

ACHIEVE Coalition Meeting Notes

October 1, 2025



Forest Park & Washington Park Community Connector Shuttle

- Pilot program is funded via a \$200,000 grant from ODOT
- It will operate on weekends, starting in the summer of 2026 and will service neighborhoods in North, Northeast, and East Portland.
- Initiative is also exploring the possibility of a docent program within the parks that hires youth.
- Note: Forest Park is 5200 acres, the size of the island of Manhattan, and is one mile wide and eight miles long. It has eighty miles of trails.
- The shuttle program aims to increase access to underserved communities.
- Challenges include constraints such as parking lot sizes for set stops in the parks around the downtown area.
- The current phase of this project is currently exploring shuttle stops and routes.
- Project will be seeking feedback on:
 - Time and schedule: more days less frequent running times vs less days and more frequent running times throughout the day
 - Pick up/drop off locations
- There are four ADA accessible stops.
- Some of the Forest Park stops are not ADA accessible, but may be used by people with adaptive devices.

Future Request Feedback:

- What shuttle stops make sense to you?
- What stops are accessible?
- Are Trimet stops useful for connecting?
 - Yes
- Timing, duration, and frequency of the service
- Fixed shuttle service vs. fluid shuttle service (timing of the shuttle)
- What time do you want the shuttle to start and stop?
- What times of activities do you want to see?
 - Organized Hikes
 - Bird Watching
 - Affinity Walks
 - Nature Walks and Plant Identification

Questions:

- Q: Will forest rangers be deployed (as part of public safety)?

- A: The ranger force is small. Will request that we get some rangers to be on alert, at least preliminarily. Rangers are always in the park. There is also a ranger number you can call to request a ranger come to your site, if you feel uncomfortable with the current situation.
- Q: Who is the target audience for this shuttle?
 - A: Meant to serve Portlanders living in N, NE, and E Portland, and those experiencing transit segregation
- Q: How can county become involved via contracts:
 - A: Most of the grant will be used to fund the contractor who will be running the shuttle. Workforce development including getting people trained as docents.
- Q: What will the promotion strategy be for the shuttle?
 - A: We do not have a promotion strategy yet, but we will continue to leverage our community partnerships. We hope to raise the profile of the shuttle and get additional funding from the city (and other funding sources) to help with this. The goal is to see if Trimet will take over the shuttle portion.
- Q: Has a shuttle vehicle been identified?
 - A: Not yet. Ideally, we would get a small Trimet-type bus. Will have to assume the cost for the driver.
 - Suggestion: Work with community orgs and the county who may be able to provide a vehicle.
- Q: Are you working with Forest Park Conservancy and the Portland Bird Alliance?
 - A: Yes. We are continuing to have meetings with community partners and Malcolm and Liv can come out to meetings, if you would like them to speak about the shuttle
- Q: Is Metro involved with this project?
 - A: No, not at this time.
- Malcolm and Liv's Contact Information:

Vital Records Information & Ordering Vital Records Online | Orlando Zurita-Rodriguez,
Program Supervisor, Vital Records

- Implemented online ordering for vital records in July 2025
- Vital records program registers all birth and death records that occur within 6 months of the event, within Multnomah County.
- State of Oregon Program via the [Oregon Health Authority](#): vital statistics division has records going back 100 years, including birth, death, marriage, domestic

partnership and divorce and dissolution of domestic partnership records among others.

- MultCo Vital Records has upgraded their system to use Salesforce.
- You can request birth and death records, online at:
multco.us/services/birth-and-death-certificates
- You can also access the ordering site via the QR code:



- There are unique requirements for birth and death records
- Long form and short form death certificates available
 - Long form includes the cause of death.
 - Long forms are requested for insurance purposes, mainly
- Cost: \$25 for each type of certificate + a \$7 processing fee (verify)
- Online ordering requires the last 4 digits of the individual's Social Security number. If people don't feel comfortable sharing the last 4 digits of the SSN, they can come into the vital records office to get the certificate.
- County vital records has a faster turnaround time than the state.
- The state charges \$50 for records, vs. \$25 at the County.
- Contact: Orlando.zurita-rodriquez@multco.us or vitals@multco.us

Q&A

- Q: Do you have security measures in place?
 - A: Our registrars go through rigorous training before they can process birth and death certificates. Staff are subject matter experts with tenure in their positions.
 - There is a three-point verification process before a certificate is sent out.
- Q: Are vital records public records, or protected by HIPAA?
 - A: They are private. Those requesting records have to meet eligibility requirements.
- Q: Can the certificate fee ever be waived?

- A: We can waive the fee for houseless individuals. The state handles these requests.
- Q: Is there an option to get both hard and electronic copies? Does the hard copy have a watermark?
 - No electronic copies, only certified copies. A unique type of paper is used for printing the certificates (to prevent fraud and for authenticity)
- Q: What security measures are in place with the online ordering system?
 - The County's IT department has security measures in place and they collaborate with OHA on security measures.
- Q: If I am not born in Multnomah county, do I have to go to the state for my birth certificate?
 - Yes.
 - For anyone born/died outside of Multnomah county, the state vital records office can provide the appropriate certificate.

Dementia Friendly Walks | Anita Thompson

- Anita is a dementia friendly volunteer/advocate that leads moving support groups for dementia caregivers and people experiencing dementia.
- She is also a volunteer with OHA in the dementia space.
- The walks provide socialization and physical activity opportunities.
- The goal is to get more people from Black/Brown communities involved.
- 170,000 people in the state of Oregon are providing unpaid support, as caregivers.
- In 2020, 79,000 people in Oregon were experiencing dementia, and this number is expected to grow.
- Black people are 45% more likely to get dementia vs. whites.
- The new walking group will be oriented to the Black community.
 - Need to promote this group within the Black community
 - Need to decide the frequency of the walks
 - Need volunteers to lead the walks
 - Looking for sponsorships
- Walks are every Wednesday.
- Dementia can be prevented with lifestyle choices, including physical activity.
- Contact Information: Anita Thompson, Volunteer Dementia-friendly Advocate, 206-324-8670, franzs2008@yahoo.com

Q&A

- Q: Where are you walking now?

- A: In parks. They are a safe space.
- Walks start at 10:30 and last an hour. We have a walk leader and volunteers (in the middle and at the end of the group). The group organizes itself via the speed they walk.
- Q: Are you looking to get more people to join the walk or expand to include more walks? What are the next steps to create more walk opportunities?
 - Those interested can connect with Anita directly. She's open to having other community partners join.
- Q: Do you have a walking group in Vancouver, WA?
 - A: No, but there is a dementia support group in Vancouver who does walks in Clark County.

PHP and REACH Updates | Charlene McGee

- Amina Sheik-Wali had her baby and is out on leave. She is doing well.
- Stephanie Blume is the REACH WOC supervisor now
- As of 9p on 9/30/25 the federal government has shut down
- The REACH CDC project officer is not working during this shut down
- Don't know how long the shut down will last (during the last Trump administration, the government shut down lasted for 35 days)
- REACH has received its notice of award for year 3 of the grant.
 - With the year 3 funding, the vaccination strategy has been eliminated, which includes a reduction in resources (approximately 300K - 400K)
 - Reduction in partner contracts will be necessary because of this.
- PHP will be reapplying for funding and applying for new funding
- Some grants we will not be applying for have stipulations that we work with ICE and provide ICE access to our data.
- We are looking at creative ways to apply for funding.
- Multnomah County is reporting 9 quarters of job losses. This may lead to a financial emergency and will impact our general funds.
- We don't know what we will need to do to plan for FY 27, but it will be challenging.
- Charlene encouraged people to take time to find what brings you joy and also spend time outside, during these difficult times.

Upstream Health: Presentation on Health Impacts Conference

- Will speak at the November ACHIEVE Coalition meeting.

SNAP Changes | Annie Kirschner

ACHIEVE Coalition Meeting Notes



- All SNAP cuts are now being implemented (as of October 2) because of the “Big Beautiful Bill” passing.
- Changes will impact primarily elders and adolescents.
- Refugees and people seeking asylum will not be eligible for SNAP benefits.
- Annie Kirschner will be sharing more information on these updates, soon and a flyer with updates was offered during the meeting.
- Please look out for a separate email about SNAP changes.