



CITY OF COOS BAY URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
December 4, 2012	

TO: Chair Melton and Board Members

FROM: Jennifer Wirsing, Engineering Service Coordinator

Through: Rodger Craddock, City Manager and 
Jim Hossley, Public Works & Development Director 

ISSUE: The Proposed Bump Out Project Associated with the Egyptian Theatre

BACKGROUND:

Discussions of a bump out constructed in front of the Egyptian theatre, along Highway 101, have been discussed at numerous meetings. Staff was given direction to analyze the possibility of constructing a bump out in this location. The City contracted with The Dyer Partnership Engineers & Planners, Inc. (herein referred to as "Dyer") to perform research and coordination with ODOT and make a recommendation regarding the proposed bump out. The Technical Memorandum has been included with this report for your reference.

ADVANTAGES:

Staff sees no advantages from an engineering and safety concern.

DISADVANTAGES:

If a bump out is constructed there is a potential for increased pedestrian accidents. The bump out creates a launch point for the pedestrians to cross the highway at a non-designated location. The bump out will cause restrictions to the flow of traffic along Highway 101. Bicycle traffic will be impacted by the bump out and potentially force the bikers to further enter into the traveled way. Finally, both staff and Dyer have coordinated with ODOT personnel. ODOT has indicated to both staff and Dyer that they are not in favor of a proposed bump out and will most likely oppose the project. The City must obtain ODOT approval for the bump out and based on the coordination performed thus far, it does not appear that an approval would be granted for this proposed project. Prior to proceeding forward with obtaining ODOT approval, the City will have to prepare a detailed traffic study and a plan.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Should Council decide to move forward and further pursue the proposed bump out, a detailed traffic study and a corresponding plan must be prepared. Estimated cost for the study and design is \$45,000. Currently this project is not located on a Capital Improvement Project list or planned for as a URA project. Staff would need Council to provide direction as to the desired source for funding this project (both design and construction).

ACTION REQUESTED:

If it pleases the council, accept the recommendations of the Technical Memorandum and not proceed forward with further analyzing the bump out for the Egyptian Theatre.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. November 26, 2012 Technical memorandum for the Egyptian Theatre Roadway Bump Out, prepared by The Dyer Partnership Engineers & Planners, Inc.

TECHNICAL M E M O R A N D U M

Project: City of Coos Bay

Subject: Egyptian Theatre Roadway Bump Out

Date: November 26th, 2012

Prepared By: Aaron Speakman, P.E.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this technical memorandum is to address the feasibility of constructing a concrete bump out in front of the Egyptian Theatre located at 229 S. Broadway Street. The bump out would be used for the loading and unloading of theatre patrons.

CONTACT WITH ODOT

In September 2012, Aaron Speakman (Dyer Partnership) called and discussed the feasibility of installing a concrete bump out in front of the Egyptian Theatre with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). The ODOT representatives involved with the discussion were Darren Neavoll and Chris Hunter. Darren Neavoll can be reached at phone number 541-957-3683.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS WITH ODOT

ODOT indicated that over the past few years that the option of installing a bump out in front of the Egyptian Theatre had been evaluated by ODOT and the City. ODOT indicated that they were not in support of a bump out in this location due to a variety of reasons including but not limited to:

- Increased pedestrian accidents
- Creation of a “launch point for pedestrians”
- Restrictions to the flow of traffic on Highway 101

ENGINEER'S COMMENTS

The “launch point for pedestrians” would be a potential hazardous condition for pedestrians because a bump out in the proposed location would not include a cross walk. Some pedestrians may travel to the outside of the bump out and perceive this as a narrow or short distance in which to cross Highway 101. When traffic slows, pedestrians may attempt to cross at this location, which is not a designated cross walk. Essentially, the bump out creates a potential for pedestrians short-cutting the designated crosswalks. There is a crosswalk located less than a block to the north of the Egyptian Theatre, and this is where ODOT would like pedestrians to cross the highway.

A bump out may cause traffic restrictions as vehicles move in and out of the parking area. Accidents and congestion will increase as traffic moves in and out of an area protected by a bump out.

ENGINEER'S RECOMMENDATION

While bump outs may be a practical traffic calming device in some areas, it is the recommendation of this memo that a bump out not be used at this location. The highway is located within ODOT right-of-way and the engineer's at ODOT have jurisdiction regarding engineering and roadway design of their highway. The concerns issued by ODOT are valid if the City would like to pursue further discussions with ODOT on this issue, detailed plans and traffic studies would most likely be required prior to moving forward.

