

# Multnomah County Bicycle and Pedestrian Community Advisory Committee *Meeting Minutes*

Jan 14, 2026 6:00 PM

## Members Present:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Andrew Holtz, BPCAC Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> John Russell       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dean Derek                | <input type="checkbox"/> Valerie Schiller   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joel Huffman              | <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Thomas      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Megan Moser               | <input type="checkbox"/> AJ Zelada          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greg Olson                | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Rubenstein |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Art Graves         |

## BPCAC Staff Present (Multnomah County):

- MaryJo Andersen
- Allison Boyd
- Eve Nilenders
- Summer Cook (Consultant)

## Guest Speakers Present:

- [First and last name], [Organization representing, i.e. "Trimet"]

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Land Acknowledgement

Introductions

(10 minutes).....6:00 pm

Summer Cook, a consultant with Zan Associates providing administrative support to Multnomah County, introduced herself as the evening's Zoom support. MaryJo Andersen then introduced Valerie Schiller, who stepped in to chair the meeting for the evening. Valerie, a teacher and coach at Reynolds High School residing in Gresham, officially opened the session.

**2. Opportunity for Public Comment**

(5 minutes if submitted).....6:10 pm

Valerie Schiller noted that no public comments had been submitted prior to the meeting. She opened the floor for any spontaneous comments from attendees, but none were shared.

**3. Chair Report - Andrew Holtz, BPCAC**

(5 minutes).....6:15 pm

Valerie reported that there were no comments from the regular chair, Andrew Holtz, for this session.

**4. Review and Adoption of December 2025 Meeting Minutes - All (Action Item)**

(5 minutes).....6:20 pm

The committee reviewed the meeting minutes from December 2025. Joel Huffman moved to approve the minutes, and Bob Thomas provided the second. While Megan Moser and Valerie Schiller abstained because they were not present at the previous meeting, Valerie noted a majority were in favor, and the motion passed.

5. **Safety Update - MaryJo Andersen, Multnomah County**

(10 minutes).....6:25 pm

MaryJo Andersen presented the fatality report provided by Metro for December. The report indicated 13 total traffic fatalities in the Tri-County area, including 7 pedestrians and 6 individuals in vehicles. She highlighted that many victims were aged 40 or older and noted a single-vehicle crash on Sauvie Island. MaryJo also announced that the Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP) would be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for support the following morning, with subsequent presentations scheduled for Fairview and Troutdale. Additionally, she noted that "Safe Routes to School" programs are heavily booked for the spring with bike and pedestrian safety lessons.

6. **Road to Zero Grant Letter Support, Nsilo Berry, Multnomah County Health Department**

(20 minutes).....6:35 pm

Nsilo Berry from the Multnomah County Health Department requested a letter of support for a community safety grant through the Road to Zero program. The grant, ranging from \$150,000 to \$200,000, aims to reduce DUII crashes in East Multnomah County through community-driven strategies and data evaluation in partnership with Portland State University. Committee members suggested several edits to the draft letter, including clarifying that committee members often serve longer than a single two-year term and removing language that could be interpreted as "victim-blaming" toward pedestrians. Following these revisions, Joel Huffman moved to approve the letter, John Russell seconded, and the motion passed.

7. **Stark Street Bridge BUILD Grant Letter of Support, Megan Neill, Multnomah County**

(15 minutes).....6:55 pm

Megan Neill presented the Stark Street Bridge Replacement Project, noting the 110-year-old bridge has a low sufficiency rating of 25 out of 100 due to deterioration and narrow geometry. The county is seeking a \$5 million USDOT grant to fund a significant portion of the \$6 million design phase. Discussion touched on the complexities of replacing a structure that is a contributing resource to a National Historic Landmark district and the potential impacts on nearby small businesses. Bob Thomas moved to support the grant application, Joel Huffman seconded, and the committee voted in favor of the motion.

**8. Safer Sandy, Arini Farrell, Multnomah County**

(20 minutes).....7:10 pm

Arini Farrell and Marisol Cervantes provided an update on the Safer Sandy project, which focuses on Sandy Boulevard from 201st to 230th. They reported that "Option A"—featuring separated bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides—was the preferred choice for the majority of the nearly 500 survey respondents. Residents expressed a strong preference for separation over multi-use paths due to concerns about the speed of e-bikes. The project will enter its third phase of engagement on January 20th to prioritize specific segments and amenities as they move toward the engineering phase.

**9. Staff Updates - MaryJo Andersen, Multnomah County**

(10 minutes).....7:30 pm

MaryJo Andersen informed the committee that she would be sending out a survey to help schedule informational presentations and project inputs for 2026. She also highlighted proposed TriMet service changes, including the potential cut of Line 82 in Gresham due to low ridership and changes to the Max Green Line, which may soon terminate at Gateway rather than continuing downtown.

**10. Open Share/Project Updates/Other Business - All**

(5 minutes).....7:40 pm

During the "good of the order" segment, Valerie Schiller shared that she is running for a position within the state teachers' union and provided her website for those interested in education or union issues.

**Action Items and Resources:**

- Committee members should look out for an email from MaryJo with a survey to help schedule informational presentations and project inputs for 2026.

**Next BPCAC Meeting:** Mar 11, 2026 6:00 PM