impact study on traffic been performed? I know that similar changes to thoroughfares in cities have actually seen reduced congestion - because it created a left turn lane where there was none. (Not 🚦 to 🚦 because sections of 58 have a turn lane.)

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
The "polls" & views in the Oakridge Chat do NOT correctly reflect accurate & factual community engagement or responses.

It seems to divide us more, a chance to make blanket statements, & assumptions.

2w Like Edited

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Vanessa Tharp I wholeheartedly disagree. By putting up the poll, **Dawn** is doing what the rest of the Administration should have been doing from the get-go. She's giving Oakridge's constituents a chance to give a quantifiable expression of their views. Polls were invented for that reason. She is trying to check to pulse of the community instead of hiding in the Ivory tower that is Oakridge City Hall and I applaud her riotously for it because all I've heard from Cutchen and Co. are blanket statements and assumptions.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kristyn Dodge So who would have won as mayor in the last election if it was decided by Facebook?

2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman in my opinion, the worthier candidate would have won. But nice cherry-picking.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kristyn Dodge And they did. The people spoke and we have a new mayor.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman - yep. The "tone" Of this chat group was not truly or at all reflective of what the majority of the citizens voted. A true "poll" of the community's views on the highway would take months of planning, outreach, methods, town meetings & more. Not just the keyboard warriors who can "talk" the loudest. I hope a true exploration committee is formed to get community input but ultimately, I'm for more access & safety for those in need, especially kids.

2w Like Edited

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Vanessa Tharp Completely agree. I tried to post an article about people planting trees the other day. It turned into me forcing my opinions on people, calling me a dictator, coming up with conspiracy theories. I just thought it was an interesting article and a potential use for problem streets.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Kristyn Dodge - what he's trying to convey is that when it came down to actual votes & representation - the person who was favored in this chat group did not win - therefore there's clearly far more, at least a few hundred more, votes & views who don't express their views in this platform. Ultimately showing this chat group does NOT represent all

or even a majority of the town.

2w Like Edited



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp It's almost as if there is a festival in Oakridge every year, I can't put my finger on it, but it's something we are known for. I'll think of it later.

2w Like



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman - yes, becoming an official Tree City is an effort the **Tree Planting Festival** - which has been happening for 71 years - supports! Hope to see everyone out joining in the fun & the experience! 🌲🌲🌲

2w Like



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman that's not entirely true. I said that I found the idea interesting and brought up concerns about narrowing an already narrow road. What had started as a good faith gesture on my part turned into you being condescending towards me and playing word games which I as a constituent did not appreciate. Like everyone else, I am well aware the TSP is a pet project for you, and like I suspected, it came up. That's not spouting conspiracy theories, it's recognizing an existing pattern and watching it come to fruition.

2w Like



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp I get what he is saying but he asked how the election would have turned out if Facebook opinion had been the deciding factor. I was pointing out that it would have been in Chrissy's favor as someone else had pointed out, she had the most support online. My understanding is that Cutchen did door-to-door campaigning and specifically targeted demographics who don't have access to the Chat Forum. I'm not saying he was wrong to do so, given his reputation online, but that seems to be what made the difference.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge There was over 200 comments on that post. I didn't say everybody was against it. But you gotta admit it was a majority. You were actually against the thing that's already been voted on and passed by a council that I wasn't on, nor did I even live here. Did I bring up the highway? No. When there is something to bring up then I will bring it up. How was I condescending? Saying painting lines on a road doesn't narrow it? I've had you call me names and fabricate lies in the past. Do you think that's a good thing to be doing? Hell you even said I was bull of Bullshit. Very polite of you.

2w Like



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman wow you're such an asshole. I have never lied and yes, I do call you out on your bullshit because it is bullshit. From the time you were elected, you have lashed out at anyone who disagrees with you or worse have sicced your mother on them because her baby boy has been offended. But, I'm done with this discussion and you. I was trying to be polite but clearly, you don't have the emotional maturity to conduct yourself accordingly. So, I'm done. Goodbye.

2w Like



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge - I know many long time residents, of all ages, that voted for Brian Cutchen. I also appreciate things Chrissy has done. My point, which clearly you see, but I worry not everyone else does - is that this chat group & comments are not always an accurate or true reflection of what the entire town feels. I don't really have a strong "narrow the highway" stance - I am for safety & better access, plus letting ODOT just do their job. Which may happen no matter what we think or want - from what I hear.

But mostly, I want to see proper, ethical, fair, data collection by all in our community which would take months & a clear process & many steps. If it's more a "no" - than a "yes" - so be it - then there's better research behind it. Also, where does that leave us if ODOT will be just doing it anyway? 🤔 Maybe we should've stopped complaining and arguing & said - WHEN it happens - here's what we want & the best outcomes for the community. Perhaps we aren't focusing on the right question?

2w Like Edited



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge Good talk.

2w Like



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp I actually do agree with you on those points. I often lament how divisive Oakridge politics are. But, for now, I need to step back as I am severely disregulated which means that even friendlier discussions are not finding me at my best. But I am willing to discuss this further when I've had time to cool down and sort my

thoughts. I'm usually not this fired up.

2w Like



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge - I totally hear you & respect that. I hope the calm finds you quickly & that we can continue dialogue even if we don't agree. I wish that for everyone in our town. I believe in kindness first & that we almost all love Oakridge for many similar reasons. I continue to look for places where we can agree & find solutions & compromise. Rarely is it all one way or another. Take care.

2w Like



Gary R. Carl Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge WHAT! Why is she "trying to take the pulse of the community"? This most recent "POLL" came out of nowhere. Why did this issue come up again? And Now? To coin a phrase... I think there's something funny going on with our City Council! Just remember, this whole kerfuffle started with (another) POLL launched by Councilor Dawn Kinyon. Other Councilors piled on along with the usual array of talking heads. And contrary to the assertion that I only care about my business... news flash... I'm retired! My only business now is, Monkey Business, LLC soon to make its appearance in Uptown at the Oakridge Community Farmers Market. Right On!

2w Like



Shelby Tarman Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge Who doesn't have access to the chat forum? Chrissy doesn't not let certain people be in here. If someone isn't it's because they broke a rule or don't want to be.

1w Like



Jeryka Cornella Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp That is very true but it does give a pretty general idea of the mass view on this. 91% of the people who could see this and decided to chime in have said no which indicates heavily that the majority of us aren't in favor of it thus far. However, this is not an accurate and fair way to get proper documentable input. I feel like this poll is probably just a way to ascertain if it's worth looking into further though. I'm probably wrong but that's my assumption.

2w Like



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Jeryka Cornella & Kristyn Dodge - unfortunately Facebook "polls" in a chat group, where not even half the community are active, and some people are kicked out or removed for opposing views & a huge majority don't engage in posts is the equivalent to the person who yells the loudest represents the majority. If you looked at this chat group on the last election for mayor - it was non-stop bashing of Brian Cutchen, yet he won by 200+ votes. If an accurate, fair, & responsible & recent survey was done to the entire community - which would take place in many ways & methods, times & locations - as proper & ethical research for community input does & is required showed true data one way or another - then & only then "has the community" spoken, been represented, & been heard. This is not the format or way, it's one way but not equitable or factual.

2w Like Edited



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp and before that everyone was crapping on **Chrissy** and the god-awful hacks at the Highway 58 Herald were publishing hit pieces on her regularly. Cutchen's problem is he tried to bully people into submission towards his agenda, failed, threw a temper tantrum like an ill-adjusted toddler, quit his job as CA, and then ran for mayor. That killed any confidence or respect I had for the man. Since being mayor, things have gone back to "the good old boys club" and yes, I am well aware that you are associated with that club.

So, I find it rather curious that you are trying to discredit Dawn's efforts when your associates have been employing low-brow tactics for years. I can appreciate your work and that you want things to get better for Oakridge, but I also think Dawn is trying to do the same thing from the other side of the aisle.

2w Like



Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Vanessa what are you talking about people are "kicked out for opposing views" lol... this whole topic comes up over and over and no one is kicked out, among other topics. Proof please, not rumor. Poncho has been extremely vocal and not once has he been kicked out or even slightly asked to pipe down.

Yes I lost the Mayoral race to Bryan Cutchen, and it was actually 160 votes, I also did not campaign even close like he did. He ran for Senate in Maine, he is a career politician. This is what he has set his sights on doing. He's been vocal of this since day 1. I am not a career politician, I'm here for

the community. I held no soirées to local businesses asking for money, no private events with the elderly and church groups and also made no promises I couldn't keep. I didn't make up garbage things about anyone during the elections, that was definitely done to me. I also didn't ask people for money to the tune of \$4k. It sure was convenient that his PAC leader also coordinated the Candidate Forum, and when the date was changed last minute, NOT one person from the event even mentioned why I wasn't there... because I had a scholarship and couldn't drop that prior commitment. There was a lot of factors involved and I think it's highly unfair of you to use this in an incredibly DEVISIVE topic of highway reduction. Oh yeah, and not to forget I've had the Herald trashing me for how long, with come pelte lies... oh and did I mention that Cutchen Consulting is a donor to the Herald 58.... Yeah soooo, lets get real here. There was lots if things going on behind the scenes and I could go on, but ill stop because I KNOW I was busy trying to focus on a 130k acre fire in our backyard. And trying to take care of people in town instead of playing dirty politics.

As a city we've offered many times for the community to come speak and it's always been overwhelmingly opposed to a lane reduction, but each time, the citizens voice is just never good enough. We HAVE surveyed the community, we HAVE had a very large public hearing that a whopping 60+ citizens spoke in the wee hours opposed to the lane reduction and yet only a small handful in favor..... among other outlets.... But no matter how the citizens say "No", it falls on deaf ears and this is just crammed down everyones throats over and over and citizens are condemned for having their own thoughts and opinions that don't align with engineers.

2w Love 




Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett I would say I haven't been kicked but I have had some serious name calling and allegations cast upon me. Not by moderators. The reason it keeps coming up is because that road is still not ours and once again ODOT will ask what we want to do with it. I promised that I would continue to educate people on the importance of working with ODOT to come up with a plan for the highway. We can't kick the can forever. I will continue to do that. I see so much misinformation oh here that we need a several years of education on what this is about. That's what I said I would try to do. People may get mad about it but there is definitely a lot of people who do want it and don't speak up. I thought I was pretty clear when I was running that this is something that I wanted to work on.

2w Like 



Kelly Brewer Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett Bravo!!!! All true. All sad. All infuriating 

2w Like 



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett - I am not debating how either of you campaigned.

I am simply sharing that "this chat group" is NOT the end all, be all - as some seem to view it - for the views of Oakridge. The election is a prime example of that.

If nobody has been kicked out of this group - great, I stand corrected.

I still want to see documented proof, testimony collections, community meeting & outreach plans - from a facilitator or unbiased group - of actual community feedback & collection & more in 2023 or 2024. A process that I would expect is like the WAC outreach & also efforts for the city facilitated by SWFC in the past.

That is what seems to be required to truly get the whole city - not just 60 people or a chat post to collect fair & accurate data.

Also - maybe getting all the community engaged - is better in asking what will happen vs a straight up "No - we aren't working with you" which doesn't seem to be effective - as ODOT owns the highway & from my understanding & can make this happen anyway. We may as well work with them than against them.

2w Like Edited 



Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Vanessa I joined Council in Jan of 2019 and the topic came up fairly soon, lots of work had already been done. There was multiple presentations by ODOT during city council meeting that were advertised for the public to attend. That includes power points with all sorts of data from ODOT. There are probably documents you get get from city hall if you wanted to read through them provided by ODOT. You can do so by filling out a public records request. To find the many meeting go to the city's website and choose to search for meetings including "TSP". Use the date range of Jan 01, 2019 to April 30, 2020 (we ended in April). You'll find so many.

ODOT also held 3-4 open houses with presentations from multiple speakers, mock-ups of what the highway would like with their top officials here in Oakridge to answer Q's. I know one of them was July 16th at the WAC, but there was more. They worked with city staff on the presentations and

held them at both the WAC and the Greenwaters community building. These were intended for the purposes of engaging with the community, answering fears and also honesty of how changes would take effect. There was a tremendous amount of information and they were nicely done and well attended from both in favor and opposition. I attended all of them.

Multiple Planning Commission meetings over the course of possibly 2 years, you'd have to review their meetings. It was a big topic from Jan 2019 to at least April 2020. I didn't attend those because councilors are not supposed to. You can also find those meetings on the city's website.

Also a joint City Council / Planning Commission Joint Work Session Video available for Discussion of the Oakridge Transportation System Plan January 7th. I think there was actually another one too.

We were "Meeting'd to death" over this topic.

Survey Monkey Poll was sent out by the city. It was sent out in the city's water bill and also available for paper copies at city hall. We left stacks of surveys and several of the businesses in town. It was posted on the city's Facebook page Feb 21st, 2020. The link was shared and re-shared all over social media.

Facebook polls were never included in city data, although one could also probably find that here in this group or Oakridge Uncensored, or the group specifically intended to discuss .

Dead Mtn Echo also had information on this before they closed as well and I don't have access to that.

There was also 1-2 citizen protests on the highway in 2020.

Lastly the huge public hearing, unprecedented attendance, we held at the WAC in April of 2020. This meeting was open public comment and discussion. As I've said before the line was way out the door, 6 speeches in favor and over 60 + in opposition. This meeting ended at 11pm with people still waiting to speak in opposition.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett - thanks for sharing this.

The world & Oakridge has changed a lot since 2019 - so 5 years ago. Clearly new information & data would need to be collected if anything current or in the future was to come up.

I would like to look more at this information & advocate for a similar, if not more robust process, if it was needed for this topic.

I'm still really curious on why this topic was brought up again - especially if it's not on the current council's agenda? Was it connected to city or council work or meetings? Was it just a random poll Monday? Was it to rile up the community about something "that's not happening?" It all just feels a little weird or lacking transparency to me.

At the end of the day, I'm just here to speak up & represent many of the quality people in Oakridge and to say that we see right through some of these "issues & polls" that happen online and this sure seems like it has nothing to do with how many lanes we do or don't have. But as it's often said here in this group - that's just my opinion.

As you know, I've called out all council members & their leadership in the past & also given plenty of credit & gratitude too.

I'm sharing here to prove & remind our community that it is OK to disagree or ask hard question or speak up for your views & there may be many others who also agree with you & don't or won't engage in this chat group.

2w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1

Vanessa Tharp I never assumed that this poll would reach every adult resident in our community. My impression of these responses is strictly that of these 450 people that have responded so far, 90% are not in favor. That's a lot. I've never seen a list of 450 people where 90% of them were in favor, but even if one turns up, that to me would mean it's pretty safe to say we have a community that is split down the middle.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Dawn Kinyon - it's definitely great to see community engagement. But why did you feel the need to post this "poll" in the Oakridge Chat group at this point in time if it wasn't connected to you or others work, meetings, focus on council?

As you know, our community is made up of way more than 450 people, so yes - definitely many won't & don't & can't engage in this type of "poll".

2w Like Edited

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1

Vanessa Tharp some people sit around a table in a bar or restaurant talking about community issues, and others visit in their homes or clubs they are involved in. This chat forum is the largest get together and visit location, of friends, family, neighbors, co-workers and perfect

strangers. The people here are real and have valid honest opinions. This is where I hang out and talk with and listen to the ones who can, or want to have conversations about all things Oakridge.

2w Like Edited



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Dawn Kinyon - you don't feel it is a direct conflict of interest that you & **Chrissy Hollett** are also both council members & both the admin/moderators of this group?

Also do you think having council members commenting on the same post does or does not create a conflict as well? As since this topic (the highway) seems to be one often connected to the past & current city leadership & council - so does it not create a quorum?

If you all comment on your favorite ice cream - to me, that's personal, but an issue like this & intermixing council history & what constituents do or don't want - well that doesn't seem to be personal, but in your professional capacity.

If I was understanding Chrissy correctly last week & Poncho even on this thread - is that these actions or comments or mingling of roles is an issue of concern & violates some of the the ethics & rules council members need to be upholding. I'm all for that for everyone.

I still haven't heard or understood why your curiosity took up this topic again with so many other crucial issues happening.

Please know that I do appreciate your dialogue & long history of city involvement in service & even in sharing history on this specific issue. I also realize it's a thankless & challenging job - there's a lot that's been done to help our community & so much more we can all do. I'm sure there's parts of that we agree on.

I also believe it's OK to ask questions of our representatives and leaders (at all levels) and that's what I did in this chat thread - because I hope we can disagree & also still be working for collaboration & compromises.

And I do love that this group has a many great members in it & a place to share opinions. I do worry opinions are often viewed as facts - which happens in so many forms of media these days.

2w Like Edited



Shawna Staff

The entire idea is backwards thinking, this project costs millions of dollars? And is probably going to be a nightmare bottle necked construction zone, for I'm guessing a good 8 years at the rate I've seen projects finished and that's a generous assessment. Which in itself after construction is done will remain a bottle neck forcing all traffic into one lane will create more accidents as people will have to force their way onto the highway, that won't be good for the little businesses that don't cater to the bicyclists... And the end result will ultimately be the realization that the population and amount of traffic will have significantly grown throughout the duration of the road construction. I have no problem suggesting that if it is city officials that keep bringing it up their entire aim is to build either their friend or families business at the expense of others which is taking advantage of their position, imo

2w Like



Nicole Ross Top Contributor

Shawna Staff actually ODOT's reports showed that both Pleasant Hill and LaPine received 2-3 times as much traffic as we do and neither have 5 lanes through town. So yes, our town and our highway can more than handle a lane reduction.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Shawna Staff my parents are retired and my friends that have businesses are in Uptown. The rebuild would take 1 maybe 2 long summers. There would be zero financial gain for me or anybody I know.

2w Like



Shawna Staff

Dirk Poncho Tarman that is a nice reflection but if I recall correctly part of the original pitch for this project was to cater to the cyclists which coincidentally happens to be a large part of the target demographic of the businesses in uptown...

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Shawna Staff It's not to cater to cyclists, it's a requirement to have bike lanes. Same with ADA compliant sidewalks.

2w Like



Shawna Staff

In Oregon, there isn't a statewide law mandating bicycle lanes or sidewalks on all streets. However, local jurisdictions may have their own regulations or guidelines regarding the construction and maintenance of bicycle lanes and sidewalks.

So if it is a requirement then that would be a local mandate/req and in that case why is a vote even being presented.

1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Shawna Staff It's a Federal mandate for highways to have ADA compliant sidewalks through towns. When they hit a level of change then they are required to also install bikelanes. If they don't, then they don't get funding. As a matter of fact they were sued and they are actually no longer allowed to repave a highway until it is brought up to these standards. So if we want money and paving for our highway, we need sidewalks and bikelanes. Otherwise no money from the government and we are stuck with the costs.

1w Like Edited

Shawna Staff
"It's a Federal mandate for highways to have ADA compliant sidewalks through towns." yes that is true and provides inclusion but not bicycle lanes... those are not required.

1w Like

Shawna Staff
Actually upon further inspection it is not a mandate nor a law that is a plausibly intentional flaw in your wording, it can be a requirement to obtaining certain grants but there is no laws federal nor statewide as you had erroneously stated

1w Like Edited

Gary R. Carl Top Contributor
OK... Let's take a 90 minute drive to LaPine. Drive along Hwy 97 through LaPine. I've personally done this numerous times & never experienced traffic delays... never.
Then, let's contact the LaPine Chamber of Commerce & ask them one simple question... "How's that Highway Road diet thing working out for ya'll?
I've done that. Would you like to know what they said?
But that's what I think our elected officials should be doing & telling us.

2w Like

Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor
Gary R. Carl there's a problem with your narrative, though. I grew up in Central Oregon. Lived there most of my life. I also know a lot of folks who live in the LaPine area and commute 97 regularly. When I asked them for their views, they told me that the locals hate the changes. I drove through LaPine on my way to Redmond several times last year and experienced the bottlenecking traffic for myself. This is why it is important to listen to the constituents and not just the politicians. Of course, the Chamber of Commerce is going to give you a glowing review, it's a bit of a PR problem to admit if something has gone wrong.

2w Like

Judi Jeanotte
Gary R. Carl I had been against the lane narrowing. However after carefully reviewing the tsp I think some of the recommendations might be improvements. The problem is there are many scenarios some I'd be opposed to, perhaps a committee to look into the options then make recommendations to the council then put out for vote would be beneficial to everyone.

2w Like

Shelby Tarman Top Contributor
Gary R. Carl I am pretty sure Poncho did reach out to them to get proof that it hadn't affected much. I could be wrong. But I am pretty sure I seen him post about it before.

1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Shelby Tarman I've spoken to Lapines CA and some councilors and I've stopped and talked to business owners about it. I did have one business owner who said the change made the spot where they lived harder to get on the highway but they knew that ODOT was already working on a fix for that intersection. They did say that the change made their business much better and they were seeing much better margins than before. I know you do some work for Chuck who bought the yellow building across from me. He owns several properties in LaPine. Ask him how his businesses are doing.

1w Like

Michele Proffer
We said no to the public safety fee and how did that work out.

2w Like

David Lindsay
No

2w Like

Leslie Davidson
Not a good idea!

2w Like

Joshua Anderson

2w Like



2w Like

Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon Is this actually up for debate again? If not, then what is your purpose for this post?

2w
Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Holly Tarman if you are asking if this is a matter being discussed again between ODOT and the city council, the answer is no. However, it is something that your son, Councilor Tarman has touted that this community now supports, so I thought I would check in with the FB community chat again to see if it's true.

2w Like
Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon I didn't realize you were in talks with me and ODOT. I haven't had a meeting with them in quite a while. What I did say is that I've been talking to people and getting people to understand why it's important and it's not just black and white.

2w Like
Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon What I did find strange was at the governors meeting the highway was brought up and I talked about how that is something I was working on because I would like to see a way to get all of our sewer water and power lines updated and buried to help with wildfire and disaster resiliency. You were not at the meeting but then almost miraculously I see a poll for lane reduction get posted very shortly after.

2w Like
Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Dirk Poncho Tarman I never said I was present in any of the meetings you have had with ODOT. I said ODOT and the city council are NOT discussing this. The city council is a body of 7.

2w Like
Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman Haters gonna hate 🙄

2w Like
Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon I know, but you claim to know what I'm saying to ODOT and what I'm stating. It's almost as if you are making false statements.

2w Like
Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon Yes, the city council is a body of 7. And you are trying to convince us that 1 councilor will be to blame when ODOT decides (with or without any input from our city representatives) to do what they wish with the highway? Or is your thinly veiled attempt to deride councilman Tarman to be considered your Swan Song?

2w Like
Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Dirk Poncho Tarman I have no idea what you have said to ODOT. What are you talking about?

2w Like
Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon "However, it is something that your son, Councilor Tarman has touted that this community now supports, so I thought I would check in with the FB community chat again to see if it's true." You must have meant I was telling the community as a whole that they support it? I said there is a larger group than people realize and it's growing. Last time I spoke about it was when you brought it up last time. I'm happy to talk about it if you bring it up. I'm just not sure why you bring it up sometimes.

2w Like
Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Holly Tarman I was made aware by ODOT back in 2020 that it is their highway and when the time comes, they will update it to their required standards. The lane reduction portion is not a requirement. So when they put it in their budget, which is always planned 2 years in advance, they will come and update the highway. That is not going to be anyone's fault.

2w Like
Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon Nevertheless you decided to deride, throw shade or whatever you wanna call it in the direction of councilman Tarman. Got it, mission accomplished. Enjoy it... (Dirk Sr)

2w Like Edited
Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon - but 5 of you have engaged in this "poll" - seems to walk a line worth questioning. And again - why now??

2w Like
Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman maybe she read the text wrong?

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Holly Tarman - I see some claiming it's just a "personal" inquiry but yet also justifying it as what their constituents want - so that's their role as council members. So which is it? Why is this even being brought up again?

2w Like

Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Vanessa Tharp I would like to know what she has accomplished if anything?

1w

Holly Tarman Top Contributor
Maybe because **Dirk Poncho Tarman** (you know him? My son) was asked what his plan was at the meeting?

2w

Jennifer Pierce Top Contributor
Road repairs please!!!

2w Like

David McManis
No the speed limit enforced would be great. To many kids and adults cross that hwy at the risk of getting hit by some one that thinks Oakridge is a race track. The Hey needs these dotted lines on corners taken away or widened just my opinion.

2w Like

Renee Bowles ...
NO

2w Like

Dylan Sample ...
No

2w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
When someone can show me a list of around 400 people who want lane reductions in Oakridge, then I'll believe we have a split community on this topic. I'd have to see about 700 or more in favor to believe that the majority of this community wants it.

Unfortunately, this question can not be put on an actual legal ballot for the voters.

I want everyone to know that I really appreciate your participation in this fb poll.

2w Like

Nikki Crawford
Dawn Kinyon I appreciate that you care what the citizens wans. Thanks Dawn

2w Like

Jaron Stubblefield
Dawn Kinyon I think the way the question is framed may have an effect on the outcome. If you frame it as simply a question about whether the number of lanes should be reduced, then you may well get more "no" votes than if you framed it as a question of whether the highway should be updated in a way that would include sidewalks, bike lanes, and lane reductions for automobiles. Maybe there'd be more "yes" votes if people were thinking about the improvements as well as the lane reductions. Then again, maybe they already know.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Jaron Stubblefield - yep! More of this! That's my point too!

2w Like

Kelly Brewer Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon thank you for always putting the people first

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer so now 5 of us have commented on here.

2w Like

Kelly Brewer Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman if you look back at your posts in particular you'll see that a lot of us comment on them and we've never saved Facebook conversations. Not only that but nothing profound came out of these comments, just simply flinging shit at eachother.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer I'm just being a smart ass. But in reality if we actually followed the laws on this we would be required to save it. That's the entire point of not using Facebook especially in a private group for city discussion with councilors involved.

2w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Dirk Poncho Tarman that would matter if this was a matter before the council, which it is not. Our TSP was voted on about 4 years ago.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon Which is why I find it even more odd that you posted a poll?

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman - yes! This is the point I think is being overlooked or changed the tone of "why" this was brought up.

2w Like

Kelly Brewer Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman so it ok when you do it then? You often post articles and the like on FB. Whats the difference

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer I'm saying it shouldn't happen then either. I assume this is the 5 of us commenting post. It's hard to keep track,

2w Like Edited

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
I'm not sure which comment you are referring to.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer I think to follow the laws we should be saving this entire conversation. I'm sure there is a process for doing this. To the Googles!

2w Like

Kelly Brewer Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman honestly I don't think any of us really needed a comment on this. Unfortunately, like always, it turned into something it wasn't supposed to be. This was just a poll and of course it turned into a political conversation about who won the Mayoral race and who actually has information about what ODOT has planned. I understand your feelings about the highway and I understand you feel attacked when people call you names and tell you you're stupid but unfortunately that's just the Human Condition. I think this was just basically putting feelers out to see how people felt about it and its pretty clear the majority of people don't want it. It could be because they don't understand the Dynamics and it could be because they just plain don't want the highway narrowed. Regardless, again this didn't need to turn into a attack situation for anyone. Really, this was a poll on the Highway and suddenly **Chrissy Hollett** is being attacked, being told she didnt win the Mayor race (whats that about?) and told she kicks people out and doesn't allow comments in opposition. Thats plain BS and really shows the mindset of the people posting those comments. Its kinda sad.

2w Like

Scottina Marino
Kelly Brewer thank you!!! Well said!!!

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer It is sad that it would be posted again. It's almost like a pot was trying to be stirred. But when people say look, a poll on Facebook shows this so it must be true, does not make it true. Personally I don't feel that attacked.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
The part about the mayoral race is just a nod to the fact that Facebook was making it seem that Chrissy would win, at least to me, then she didn't, then she was appointed. Was that following the will of the people? It doesn't appear to be to me. So when do you get to disregard the will of the people and when do you follow it? Do we toss coins.

2w Like

Kelly Brewer Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman again, what does this have to do with the poll? One person brought up a poll for a mayor as an example and now were talking about how she lost? Fyi She went from being a city counselor to the interim mayor then she lost the mayor election, therefore not on city council anymore. Then there was a opening, she ran and won. I don't feel like that's ignoring the will of the people I think that's just the way politics work. That's like saying the fact that I wasn't voted in by the people means that they don't want me in office. We'll see what happens come election time. As long as there's no dirty bullshit going on behind the scenes, making some of our community members look like they are corrupted and our for their own agendas. All of which is based on rumors spread by immature people who can't handle their own issues with these candidates like adults. I'm all about exposing corruption but there are some people who don't choose the high road

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer The difference is you were not just voted off. I'm not insinuating anything improper was done, but it would appear it's not what the people wanted. I had lots of rumors spread about me also. The correlation is between What Facebook shows and what reality ends up being. We will see what happens in November. Will the people have the same stance as before or will it have changed.

2w Like

Kelly Brewer Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman she was voted as interim mayor.... she took on the mayor role when we didnt have one. Jesus, she wasnt voted out of council, she lost the mayoral race. She was NEVER voted out by the people as a councilor so I have NO idea where thats coming from. Thats just plain ludicrous

2w Like Edited

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer truth is not ludicrous. She lost the mayoral race which is on council. There was a vote by the people. I'm sure you saw it or participated.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Hey **Kelly Brewer** - the race of the mayor - from my point & use - was only used to show how & why this Chat group isn't always an accurate reflection of the tone of the town. If Chrissy felt attacked by that comparison - it was not my intention.

I did bring it up that I had heard people are kicked out of or not allowed this this group - per their personal stories of telling me this since I've been back in town - because if they call people our or if they disagree. Chrissy told me I was incorrect & I said ok & am glad to hear that's not the case.

Disagreeing or using comparisons are not attacking - I know my intent, as for how the other's receive them - well that's ultimately is on them. I also understand where that can be taken personally too.

If I specifically did anything else - I would like to clear it up. I don't think "my comments are BS or reflect my mindset."

If you are speaking of others comments in here - so be it. But I do pride myself in how I communicate & do believe we can all try bettrr to get along & not always agree on everything.

2w Like Edited

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer - as long as we are putting ALL the people first, I'm for it - not just the ones we do or don't agree with. Which seems to have a strong bias in this particular chat group in my experience & opinion. Especially if we provide limited information or education on the issues. I think **Jaron Stubblefield** brought up good points on the way this "poll" was written.

I do strongly see this whole "poll" as crossing the line for quorum & ineffective. This is something that unfortunately does need to be addressed.

2w Like Edited

Kelly Brewer Top Contributor
Vanessa Tharp there are no quorum issues here. As far as councilors commenting, its all opinions and defensive stances when being attacked. This Hwy narrowing is something that was voted down by the people period. The poll might be vague but it was infact brought for a reason After the governor meeting topics turned to the supposed "community support" it was something Dawn heard about and decided to poll. Its no different than any other poll that happens on FB, vague or notl, with or without details. Its putting feelers out which is also no different then posting articles about street safety and asking for people's opinions. When its brought to council and placed on the table it becomes a official council topic with charter rules. I know ODOT has plans for our HWY I just hope they take our community's voice into consideration

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer - thanks for sharing all that & explaining that. I think we can all work on having disagreements & asking questions or having opposing vs "attacking" people. Some people seem take it too far or too personal. Hopefully we can all work to be kind, respectful, & civil.

2w Like Edited

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer Dawns poll went up before that meeting even concluded and Dawn wasn't there and you were not there. Gee was there some communication of a topic being discussed and we better find a way to just get everybody riled up for no reason? There is no vote to be made and no plans. Yet all of a sudden a poll is on Facebook before the end of a meeting could even finish. Seems like some people should spend more time paying attention in meetings instead of texting.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kelly Brewer As an example, I know Michelle wants to get a truck stop in the OIP. Not my favorite idea but I'll stay out of it while she works on it. Lots of people told me they hate it and don't want to see one there. It's not up for vote so I think Michelle should have time to meet with people and find out all the ins and outs on what's involved and come back and explain it to the public when she is ready. Should I be trying to get in her conversations and then posting about it on Facebook and making polls or should I let her to just do her thing until she is ready and when it would be

the proper time. I think you know the answer.

2w Like



Clint Whitney

I have some concerns about the road reduction. Can Oakridge roads handle that much heavy truck traffic, are there any weight limits for dump trucks. What about silica dust from cutting up the asphalt, would that contaminate the water ways. What if they find ancient artifacts. Will the wild life be impacted. I've lived here my whole life and don't want that in back yard. What about the noise, is going to be day and night, weekends. Our little town should be quiet and peaceful. How many local jobs would this create, and what about tourism during construction.

2w Like



Clint Whitney

Can we protest this like tv butte. Is odot comparable to king Estes.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Clint Whitney it's all up for grabs!

2w Like



Brandee Bell

I want to see a safer pedestrian/bike lane

2w Like



Rosemarie Moore Top Contributor

Not again 🙄

2w Like



Margaret Gamez Palanuk

NO, been there done that. Spend the money on police department to enforce speed limit and theft in our community

2w Like



Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

Margaret

THIS 🙄🙄🙄

2w Like



Nicole Ross Top Contributor

Margaret Gamez Palanuk we don't get to reallocate funds for other uses 🙄

2w Like



Audrey Hadley

Nicole Ross This is true but seems if road funds can and have been used as grants for bicycle trails, then road funds should be able to be used as grants for our police to patrol our roads for speed limit and theft in our community. Maybe something to look into? **Chrissy Hollett, Dawn Kinyon**

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Audrey Hadley Well the PSF runs out in June. Seems like a lot of things may need to be cut in order to keep our current police or we may lose police. I guess we will find out this budget session.

2w Like



Molly Stone

We live by the golf course
We will leave oakridge through Westfir and come home the same way
We won't drive it at all

2w Like



Misty Clark-Timperley

Want to slow people down might as well put in a couple huge traffic circle like they have in other small towns... I'm sure people are going to hate this comment but I rather deal with those then one lane.... 🙄

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Misty Clark-Timperley I say put one at each end of town. It forces people coming into our town to slow down and if you are just driving around town you don't have to go through it.

2w Like



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Misty Clark-Timperley - it's ok to suggest solutions vs complaining about the problems. Thank you. That's why I advocate we worth WITH ODOT vs. than fight against each other.

2w Like Edited



Barbara Council Burney Top Contributor

I have been thinking about this a lot, as we all have. This is an important topic for everyone in town. I am working in Reedsport and am really paying attention to what is successful in these other small towns along a highway system, slowing down from 55mph+ to 30mph. I feel less stress behind the wheel when the roads narrow a bit and slow down in town - which gives me more of a chance to check out the businesses along the strip. There are sections of towns that still have 5 lanes though, plus bike lanes. So, I'm convinced that the main hurdle the businesses on Hwy 58 face is the lack of parking. I loved Rascal's market but always felt a little anxious trying to back out and hoof it onto the highway, same with many little spots. Anyways, if a lane reduction meant MORE spaces and accessible parking I would absolutely be in favor. Lane reductions and slower speed limits are much more feasible than moving the buildings back to make room for parking lots 😊
And there might be room for more beautiful trees!

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Barbara Council Burney - thanks for adding your perspective & present experience. ...

2w Like

Paul Hopwood
I say NO to lane reduction, spend the money elsewhere. ...

2w Like

Jaron Stubblefield
I think the way the question is framed may have an effect on the outcome. If you frame it as simply a question about whether the number of lanes should be reduced, then you may well get more "no" votes than if you framed it as a question of whether the highway should be updated in a way that would include sidewalks, bike lanes, and lane reductions for automobiles. Maybe there'd be more "yes" votes if people were thinking about the improvements as well as the lane reductions. Then again, maybe they already know. ...

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Jaron Stubblefield - yes, 100% this. ...

2w Like

Nicole Ross Top Contributor
Jaron Stubblefield my thoughts exactly! ...

2w Like

Val Rebmann
A big fat NO ! ...

2w Like

Rosemarie Moore Top Contributor
What we really NEED to Have, is a "Walk Over" that crosses over 58, so no one would get hit, etc also another set of street lights. And Police handing out speeding tickets. ...

2w Like Edited

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Rosemarie Moore - I like both of those ideas! ...

2w Like

Nicole Ross Top Contributor
Rosemarie Moore which is exactly why it would benefit us to work with ODOT instead of against them. ...

2w Like

Marsha Craft
Dont bet on it. We lived with two lanes through Oakridge. It was a nightmare! Couldnt get on, or off. Adding in a bike lane on a heavily trafficked and fast road also not a well thought out plan. You have to keep your eyes pealed because they dont follow the laws, they weave in and out of parked cars. They dont pay for insurance or any cost to maintain the streets. We (drivers) will be held responsible for damage. BIG NO! ...

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
👀 **Marsha Craft** Most bikers also own cars. In Oregon it's 90% So they are paying taxes. ...

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
👀 **Marsha Craft** - what year was this? ...

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
If 5 City Councilors engage in this chat thread - is that or is that not a "quorum" - what are the consequences of that? ...

2w Like Edited

Audy Spliethof
Vanessa Tharp what five counselors are engaged in this I want to see their names ...

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Audy Spliethof - **Dirk Poncho Tarman, Michelle Coker, Dawn Kinyon, Chrissy Hollett, & Kelly Brewer** have all engaged in this chat thread. I appreciate the dialogue but was recently told that this was an issue from Chrissy. As a past councilor - perhaps you can share the consequences, etc? ...

Also - maybe this is another reason "Facebook Chat Groups" & polls - shouldn't be used as "data collection" points by active city councilors for major issues or at all, especially if they are moderators & admins in said groups like this one? If this is a big deal - it needs to be addressed, if it's not - then ok - that's why I am asking for clarification. ...

This is also why I continue to ask for unbiased community engagement protocols to get more accurate results - especially like the highway options. ...

2w Like Edited

Audy Spliethof
Vanessa Tharp four is a quorum, so take him to City Hall if that's what you feel that is your right to do ...

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Audy Spliethof I think we can be reported to the Oregon Government Ethics Commission. I don't think city Hall has much to do with it. My first rodeo though. ...

2w Like

Audy Spliethof
Dirk Poncho Tarman copy that Pancho good luck to all ...

2w Like

Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1
For clarification to all reading this, this issue is not on the City's agenda, the Transportation System Plan was completed in 2020 WITHOUT a lane reduction. The topic is not on the current Council Agenda. I am also assuming that this poll of for Councilor Kinyon's personal use, and will not be used as a formal survey for the city?? ...

2w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Chrissy Hollett 🙄. The rules for councilors engaging in conversation outside of a public meeting only apply to current matters under consideration by the council that need decisions made. That is NOT the case with this discussion. ...

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon Some excerpts on public meeting laws. It seems some councilors are using this poll to make a decision on a TSP if it were to come up. Maybe I'm mistaken.
A quorum of a governing body may not meet in private for the purpose of deciding on or deliberating toward a decision on any matter, unless an exception applies.
The Public Meetings Law expressly recognizes that meetings may be conducted by telephonic conference calls or "other electronic communication." [614] Such meetings are subject to the Public Meetings Law.
Notice and opportunity for public access must be provided when meetings are conducted by electronic means. For nonexecutive session meetings held by telephone or other electronic means of communication, the public must be provided at least one place where its members may listen to the meeting by speakers or other devices. [615] In the alternative, the public may be provided with the access code or other means to attend the meeting using electronic means. If electronic access is provided, the technology used must be sufficient to accommodate all attendees, and any costs associated with providing access may not be passed on to the public.
While the Supreme Court reversed the Court of Appeals decision, [612] it did not resolve the issue of whether serial communications can violate the law. [613] As noted above, we recommend that members of a governing body should not meet in private to discuss business, or exchange private communications about business, even if those involved constitute less than a quorum. ...

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Dawn Kinyon - so why did you personally decide to ask this specific question again this week? Especially if it's not on the current council's agenda? ...

2w Like Edited

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Chrissy Hollett - so "polls" like this would not constitute as a formal survey for the city - in anything? Well, that's great to hear & the point I've been advocating for throughout this whole post. Again, why did **Dawn Kinyon** decide to ask & bring it up again? ...

2w Like Edited

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Vanessa Tharp It helped me. I now have a list of more people who support it and others I should talk to if they want to better understand what's involved. For me it just helps push it further along every time it's brought up. I have no problem discussing it. Now if it ever comes up again I can be more educated, prepared and ready to talk to ODOT on all the ins and outs of a new proposal. It's just good to be prepared. ...

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Vanessa Tharp I cant remember exactly, but I'm not sure if I ever brought it up on the Chat Forum. I may have and forgot about it. It's mostly been Dawn or others asking me or others about it. I think I posted once about a conversation I had with ODOT when I kept getting asked about it. ...

2w Like

Audy Spliethof
Vanessa Tharp if you knew what you talking about it'd be different but thing is is I'm no longer a counselor have been on the council for quite some time so ring your fax before you do stuff ...

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Audy Spliethof - I know you aren't on council. You resigned, then Chrissy took over your seat after she loss the race for mayor. You asked who the 5 council members were who engaged in this post, I named them all & asked you if you about quorum details. That was working to clarify my ...

facts.

1w Like



Shelby Tarman Top Contributor

Dirk Poncho Tarman As someone who highly disagreed with you about this before. Who owned a business on the highway for many years, and a father who found this town by truck driving through it. I think more people should actually realize it's really not an option we get to pick at all. It will get picked for us. Either way, it's happening. Also should understand it's not gonna happen tomorrow.

1w Like Edited



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Shelby Tarman The funny thing is when I talk to your dad about it, he's for it and thinks roundabouts should be installed at each end of town. But you are right, I think people believe that they get to do the final design of what we get. We don't, we get to take part in the discussion and maybe get some other things we need added in. But it's ODOT's highway and the money they would receive for doing the work needs to be justified.

1w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Shelby Tarman Even if for some reason there was a vote tomorrow and we just said yes to everything ODOT wanted, the project probably wouldn't even be started for 5-10 years. That is the reality of it. Depending on budgeting cycles for them, etc, it could be even longer. And during that time our public utilities degrade more and more and the highway gets no repairs or upgrades. So if we wait around it could be a very long time before anything happens at all. We could be looking at 20 or more years before we get anything at all. I'm sure my children will become adults and see a town with a highway falling apart without sidewalks or bikelanes and think, "Gee glad you saved that for me as a problem to solve. Thanks so much!"

1w Like



Chrissy Hollett Admin Group expert +1

This issue is not on the City's agenda, the Transportation System Plan was completed in 2020 WITHOUT a lane reduction. The topic is not on the current Council Agenda. I am also assuming that this poll of for Councilor Kinyon's personal use, and will not be used as a formal survey for the city??

2w Like



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Chrissy Hollett sounds about right to me. I took it as she was checking our pulse, rather than gathering evidence for decision-making.

2w Like



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

It also makes me wonder if the TSP decision was in 2020 which means the funds are gone and the ship has sailed why it's being pushed so heavily now.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge Projects take years to secure funding. In reality they probably wouldn't have all the funding worked out for 5 years or more.

2w Like



Audy Spliethof

Chrissy Hollett well put Chrissy 🙄

2w Like



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge - I am still not convinced this was a random time to "check the pulse" & have yet to hear a clear answer of why this was really brought up again.

2w Like



Kristyn Dodge Top Contributor

Vanessa Tharp with respect, I don't think you're being very charitable in terms of Dawn's motives. I did a quick search and just as I recalled, this topic has come up several times in the last year and especially in the last few months. Even today, Mr. Tarman admitted that he's pushing for it because the offer might come round again. He has brought up pretty frequently and I know there's been some contention and disagreements where the TSP is concerned. While I would like for it to go away, this topic keeps coming back to the Forum. If I were in Dawn's shoes, I would have done the same thing to satisfy my curiosity.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge the offer always comes back. It's part of the TSP. The city must bring it back and decide. I don't recall the timeliness but it will be back. You can't just ignore it completely.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Kristyn Dodge I think it's in 5 years. It's not coming back tomorrow. Unless something happens and we need to bring it back.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kristyn Dodge I actually don't bring it up pretty frequently. Dawn does. Michelle has. Others in the community have. I respond when it's brought up though.

2w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kristyn Dodge If you don't want to hear about it until there is something that will be brought forward, then ask your fellow councilors to quit bringing it up until there is something to talk about. I've been very clear when it comes up that I plan to continue talking with ODOT to understand this better than anybody. It's why I ran for council. I also said that my main concern was infrastructure which is also a big part of that. If you want councilors to just stay ignorant of things that could greatly effect us in the future, then I guess you can keep wanting that.

2w Like

Boho Chateau Top Contributor
Audy is not a council member at this time.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Boho Chateau - yep, I think we all know this. Nobody said he was. 5 different, current council members are the ones in question if this "chat" was a quorum.

1w Like

Boho Chateau Top Contributor
Someone listed him among the 5 counselors when discussing the issue.

1w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Boho Chateau - I replied to him & it may have tagged him. The 5 are Dawn, Chrissy, Poncho, Michelle, & Kelly - as I stated - that's 5.

1w Like Edited

Kelly Kai Botak
I'm glad to see this in the discussion rounds again- I like reading peoples perspectives. I hope that if this goes through, despite some of our objection, that we all find ourselves pleasantly surprised. Im not for it- but I do like the aspect of possibly receiving funds to help with our infrastructure and am open to learning more. It's a heated topic!!!! I have to say, if TV butte quarry goes through- that would add an additional 80-98 rock dust trucks a day.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Kelly Kai Botak - great to infuse the other very relevant factor of TV Butte to this discussion. Thanks for that!

2w Like

Christopher Ball
Those of you that support the lane reduction what are you monkeys going to do or how are you going to feel when and if the rock quarry bill passes and there's 60 to 80 big rigs up and down 58 every single day not to mention the dynamite blasts toxins in the air etc.

2w Like Edited

Patch Pennywhistler
As I mentioned elsewhere, I was a part of the TSP committee as "Citizen at-large". I once asked the committee "Why aren't there representatives here from the trucking industry?" ODOT's answer was that "We don't like to bring them in until this has all been approved and settled." This seemed a terrible omission to me, as the people, besides the citizens, who would be most affected by the ensuing traffic jam would be the truckers. There was some discussion that if the trucking industry found the narrowed highway too restrictive (Ever watch a WIDE LOAD come through town?) they might lobby Salem for a bypass road. LaDuke road was suggested.

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
Patch Pennywhistler - that's a great reminder! Hence why we need more than this Facebook poll to collect perspectives from our town too!

2w Like

Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor
I'm still really curious on WHY this topic was brought up again - especially if it's not on the current council's agenda?
Was it connected to city or council work or meetings? Was it just a random poll on a Monday? Was it to rile up the community about something "that's not happening" for no good reason? It all just feels a little weird & lacking transparency to me.
The world & Oakridge has changed a lot since 2019 - when this was last an issue - so 5 years ago. Clearly a lot of potentially new information & data would need to be collected - if anything current or in the future was to come up. And I am always for planting trees & "beautification" efforts!
I would like to look more at this past collected information as some seems contrary to what I've learned in 2023 & I advocate for a similar, if not more robust process, if it was needed for this topic.
At the end of the day, I'm just here to speak up & represent many of the quality people in Oakridge and to say that we see right through some of these "issues & polls" that happen far too often online here and this sure seems like it has nothing to do with how many lanes we do or don't have. But as it's often said here in this group - that's just my opinion. 😊

As you may know, I've called out all council members & their leadership or lack of in the past & also given plenty of credit & gratitude to them too. They are here to represent us & need to hear & respect ALL perspectives.

I'm sharing this here (again - so it's not lost in my reply) to prove & remind ALL in our community that it is OK to disagree or ask hard question or speak up for your views & there may be many others who also agree with you & don't or won't engage in this chat group. We also still need to be kind.

I truly hope that we can rally behind the Save TV Butte effort, help support the Museum Fundraiser, show up to Upper Willamette Youth games, donate to the local food bank, join the festivities at the **Tree Planting Festival**, heck maybe join one of the many City Committees who need members, or join in the Oakridge Uptown Business Revitalization Association clean up on April 27, or helping with the **Oakridge Easter Egg Hunt at Greenwaters Park...**


So many passionate & wonderful people in our community - that I would love to see engaging in all the good also happening in our town. 🌱🌳🍷

2w Like Edited  



Linda Swisher

Has any one thought of what's going to happen if TV Butte passes what's that going to do to the road traffic with only one lane in and out or has everybody forgot that might happen hopefully it don't

2w Like 



Nicole Ross Top Contributor


Yes, and I feel very strongly that it is crucial for the survival of our town.

2w Like 




Kack Camerer

I was once very opposed to the lane change in Oakridge but after living in La Pine I do see the benefits. It is often, with the traffic on 97, the only way to cross the highway.

2w Like 

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Kack Camerer I've spent a lot of time in LaPine, either driving through or now stopping to get food, etc. I agree, the highway change was a big improvement. I know there is one or two intersections that need changed still. ODOT is working on those new designs and working with the city and property owners at the moment. I talked to some of the property owners and they told me that business increased after the highway change. Some of the councilors that were against it in LaPine have done a complete 180 and see the huge spike in safety and business improvement.

2w Like 



Elise O'Brien

Dirk Poncho Tarman are there plans to look at ? i am a visual learner and maybe others are too. We could all benefit from looking at proposed plans so that we know we are all talking about the same thing

2w Like  

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Elise O'Brien There's not even a plan to do this currently. The only thing I saw was drawings and pics that are from 4 years ago when they did the TSP public involvement.

2w Like



Elise O'Brien

Hmmm... thanks Poncho... be great to see another city's before and afters. ❤️ thanks for all your service to the community

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Elise O'Brien Let me see if I can find it, but there is some videos and statistics I've seen on Youtube, etc.

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Elise O'Brien Here is one video I found.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aD1oemGppu0>



YOUTUBE.COM
Hwy. 11 Restriping (road diet) Safety Project in Milton-Freewater Oregon

2w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor

Elise O'Brien <https://www.vox.com/.../road-diets-lane-conversion...>



VOX.COM
Road diets: designing a safer street

2w Like 



Vanessa Tharp Top Contributor

Elise O'Brien - great point! I am a visual learner & talk through things person too!

2w Like



Kay Oxford Top Contributor

Would rather see police giving out tickets and warnings for those

speeding through town.

1w Like



Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kay Oxford Be prepared for the budget season. The PSF ends this June. You may not have much of a police force unless we cut other things. We need to be looking at ways to slow traffic and minimize crime that don't cost the city or at least cost very little.

1w Like

Kay Oxford Top Contributor
I'm out of the city limits so can't vote on city.

1w Like

Sarah Frieze Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman make cuts on what? I thought that's why we were paying the safety fee! To pay for their services and fire station? Where is the money going if they are cutting police force?

1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Sarah Frieze The PSF which pays for these things ends in June. When it ends where does the money come from then?

1w Like

Sarah Frieze Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman ooooh I see what your saying!

1w Like

Kay Oxford Top Contributor
It should be self sustaining if they give out what they could.

1w Like

Sarah Frieze Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman can't they just extend the \$22 I don't mind paying it.

1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Sarah Frieze If you want to keep the PSF then you should let your councilors know. The current one had an end date and a new one would need to be created. Based on the blowback to the last one, I think I'll stick with my hwy project on getting into the details and let another councilor take this one on.

1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kay Oxford I don't claim to be an expert on this, but what I've seen in reports is that even though tickets are written out for an amount of say X amount of dollars, we only receive Y amount of dollars due to tickets being dropped or reduced greatly. Once again I'm no expert on this. It's just what I've heard.

1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Sarah Frieze I don't mind paying it either to know that we have more police and a local EMS service.

1w Like

Sarah Frieze Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman same! We definitely need them in our town!

1w Like

Kay Oxford Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman True, but they can write a lot, I've seen freightliners roaring through town!

1w Like

Dirk Poncho Tarman Top Contributor
Kay Oxford Same here. I've almost been hit from a semi because when I looked it was far off. But you can't tell how fast they are going looking directly at them. When a truck is doing 50 mph it catches up really quick.

1w Like

Kay Oxford Top Contributor
Dirk Poncho Tarman True. 35 mph is not that fast and I see them flying through town!

1w Like

Judith Buchanan
I agree with Kay I don't see changing lane reductions as an alternative could really be dangerous

1w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Thank you all so much for providing comments and thoughts/ideas on this poll. FB let me know when I posted it, that it would only be open for 2 days, and I'm not sure if it is even allowing new votes anymore, so I'm going to go ahead and turn off commenting now.

1w Like

Dawn Kinyon Author Admin +1
Wait, it says in the post that the poll closes in 11 minutes, so I'll leave commenting on for another hour or so and then turn it off.

1w Like

+ Create a chat

You turned off commenting for this post.