

Meeting minutes

Meeting: **82nd Avenue Steering Committee meeting**
Date/time: Monday, September 12, 2022 | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Place: Virtual webinar meeting held via Zoom

Members, Alternates Attending

Councilor Duncan Hwang, Co-chair
Councilor Christine Lewis, Co-chair
Commissioner Mark Shull
Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty
Representative Kahn Pham
Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson
Chris Ford
JC Vanatta
Emerald Bogue
Leslie Lum
Zachary Lauritzen
Kaitlyn Dey

Affiliation

Metro
Metro
Clackamas County
City of Portland
State of Oregon, House District 46
Multnomah County
ODOT
TriMet
Port of Portland
Unite Oregon
Oregon Walks
Clackamas Service Center

Panelists Attending

Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara
Brian Harper
Yuliya Lee
Michael Kiser
Julia Reed

Affiliate

Metro
Metro
Metro
TriMet
Portland Bureau of Transportation

Welcome and introductions (Councilors Duncan Hwang, Metro and Christine Lewis, Metro)
Co-chair Councilor Duncan Hwang, Metro called meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed the attendees to the meeting. Councilor Hwang stressed the importance of the 82nd avenue project and urged committee members to work together to ensure project's success.

Committee members introduced themselves, noted their affiliation, and shared their hopes for the project and Steering Committee.

Co-chair Councilor Christine Lewis, Metro walked through the agenda.

Presentation: Description of the 82nd Avenue Transit Project (Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro)
Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro, discussed why the 82nd Avenue project is moving forward at this time and why rapid bus is being explored, highlighted the coordinated efforts on 82nd Avenue and TriMet bus line 72 that runs along 82nd Avenue and NE Killingsworth. She discussed communities within the 82nd Avenue corridor, the constraints of the corridor, and summarized past analysis, outreach and engagement that have been done. The 82nd Avenue corridor has been identified as a priority route for improved transit in multiple plans and through extensive analysis and engagement. Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara provided more details on previous technical analyses that have been done and 82nd Avenue transit.

Michael Kiser, TriMet, discussed the benefits of bus rapid transit (BRT), these include being faster, predictable, distinctive, convenient, comfortable, and ease of use. He then discussed BRT station components including, specialized vehicles, dedicated running ways, enhanced stations, enhanced fare

collection systems, BRT branding, transit signal priority, stop spacing, and lane configuration. Michael Kiser highlighted project benefits, including reducing bus delay, transit travel times, safe access to transit, and connecting many low-income areas. He discussed leveraging the FX-2 investments, Building a Better 82nd Avenue and other partner investments.

Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara concluded the presentation by summarizing the work plan.

Discussion

Representative Kahn Pham expressed concern for reducing the number of stops along 82nd Avenue.

Michael Kiser responded by explaining the data that goes into deciding where stops should be located and agreed that there is a tradeoff between creating a faster and more reliable bus service and stop reduction.

JC Vannatta agreed with Michael Kiser and highlighted that they will have to work with the community to understand where stations should be located.

Leslie Lum, Unite Oregon, asked about unintended consequences or negative feedback that was received around the FX-2 line along Division.

Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara responded by explaining that more comments will be coming in in response to the FX-2 line opening and highlighted the importance of making busses more accessible as more cars cannot be fit along the corridor.

Commissioner Hardesty voiced the challenge of serving the needs of today's TriMet users while still planning for the transit users of tomorrow.

Zachary Lauritzen, Oregon Walks, explained that the 72-bus line essentially serves as the school bus for McDaniel High School and stressed the importance of inviting these students to these conversations.

Steering Committee draft schedule and charter review (Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro)

Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara highlighted the jurisdictions and organizations of Steering Committee members, the Committee structure, and the Committee's charges to represent the community, advance the project, and recommend transit locally preferred alternative (LPA) in the summer of 2023. She summarized decision making protocols by discussing consensus decision making and discussed next steps.

Discussion:

Zachary Lauritzen asked about specific funding deadlines for this project.

Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara responded by highlighting the importance of working quickly in order to secure federal funding, align timelines with the work being done by the City of Portland and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and fit within the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) without the need for amendments.

Community Coalition Update– Equitable Development Strategy: (Brian Harper, Metro)

Brian Harper, Metro, discussed what was learned through the community engagement process in 2016 with the Southwest Corridor Project and how Metro can engage with community based organizations on 82nd.

Discussion:

Zachary Lauritzen discussed what organizing and engagement work Oregon Walks has been doing.

Coordination with other projects:

Councilor Hwang asked committee members to provide updates on projects that their jurisdictions or organizations are working on along 82nd avenue.

Chris Ford, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), discussed the handover effort of 82nd Avenue within the City of Portland from ODOT to the City of Portland and ODOT's Foster to Thompson project.

Commissioner Mark Shull, Clackamas County, discussed Clackamas County's efforts to attract businesses to the southern end of 82nd Avenue and Sunnyside Road improvements.

Emerald Bogue, Port of Portland, explained that the Port of Portland owns 82nd Avenue north of Alderwood Road and discussed the Port of Portland's reliance on the corridor.

Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson, Multnomah County, discussed the importance of 82nd for the people that Multnomah County serves especially the houseless population as there are several shelters and potential shelters located along the corridor.

JC Vanetta discussed improvements along the northern part of 82nd as TriMet looks to extend the Red Line and improvements made during the FX-2 project.

Emerald Bogue discussed current construction underway at the airport and an improvement project planned on 82nd and Airport Way.

Julia Reed, PBOT, discussed the importance of 82nd Avenue, dangers of the street, highlighted partners in Building a Better 82nd Avenue, and the jurisdictional transfer agreement. She went on to discuss what transferred on June 1, 2022 and funding for 82nd Avenue transportation Improvements which includes, lighting, crossings, corridor safety improvements, paving, and signals. Julia Reed highlighted the future investment timeline, key outcomes, transportation-related community priorities, and support for community and small businesses.

Discussion:

Commissioner Shull asked if there are plans to put transmission lines underground.

Julia Reed explained that burying powerlines is being considered as an option moving forward.

Representative Pham explained that the emphasis on shade equity is something that they have heard echoed by constituents.

Public Comment

There was none.

Next Steps

Councilor Hwang gave a brief overview of the agenda for the next steering committee meeting- adopt the Steering Committee charter, project updates and updates on concurrent and related efforts, review draft goals and objectives and purpose and need, and discuss the outreach strategy,

There being no further business, co-chair Councilor Hwang adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stellan Roberts, 82nd Avenue Steering Committee Recorder

Attachments to the Public Record, 82nd Avenue Steering Committee meeting, September 12, 2022

Item	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1	Agenda	09/12/2022	09/12/2022 82 nd Avenue Steering Committee meeting agenda	09122282ASC-01
2	Document	09/12/2022	82nd Avenue Transit Project Steering Committee – Draft Charter	09122282ASC-02
3	Document	09/12/2022	82nd Avenue Transit Project Committee Structure - Draft	09122282ASC-03
4	Document	09/12/2022	82nd Avenue Transit Project map	09122282ASC-04