



Powell-Division Transit and Development Project Steering Committee
Monday, March 28, 2016
4 to 6:30 p.m.
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 9901 SE Caruthers St, Portland

Committee members present

Shirley Craddick, Co-chair
Bob Stacey, Co-chair
John Bildsoe
Lori Boisen
Michael Calgano
Devin Carr
Heidi Guenin
Jason Howard
Jessica Howard
Kem Marks

Neil McFarlane
Leah Treat (for Steve Novick)

Raahi Reddy

Huy Ong (for Vivian Satterfield)
Lori Stegmann
Jessica Vega Pederson
Alan Snook (for Rian Windsheimer)

Metro Council
Metro Council
Gresham Coalition of Neighborhood Associations
Division-Midway Alliance
Mt. Hood Community College
Student and transit rider
Representative Public Health
Johnson Creek Watershed Council
Portland Community College, Southeast
East Portland Neighborhood Office and East
Portland Action Plan
TriMet
City of Portland
Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon and
University of Oregon
OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon
City of Gresham

Oregon Department of Transportation

Committee members excused

Trell Anderson
Bill Crawford
Representative Shemia Fagan
Commissioner Diane McKeel
Melinda Merrill
Dwight Unti

Catholic Charities
Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Coalition
Oregon State Legislature
Multnomah County
Fred Meyer
Tokola Properties Inc.

1.0 Welcome, introductions and agenda review

Co-chair Shirley Craddick called the meeting to order at 4:13 p.m. and welcomed the committee members and public in attendance. Each committee member introduced themselves and noted their jurisdictional or community affiliation. She reminded the committee that no decisions would be made in today's meeting.

Ms. Dana Lucero proceeded to give a brief overview of agenda items. She noted that in today's meeting, Steering Committee would have an opportunity to comment, discuss, and ask questions about new information. Ms. Lucero added, that any member of the public has this opportunity as well by writing down comments or questions on the sticky notes and placing them on the boards that have been provided, and that they would be included in the meeting summary.

Co-chair Bob Stacey asked for any amendments to the November 9, 2016 Steering Committee meeting summary. With no amendments, the summary was approved unanimously.

2.0 Public comment

Mr. Jim Karlock, Northeast Portland resident, commented on raising cost of housing in Portland and emphasized the importance of addressing Oregon's housing affordability crisis. Copy of an article was provided and included as part of the meeting record.

Mr. Doug Allen, a member of the Association of Oregon Rail and Transit Advocates (AORTA), proposed a list of suggestions on how to move ahead with the Powell-Division project. He emphasized the importance of creating an adequate transit grid system network of buses and light rail. Document was provided and included as part of the meeting record.

Mr. Charles Tso, North Portland resident, expressed support for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and specifically for the two-way dedicated way. He suggested the committee to focus on providing the public with more accessible and efficient transportation choices to be able to get around and steer away from car dependability.

Mr. Matt Ferris-Smith, Northeast Portland resident, expressed a strong support for the two-way dedicated transit way and emphasized the importance of safety.

Mr. Rudy Ernst, owner of warehouse distribution building and property, expressed concerned about potential impact on his property on Division and 82nd Avenue. He urged the committee to reconsider the areas for potential impact due to crossover option on 82nd Avenue.

Mr. Evan Lazer, Southeast Portland resident, expressed support for the Powell-Division Transit and Development project. Mr. Lazer proposed to consider using existing alignment and infrastructure in the Powell-Division corridor to establish BRT and business trucks only transit connection during the business hours.

Mr. Luke Norman, Northeast Portland resident, expressed concern about next term project goals that do not make transit as fast and reliable as they could be. He urged the committee to ensure BRT service is faster, accessible, and affordable.

Mr. Nick Sauvie, executive director of Rose Community Development, commented on transit budget mismatch for the cities of Portland and Tigard. He urged the committee members to work together to prevent displacement of vulnerable communities and called for TriMet to ensure they design efficient and safe transit options.

Mr. Jim Howell, a member of the Association of Oregon Rail and Transit Advocates (AORTA), advocated against using BRT for the Powell-Division project. He stated that the project needs more buses connecting north-south and should be a small starts, not a capital project.

Mr. Jim Stewart, a reporter for the Mid-County Memo, inquired why the committee made a decision to use BRT without having a dedicated bus lane. Co-chair Stacey responded that Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, project manager, would be presenting on challenges learned through design and analysis and it should provide him with more detailed information on the mode preference.

Mr. Dan McFarling, Aloha resident, applauded the staff for developing smaller scale approach to the project. He urged the committee to focus on frequency, reliability, and connectivity in a grid based system, in order to develop truly effective public transportation.

3.0 Meeting purpose

Ms. Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro, presented on the meeting's purpose. She stated that the purpose of today's meeting is to inform and engage, and the following topics would be discussed:

- Update on project
- Review Project Challenges
- Discuss concepts for a near-term BRT
- Update on Portland Action plans
- Discuss Jade Midway Creative Placemaking Project
- Discuss engagement
- Discuss next steps

4.0 Challenges learned through design and analysis, and potential options to deliver a near-term bus rapid transit project

Mr. Alan Lehto, TriMet, gave a brief overview of the travel time changes and challenges. He stated that travel time on Powell and 82nd Avenue was not fast enough to provide the public with faster, more efficient service. He also added that Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) reduces travel time, but not enough to completely overcome additional travel time added by routing.

Mr. James McGrath, CH2M Hill, gave a brief presentation on design changes and challenges along 82nd street and Powell Blvd. He went over the existing design and proposed design alternates, and explained how buildings and property would be affected by each design.

Mr. Alan Lehto, TriMet, continued presentation by going over the BRT service on preferred alignment. His main takeaways included:

- Travel time challenges with preferred alignment
- Difficult to overcome constraints on inner Powell and 82nd Avenue
- 50th and 52nd are similar to 82nd and don't avoid inner Powell constraints

Heidi Guenin stated that 82nd & Inner Powell constraints need addressing in the long-term. She noted that improvements shouldn't disappear if this project can't address them.

Jason Howard addressed the need for Service Enhancement Plan (SEP) improvements to help problematic trips. He inquired if the modeling account for SEP.

Leah Treat stated that Division & Powell, both high crash corridors. She inquired what safety improvements will come with the project. Ms. Treat recommended to use community plans and ask the general public for input. She added that north-south connection serves as access to jobs and is very important.

Jessica Howard inquired about funding constraints.

Michael Calcagno asked about travel time with treatments.

Lori Stegmann inquired if a more frequent service would fix the extra travel time problem. She pointed out that high ridership would increase time anyways, therefore moving more people should make extra time acceptable.

Heidi Guenin commented that bus could be competitive, given comparison to driving with population growth in the corridor.

Raahi Reddy stated that public engagement in Jade District was extensive and expressed frustration that so much effort went into it. She noted that additional community outreach is needed, but now there is a credibility problem. Ms. Reddy inquired if there is a plan to address region's growth. She inquired if there is something that committee can't afford not to do. Ms. Reddy requested to have a comprehensive look at the present options and include cost information. She also noted that bigger vision is needed.

Kem Marks asked to address pedestrian safety as we contemplate changes to intersections.

John Bildsoe inquired if we are looking at transit as a part of fixing new growth.

Shirley Craddick raised a question about plans impact on the eastside.

Ms. Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro, gave an overview of challenges learned through design and analysis, and presented possible solutions.

Mr. Anthony Buczek, Metro, presented on lane conversion on Powell and 82nd Avenue. He stated that providing new dedicated lanes, even at only certain points on the corridor would mean significant property acquisition and greater environmental justice impact.

Ms. Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara concluded with potential solutions which included:

- Smaller approach
- Phased (Phase I and II) approach
- Two separate BRT lines approach

Michael Calcagno noted that small scale approach does not serve MHCC. He added that PCC to MHCC connection is important, it achieves goals.

John Bildsoe inquired about how much of federal match goes towards sidewalks and safety improvements. He also asked how Hawthorne or Tilikum would be used.

Jessica Vega Pederson expressed concern about access to transit from proposed station locations. She inquired about the location selection goal, if it is to get people to places faster.

Heidi Guenin asked for better understanding of zoning to address the land use constraints. She also inquired about the route options on Powell and project's timeframe.

Lori Boisen inquired is it was a possibility to look at something larger on Powell.

Jason Howard commented that SEP improvements are important and expressed support for transit only on Division street.

Jessica Howard asked if phased concepts were eligible for small starts projects. She also inquired about realistic funding expectations and pros and cons of it.

Leah Treat raised a question about what kind of data would be gathered and what a complete trip would look like.

Lori Stegmann asked if phased approach would need to take properties.

Heidi Guenin inquired if phasing have an impact on actions identified in local action plan and what does that mean for timing.

5.0 Portland Action Plan update

Mr. Joe Zehnder, City of Portland, gave an update on the Portland Action Plan. Timeline for the Portland Action Plan consisted of the following stages:

- **January 2016** - Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) recommended the Portland Local Action Plan for adoption by City Council. The PSC also recommended increasing the housing target and funding for community stabilization/development actions
- **February-March 2016** – Bridging the Gap
- **April-May 2016** – Portland Local Action Plan City Council hearing

6.0 Jade Midway creative placemaking

Ms. Lori Boisen, Division-Midway Alliance, and Mr. Duncan Hwang, APANO, gave a brief overview of Jade-Midway creative placemaking projects. The projects are community engagement creative projects with the purpose of cultivating community building and consciousness raising of the residents that make up the Jade and Midway Districts. Short video about the projects was presented.

7.0 Next steps

Ms. Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara gave a brief overview of engagement and timeline for next steps and analysis. Project's timeline included the following:

- **Spring 2016** – Analysis and public engagement on route concepts, station locations and service planning.
- **Summer 2016** – Steering Committee reviews technical findings and community input, moves forward most promising options and seeks consensus where there is agreement. Continue analysis and community engagement.
- **Fall 2016** – Steering Committee reviews technical findings and community input and seeks consensus on route and station locations. Local councils consider and act on Steering Committee recommendation for a Locally Preferred Alternative.

Co-chair Bob Stacey recognized the challenges of the project, but also stated that the project has a lot of potential. He commented that the next step is to move forward and make the project work well for the community.

8.0 Adjourn

Co-chair Stacey adjourned the meeting at 6:37p.m.

Meeting summary respectfully submitted by:

Yuliya Kharitonova

Attachments to the Record:

Item	Type	Document Date	Description	Document Number
1	Agenda	3/28/16	3/28/16 Steering Committee Agenda	032816PDSC-01
2	Document	11/9/15	Steering Committee Meeting Summary	032816PDSC-02
3	Document	3/28/16	3/28/16 Steering Committee Summary	032816PDSC-03
4	Document	3/28/16	Moving Ahead with the Powell-Division Project	032816PDSC-04
5	Web article	3/1/16	Want to make housing affordable? Ditch urban growth boundaries (OPINION)	032816PDSC-05
6	Document	3/28/16	UPDATE Portland Local Action Plan	032816PDSC-06