



Transportation Planning and Development Program
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Multnomah County Bicycle and Pedestrian Citizen Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Board Room, Multnomah Building, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, OR

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Rubenstein
Gary Purvine
Art Graves
Joel Huffman
Andrew Holtz
Rory Renfro
Susan Watt
AJ Zelada
Jim Couch

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ryan Farncomb
Greg Olson
Carolyn Briggs

STAFF: Kate McQuillan (Transportation Planner), MaryJo Anderson (SRTS Coordinator)

GUESTS: Caroline Crisp

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. There was a quorum of members present.

2. Approve January 2019 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Joel Huffman moved to approve the January 2019 meeting minutes. AJ Zelada seconded the motion.

VOTE: All voted in favor.

3. Public Comment

Andrew Holtz shared that at a Southwest Hills Residential League (SWHRL, a neighborhood association in southwest Portland) meeting, a community member was advocating for the SW Scholls Ferry Road project to be prioritized in the County's Capital Improvement Plan update

underway right now. Andrew wonders if the County could sign a memorandum of understanding with TriMet that if the County moves forward with installing sidewalks and bike lanes on SW Scholls Ferry Road that TriMet would then provide transit service on the road.

Jim Couch shared that the I-205 bike path near Maywood Park has recently been improved by ODOT and no longer has the massive bumps from tree roots.

Susan Watt shared that the NW Newberry Road project to fix a landslide that occurred nearly two years ago is about to start as crews have begun mobilizing on site. Local community members near Newberry Road feel as though the County is not listening to their concerns about using NW Newberry Road as the official detour route for the upcoming closure of NW Cornelius Pass Road later this year.

AJ Zelada reported back on his attendance of the Washington Bike Summit in Olympia. The hot topics of the summit were bike share and affordable housing.

4. Chair Report

Rory reported that the Division Transit Project will be hosting open houses in March – one in Portland and one in Gresham – that includes looking at the roadway design for how through bicycle traffic would navigate the proposed station areas. The project is currently at 60% design.

5. Staff Report

Kate had only one item to report on- thanks to the Committee members who responded to the survey proposing a new day for the Committee to hold its regular meeting. Most members reported that they are not able or not willing to move the regular meeting day. The Committee's regular meeting day will continue to be the second Wednesday of each month.

6. Brainstorm of County transportation topics for Commissioner Stegmann

The Committee brainstormed a diverse and robust list of topics they'd like to hear the Commissioner's position on as it relates to the Committee, County projects, and regional transportation issues. A separate in-depth list will be compiled and sent out to Committee members prior to being forwarded to the Commissioner's office. A brief overview of the topics include:

- Historic Columbia River Highway & current ODOT initiatives
- Stark Street Multimodal Project in Troutdale
- Implementation of the Comprehensive Plan and TSP adopted 2 years ago.
- E-scooters
- Support for permanent, stable funding for Safe Routes to School position
- What is the Commissioner's role with the Chair and fellow Commissioners about transportation?
- Highlight the BPCAC's early and frequent involvement in the Arata Road project
- Highlight positive experience with County staff in recent years
- Perspective on how the community can best advocate for specific planning projects?

7. North Tualatin Mountains Land Use Application

Kate provided a thorough overview of two large land use applications Metro submitted to the County in September of 2017 that will ultimately lead to construction of a new nature park in the West Hills just north of Forest Park. In full disclosure, Kate is the transportation planner assigned to review the transportation impact of these applications. All the information provided in the presentation is from information readily available in public documents on either Metro's website or in the land use application's public record. Below is a brief outline of the information provided about these land use applications:

- General background information on the North Tualatin Mountains, starting with Metro's bond and levies, and ending with the adopted Access Master Plan that is under consideration as part of the land use application;
- Initial high level park concepts in adopted Access Master Plan;
- Refined designs submitted specifically for the Burlington Creek site as part of the land use applications;
- Existing conditions of NW McNamee Road, the County road providing access to the proposed nature park;
- Broad overview of the proposal's transportation issues that are reviewed per the County's transportation code;
- Next steps for the land use application review for any members of the community interested in tracking the project and/or submitting public comment.

Kate encouraged Committee members to submit public comments, including public testimony during the hearings process, regardless of whether members support or oppose the proposal.

8. Safe Routes to School & Regional Travel Options Grant Update

As a last minute agenda item, MaryJo Anderson provided a quick update on the County's Safe Routes to School program she manages. The County was successful in receiving grant funding from the State of Oregon to construct an improved pedestrian crossing on NE Halsey Street at approximately 208th Place. This location is adjacent to the Reynolds Middle School and Salish Ponds Elementary School. MaryJo is also spending a significant amount of time preparing for a large walk and bike encouragement event at Davis Elementary School in the Rockwood neighborhood of Gresham.

MaryJo also provided a brief overview of the upcoming Regional Travel Options funding opportunity from Metro. These funds provide for up to three-years of funding for programming that help reduce single occupancy vehicle trips and increase transportation options in the community. The County intends to submit a proposal to continue MaryJo's full time position as the Safe Routes to School Coordinator. Applications are due to Metro at the end of March 2019. The County also plans to apply for a part time position (likely to be rolled in to MaryJo's Safe Routes to School position) to provide options programming for East County ranging from Ride Share, carpooling, and working directly with East County businesses. The Committee can expect to see MaryJo return next month with additional details and a request for a letter of support from the Committee.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

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Meeting minutes written and submitted by: Kate McQuillan

The next scheduled BPCAC meeting: Wednesday, March 13, 2019