



Findings Memo for Multnomah County Bicycle and Pedestrian Community Advisory Committee



Currently

The Multnomah County Bicycle and Pedestrian Community Advisory Committee represents citizens of Multnomah County regarding bicycle and pedestrian issues.

The committee is made up of citizens from around the county with a strong interest in bicycle and pedestrian issues.

Members are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners and serve a two-year term.

The committee advises the Board of County Commissioners and Transportation Division on matters involving bicycle and pedestrian transportation within the County's road jurisdiction.



What did we do?



Peer Jurisdiction Research

Looked at 9 cities/counties from Oregon and Washington

Findings:

- Appointed by governmental official through an application process.
- Between 6-15 members.
- Two- or three-year term.
- Youth, elderly, and transit-dependent viewpoints were under-Represented on most committees.
- Met monthly; however, several chose to meet as needed, quarterly or bimonthly.
- Many rely on consensus or simple majority to make decisions; only two formally implemented Robert's Rules per their bylaws.
- Committees with the highest level of influence worked on plans and projects to provide technical guidance to plan development.
- Most were advisory bodies to Council.

Interviews / Focus Groups

Interviewed 28 people during 6 sessions

County staff; Committee members; local city staff

Member findings:

- Want to represent the diverseness of Multnomah County in race, sex/gender, age, and socioeconomic level
- Need to diversify interests and level of specialty such as amateur cyclists, accessibility and ADA requirements.
- Limited data collection to understand the committee demographics and structure
- Purpose not feel clear and don't feel that the group has influence over outcomes
- Like activities outside the traditional meetings.
- Meetings need to stick more closely to the committee rules and have a stronger commitment to staying on topic.
- Need more staff support (to answer questions, moderate conversations, and prepare resources).
- Meeting format was important; mixed views on in-person vs virtual or monthly vs less frequent meetings.



What's next?



Recommendations Memo

Collect your input tonight to make sure we didn't miss anything....

Then we'll develop a range of alternatives to help address the issues from the Findings Memo, including some ideas that were suggested in the interviews and research.

We'll come back to you for your review and input in the Recommendations Memo later this fall.