



Meeting Summary

Project:	Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge	
Subject:	Community Task Force Meeting #1	
Date:	Wednesday, October 17, 2018	
Time:	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM	
Location:	University of Oregon, White Box Room, first floor, 70 NW Couch St., Portland	
Attendees, Community Task Force:	Art Graves, Multnomah County Bike and Pedestrian Citizen Advisory Committee Cameron Hunt, Portland Spirit Dan Lenzen, Old Town Community Association Ed Wortman, Community Member At-Large Fred Cooper, Laurelhurst Neighborhood Emergency Team Gabriel Rahe, Burnside Skatepark Howie Bierbaum, Portland Saturday Market Jacqueline Tate, Community Member At-Large Matt Hoffman, Disability Rights Oregon	Nathaniel Brown, Portland Business Alliance Neil Jensen, Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce Rina Eleanor Jimmerson, Central Eastside Industrial Council Sharon Wortman, Community Member At-Large Stella Funk-Butler, Powell Valley Neighborhood Association Susan Lindsay, Buckman Community Association Tesia Eisenberg, Mercy Corps Timothy Desper, Portland Rescue Mission
Absent, Community Task Force:	Marie Dodds, AAA of Oregon William Burgel, Portland Freight Advisory Committee Kathy Pape, Central City Concern	Drew DeVitis, Oregon Walks Kevin Anderson, American Medical Response
Attendees, Project Staff:	Courtney Lords, Multnomah County Ian Cannon, Multnomah County Megan Neill, Multnomah County Mike Pullen, Multnomah County Emily Miletich, Multnomah County Jeff Heilman, Parametrix	Heather Catron, HDR Cassie Davis, HDR Steve Drahota, HDR Alice Sherring, Enviroissues Aascot Bohlander, Enviroissues

Introduction and Housekeeping

Alice Sherring, facilitator, introduced herself to the group. She thanked everyone for their willingness to be part of the task force.

Sherring offered a draft working agreement for the group’s consideration. She explained that she uses a working agreement with every group she works with. She then encouraged the group to review the charter document in detail on their own time. Several key points of the charter were highlighted:

Community Task Force Charter – High Points

- Be curious and willing to learn
- Ask questions
- Express yourself in terms of your own preferences and interests
- Listen respectfully and support each other along the way
- Respect the timelines prescribed in the agenda
- Focus on the agreed scope of discussion
- Seek common ground along the way
- Help the facilitator keep us on time and on topic

Sherring then opened the floor for any immediate questions, concerns, edits or additions to the above points. There were none.

Sherring reviewed the three purposes of the evening’s meeting:

- Confirm the purpose of the group and review the Draft Charter
- Receive Public Official 101 training
- Learn about the process to date and build a shared understanding of the Feasibility Study and recommended options
- Discuss what should be studied in the environmental review phase

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Sherring addressed the gallery, explaining that a public comment period is available. She noted that she may offer an opportunity for clarifying questions from the public at the end of presentations if time allowed.

The project team introduced themselves:

Megan Neill, Mult Co

Welcome everyone! I’m the County project manager for Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge (EQRB). Ian and I really appreciate you coming along with us. Half of the group here today started with us two years ago. We’re excited to have new perspectives and get feedback on what we’re doing. I really want you to push us and challenge us in these meetings. The harder questions you ask of us, the better prepared we will be for the rest of the community. Ask questions, poke holes. These are our testing grounds.

Ian Cannon, Mult Co

Megan captured that well. On behalf of the County, we really do appreciate you, your questions, comments and points of view. Our goal is to have a project that takes all perspectives around the table and in the community into account. Thank you.

Heather Catron, HDR

I’m the project manager for the consultant team working with you and supporting the County throughout this project. We are here to provide

any technical support and move through process over the next few years. Thank you for being here.

Community Task Force Roundtable Introduction

Why did you decide to join the Community Task Force for this project?

Sherring asked the Community Task Force members to introduce themselves and answer the question from the agenda in a round-robin style.

Jacqueline Tate Community Member At-Large	I am a community member. The reason I joined was because I have worked for Multnomah County and I use the bridge by bus or foot four times a week. I am interested in emergency preparedness. In my current job, I work with the aging population, particularly in culturally specific and nutrition services. I am curious from an equity perspective, how the bridge will affect elderly and vulnerable populations.
Fred Cooper Laurelhurst Neighborhood Emergency Team	I am representing the Laurelhurst area and the emergency team program led by the emergency preparedness team at the City of Portland. I am also representing my Neighborhood Association. I live 500 feet from Burnside and 2.2 miles from the east end of the bridge. I use the Burnside Bridge several times a week. I am also a retired civil engineer and have worked on major bridges. I also worked in emergency preparedness for about 20 years.
Howie Bierbaum Portland Saturday Market	I represent the Portland Saturday Market. The Burnside Bridge affects the market and the 200+ small businesses that conduct business at the market.
Stella Funk-Butler Powell Valley Neighborhood Association	I represent Powell Valley. I am also representing the neighborhood coalition, which covers 12-16 neighborhoods. I wanted to be involved because I've been involved in some related projects as well as emergency preparedness practices and drills. I've gone to Biloxi, Mississippi and helped relief effort there. My husband works in Hillsboro and crosses the bridge twice a day to commute. This is important to us.
Cameron Hunt Portland Spirit	I am representing the Portland Spirit. Unofficially, I am representing the maritime industry in general. We have a different relationship with the bridge. I also live five blocks away on Burnside and cross the bridge all the time. I wanted to join because I am new to Portland. I enjoy working on task forces and being part of community outreach programs in my previous city. I'm trying to be more involved and I'm planning to stay in Portland.
Dan Lenzen Old Town Community Association	I represent Old Town, which is a hybrid neighborhood and business district. I also chair the Old Town Hospitality District. Old Town is also an entertainment district. Every year, one million visitors cross the intersection of 3rd and Couch. We have vibrant businesses. A little-

known fact is this district sees the highest volume of tourists in the city. Ten thousand people visit the Portland Saturday Market on the weekends and the Chinese Garden has 250,000 visitors a year. My first job in hospitality was the original Spaghetti Factory in 1984. I was one of the last people on the clock there and fell in love with the area. I bought the building and am a longtime business developer in Old Town. I pared it down but just three years ago I had businesses in six states with more than 300 employees. Now, I have 25 employees in this neighborhood. This will be the last stand and Burnside is critical to daytime and nighttime activity in Portland.

<p>Timothy Desper Portland Rescue Mission</p>	<p>I am here representing Portland Rescue Mission. Last year, I lived in the building across the street. The Burnside Bridge ends in the middle of the Portland Rescue Mission building. I am interested in how we can keep doing business. I have concerns about the impacts to individuals we serve such as the houseless community. This is a common transition bridge for those communities.</p>
<p>Neil Jensen Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce</p>	<p>I represent the businesses east of 181st in Gresham. I was asked by the president of the Chamber to represent that part of town in this group. I am familiar with streets and neighborhoods. I was born here. I have many semi-informed opinions and I am not shy about sharing them.</p>
<p>Art Graves Multnomah County Bike and Pedestrian Citizen Advisory Committee</p>	<p>I represent the Multnomah County Bike/Pedestrian citizen advisory group. Bike and pedestrian connectivity are important. Unofficially, the role Burnside plays in Portland is that it defines the city's quadrants: North/South/East/West. It's a city-designated landmark. Most people know Burnside not as a bridge but as a skatepark. As I go to different places in the world, folks don't know Portland or Oregon but know the Burnside skate park. It is transcendent. The role we will play in the bridge's evolution is exciting.</p>
<p>Tesia Eisenberg Mercy Corps</p>	<p>I work for Mercy Corps' preparedness and resiliency effort. I commute across the bridge on the bus every day. We need it to continue to work after Cascadia.</p>
<p>Gabriel Ray Burnside Skatepark</p>	<p>I am here to represent Burnside Skatepark. This project will really affect us.</p>
<p>Nathaniel Brown Portland Business Alliance</p>	<p>I represent the Portland Business Alliance, which is a chamber of commerce that includes 900 businesses in the region that rely on the Burnside Bridge. I represent the business and economic side of the bridge's use.</p>
<p>Matt Hoffman Disability Rights Oregon</p>	<p>I represent Disability Rights Oregon. I am a seventh-generation Oregonian. I've been hearing all my life that we're waiting for The Big One.</p>
<p>Ed Wortman</p>	<p>I am here with my wife Sharon. We are community at-large members. We will read what we wrote in our application. We will represent</p>

Community Member At-Large

people who use and rely on the bridges. My wife is known as the 'Portland Bridge Lady.' My reason for being here is concern over the earthquake. As an engineer, I've read a lot about it. Earthquake preparedness is one thing that can be done to improve our ability to survive. I am technically a civil engineer. I worked for the County for several years. Since 1971, I have worked on Portland bridges. I have worked on Burnside, too. I am interested in bridges from an engineering standpoint. I have some training in city planning and I'd like to put those old lessons to work. I am interested in how a project like this will impact the city, how people will be impacted by the construction, how people will relate to the new bridge and how it fulfills their needs and desires.

Sharon Wortman
Community Member At-Large

My husband and I are here as a team. I volunteered to help share historical and cultural concerns on behalf of the community. As part of the Portland bridge festival, school groups totaling 10,000 kids cross the Burnside Bridge each year. I have a lot of interest in that. I have a wide range of contacts. People ask me about the bridge and they ask a lot of questions. They are more interested about the Burnside because the County is doing a good job of spreading the video simulation of the bridge falling. I get the best, up-to-date information as part of this group. I was born in Oregon City and have lived in many Portland neighborhoods. I have a unique perspective. Looking back at that, when I was born, there were 419,000 registered vehicles in Oregon. This year there are 4 million. I am looking way into the future, not just today. I won't be here to see the bridge built but I am excited to help lay down its future. I sat on the Stakeholder Representative Group during the initial study. I learned it's not if the earthquake comes, but when. It seems important to be an advocate for this, even in a small way. I have five family members that live within five blocks of the Burnside Bridge. I'd like to share some woodblock prints by Carey Buy, an artist that lived here from 2005-2015 but had to leave when the rent went up. She left me her inventory. These are the last postcards of the Burnside Bridge, so this group is a good place for these prints to find their home.

Rina Eleanor Jimmerson
Central Eastside Industrial Council

I am here on behalf of the Central Eastside Industrial Council. I am happy to have Burnside in my district. I have been part of a lot of communities and groups. I am the Program Manager for the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee. We focus on different transportation methods, pedestrians, freight, traffic, cars – everything. Personally, I am an urban planner by profession and a musician.

Susan Lindsay
Buckman Community Association

I co-chair the Buckman Community Association. Our neighborhood is bound by Burnside Street on the north side and we go south all the way down to Hawthorne and the Willamette to west edge of 28th. I am a Portland native. I was born in an unreinforced wing of Emmanuel Hospital. I'm here because the Buckman neighborhood, by way of its location, will be impacted by the replacement of the structure. A great deal of staging will be needed. A lot of folks now live and work in

Buckman and cross the bridge. There are new residential units being built, and when those are occupied, their residents will be impacted by the decisions made here. I believe in science and minored in Geology. I can see the writing on the wall regarding the earthquake.

Sherring said she heard many interests at this table. She asked the Task Force to think of one word that tries to capture what they just heard. She asked that the word capture the breadth of interests at the table and how we interact with the bridge. She asked everyone to grab a sticky note and write their word.

Community Task Force Roundtable Introduction – One word

- Community (x2)
- Concerned (x2)
- Diversity (x2)
- Eclectic
- Enthusiasm and commitment
- Essential
- Experienced (x2)
- Invested
- Multi-purpose
- Together
- Vital
- Wide-spread



Draft Charter Review

What does it mean to be a public official?

Sherring noted that this was the group's inaugural meeting. During opening comments, she heard a lot about the group's breadth of interests to be aware of and keep in mind throughout the process. She then introduced Courtney Lords, Multnomah County Attorney.

Lords noted that her presentation will be an abbreviated version of the public officials' training and encouraged the group to read their handbook in their own time. She presented the abbreviated "What does it mean to be a public official?" training, which focused on ethics and acting in a public trust capacity. The materials she referred to can be found in the meeting materials.

Overview of conflicts of interest

Lords then presented a brief training on conflicts of interest and public record. The materials she referred to can be found in the meeting materials.

Lord opened the floor for questions from the Task Force.

- Hoffman: What is the purpose of the phone number provided?
 - Lords: That phone number goes to the County Auditor's office. Somebody will always answer the phone. You can ask them any question you might have about an ethical situation and they will answer. However, ask before something happens.
- Lindsay: What makes me a public official?
 - Lords: You were not elected but were appointed by the board in the sense that you applied and went through selection process. You sent in your qualifications, the County chose you and they are carrying their responsibility down to you. You are acting in pursuit in County businesses.

Sherring noted that there are ups and downs when managing conflicts of interest. The group might be more interested in this as we move through this process. As we review the bridge options, we've got to get this right because of the significant investment in the study process. With something as important as earthquake readiness for the safety of our community, we need to do it right the first time. We will go through the process of declaring conflicts soon.

- Cooper: Does our tenure as a public official end when this Task Force ends?
 - Lord: Yes.
- Jensen: If after a meeting, I'm asking Ed what he thinks about this or that, can I delete that email out of my sent file or should I put that somewhere?
 - Lord: Yes, save it somewhere. That is a public record.

Sherring noted that in the charter, there is a suggestion in there that if you want to exchange emails, just CC the project team and it'll get saved in our project folders. The project staff will be doing record-keeping responsibilities anyway.

Lords noted that even as working relationships become casual, ask yourself if somebody took an excerpt of what I just said and published it in the newspaper, would I still say it? If not, don't write it.

- Eisenberg: If I'm at work and a coworker asks me about the project, do I need to record that as well?
 - Lords: Just discussing it verbally is OK. Public record just pertains to written documents.
- Lenzen: If we get together as a group after a meeting, does that count as a public meeting?
 - Lords: No, that does not meet the definition of a public meeting. But if you were to jot something down on a napkin, that napkin would now be considered public record.

Mike Pullen, Multnomah County, noted that half of the people the County recruited were chosen because they have a close connection to the bridge, have relevant experience, etc. Many members of the Task Force eventually have an economic interest in the bridge and the county wants to hear from them. Task Force members are asked to declare any potential or actual conflicts of interest.

Lords noted that the distinction of potential conflict is important. The bridge that runs right through the market will clearly impact the market. The member representing the market may have a potential conflict in a decision. But still share your thoughts. We all have biases.

Sherring shared that if there is an actual conflict, the charter allows that member to be excused from that part of the process. The member could also be part of the process for everything but voting at the end. It will become easier to declare a conflict as we get used to using this language. Paperwork will be sent out to the group to help identify conflicts.

- Jimmerson: If I am discussing this at a meeting for another committee, not one for a public entity, are those meeting notes now public record if I'm just updating that group on this project?
 - Lord: Most likely not, but there are a lot of pieces at play in that scenario.
- Rahe: If I speak about this project at another public meeting, are those minutes already public record and I don't have to record it myself?
 - Lord: That's ok.
- Graves: If a public records request were submitted and the County had to get emails from my personal email account, would they only capture relevant emails?
 - Lords: When we have a public records request, we go to IT. They narrow it down and get the relevant emails from a personal device.
 - Graves: Should I have a folder to keep all public record emails?
 - Lords: That is a great suggestion. I like the idea of CC'ing the project team, too.
- Hunt: If I had my email on my phone or computer and the emails are on an online server, can I delete the copy on my device because it's saved elsewhere?

- Lords: That is still a public record, an electronic copy of a written communication. Yes, you can delete that file since it's saved elsewhere.

Sherring announced that the charter will be adopted at the next meeting instead of this meeting. She asked the Task Force to send any edits to the document between now and next meeting. She said that the charter would be made available for online comment and that questions about the charter will be answered at the next meeting.

Project Overview

Background

Neill presented a project overview, referring to the PowerPoint found in the meeting materials.

Purpose and need

Catron presented the project overview portion of the presentation. She also reviewed the alternatives evaluation process.

Catron then opened the floor for questions from the Task Force.

- Cooper: When we evaluate the bridges, we are anticipating service life. Is there a service life under the current maintenance schedule? The bridge is 92 years old.
 - Neill: One example is the Brooklyn Bridge, which is even older. I can't anticipate anybody wanting to tear that down because it is old. You could keep an old bridge in service safely with a robust preventative maintenance program. If there was no seismic concern, we would likely not have a replacement plan. There is not a replacement plan for the Hawthorne or Broadway bridges, which are even older. There are constrained funds; the County can only do so much.
 - Cannon: It can be thought of like a car, you keep replacing the pieces, but at some point you wonder if it's worth keeping on doing that. Burnside still doesn't have some features of modern bridges. We weigh and balance that while looking at whether it's economically reasonable to keep pouring money into an old facility.
- Ed: I'd like to add a comment specifically about Fred's question about whether to do an enhanced retrofit instead of replacing it. It was designed for heavy loads and the streetcar in 1920s. It has a lot of load carrying capacity, it's wide, it has a large number of lanes and it fits a lot of traffic. It's got a lot of advantages over other bridges. Hawthorne was built for heavy loads, too.
 - Cooper: I agree with Ed.

Options overview

Steve Drahota, HDR, added to Neill and Cannon's response to Cooper's question by noting that all options have a 100-year lifespan and that the analysis process considered the maintenance costs over that 100-year period. He then presented the options overview portion of the presentation.

Drahota opened the floor for questions throughout his presentation.

- Jensen: In the enhanced seismic retrofit option, what parts can you keep? It sounds like a replacement.
 - Drahota: We would keep over 80 percent of the bridge in that scenario.
 - Jensen: Are the pilings on west side of bridge sitting on bedrock?
 - Drahota: It depends. In the river, timber piles go down into the earth, but not into bedrock. Away from river, the fittings are on much better material and are less at-risk.
 - Jensen: So, the ground won't turn to pudding?
 - Drahota: The middle of the bridge, the part that goes into the river, will be pudding, but the ground will be stronger on the ends. We can prevent the settlement that comes with soil liquifying.
- Graves: The fixed bridge could come east, but could it go farther west?
 - Drahota: We will get to that in next slide. The east side is higher than the west side, so the west side is the only variable.
 - Graves: With flexibility, it could go east a block or two, but could it slide west instead?
 - Drahota: That is addressed on the next slide.
- Timothy: With the enhanced seismic retrofit and replacement, are portions of the bridge able to remain open during construction?
 - Drahota: We are looking at construction and what it means for traffic. There are some graphics coming up in the presentation that might help illustrate that for you.
- Graves: You're setting the furthest west point at 5th Avenue, but that could come back a couple blocks, to be optimistic for historic district. Could it block less of them if it came east?
 - Drahota: We are setting the high point over the river and coming down at a 5% grade.
 - Graves: Would 7th Ave be the touchpoint if fixed?
 - Drahota: No, we don't expect to creep west to 7th Avenue. It is haunched at the structure depth. If anything, it would slide further east from 5th Avenue.
- Cooper: With a fixed bridge, would we consider shifting the navigation channel east?
 - Drahota: We haven't yet, but we have had that question come up. We must think of the river in context of the other spans. We probably won't shift the navigation channel.

September Outreach

What we heard

Cassie Davis, HDR, presented the "What we heard" portion of the presentation, referring to the PowerPoint found in the meeting materials.

Davis then opened the floor for questions from the Task Force.

- S. Wortman: Will you hold more open houses?
 - Davis: Yes, we will talk about our approach with in-person outreach. We want to conduct targeted conversations instead of 'come one, come all'. We will use working groups and the like. We are finding ways to partner with or table at existing events like Design Week Portland, neighborhood association events, etc. We understand some people prefer in-person conversations.
 - S. Wortman: Can we suggest where the open houses are held?

- Sherring: Yes, that will be part of this group’s discussion. In the future, a key role and purpose for this group is to assist in strengthening the public outreach efforts.
- Lindsay: The approach in the video talked about a downtown bridge, but what about the Tilikum?
 - Catron: The Tilikum Bridge itself was designed to be seismically resilient, but the approaches on land, due to cost and potential liquefaction, weren’t designed to the same standard. That bridge will need to be inspected before that bridge would be operable after an earthquake.
 - Megan: There are concerns about the Tilikum. We looked at it as another crossing. However, there are numerous I-405 overpasses that are vulnerable to collapse that would prevent access to the bridge on the west side. It’s also just two lanes wide. Think of the amount of traffic that crosses the river today, and then narrow down to just two lanes. That was a disadvantage to using the Tilikum. It’s also hard to get to in general as it’s not connected to a major route.

Environmental Review Phase Kickoff

Overview and milestones

Catron and Heilman presented the environmental review kickoff, referring to the PowerPoint found in the meeting materials.

Study topics – what else should we be thinking about?

Heilman then presented the study topics portion of the presentation.

He opened the floor for questions.

- Lindsay: Is this Task Force all done before the final Environmental Impact Statement? Where do we end up?
 - Catron: We are committing this group to going through our Record of Decision in Q2 2021.

Heilman asked the Task Force to review the list of study topics and provide any feedback to the project team by November 15.

Public Comment

No public comments were made.

Next Steps and Reflections

Sherring acknowledged how much work has been put into this project so far and that the Task Force has a significant amount of material to study in front of them. She said there is still so much to go. She shared that interim correspondence between now and the next meeting will come from Mike Pullen.

Key requests of the Task Force include:

- Provide feedback on any of the materials we handed out to you today by November 1.
- Review and provide any feedback on the Draft Feasibility Report Executive summary by November 1.

- Review and provide any feedback on the Draft Purpose and Need statement by November 1.
- Review and Provide feedback on study topics by November 15.
- Review the copy of the Task Force charter and provide any comments you might have.
- Fill out and return the conflict of interest form.

Sherring thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting.