

**City of Portland
Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

**Summary Meeting Notes
October 16, 2007**

Committee Members

David Aulwes
Jim Conklin
Ali Corbin*
Kim Cottrell
Karen Girard
Erin Kelley*
Doug Klotz*
Jess Laventall*
Rod Merrick*
Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara*
Bob Robison
Matt Whitney
Rod Yoder

***Indicates committee members in attendance.**

Staff

April Bertelsen, PDOT
Caitlin McCollum, PDOT

Guests

Basil Christopher
Pete Colt

Announcements & Committee Business

- The Columbia River Crossing project is hosting two open houses to provide the public with information on the project. Rod M. announced that there is a possibility pedestrian and bicycle facilities will be under the roadway. The group had some discussion about this and there was mention that there is a pedestrian and bicycle tunnel in Seattle that actually works well. It may be appropriate for CRC staff to give a presentation to the committee.
- Several committee members attended the open house for the Milwaukie light rail project. It faces similar issues that the I-205 light rail faced (in terms of connectivity to other transit options, station placement, etc.).
- December meeting – There was a suggestion to hold a joint meeting with the BAC in December. There are various topics and projects that affect both (light rail, CRC, Sellwood Bridge). Committee members present seemed open to the idea. If there are any presentations, the focus should be on bike and pedestrian issues. It was noted that sometimes it is difficult to be productive in such a large group.

New Pedestrian Coordinator

April announced that she has been permanently appointed as the Pedestrian Coordinator. She hopes to

have a future conversation about the position, and pedestrian planning/policy in general. She welcomes any feedback and ideas from the committee. Rod M. suggested looking into the possibility of a facilitator for that discussion, to help with goal development.

The group had a brief discussion about this. One main topic was collaboration with other City bureaus, particularly BES. Sometimes swales and green streets come at the expense of a sidewalk. The pedestrian environment can be preserved while keeping it green.

April would also like to update the Pedestrian Design Guidelines.

“I brake for people” Campaign

The “I brake for people” outreach campaign will kick off with a media event on Monday, October 22 at Vestal Elementary School. The event will feature a living billboard, where people will dress up as the brightly-colored people in the bumper sticker and stand in front of a black background. Both Ali and Erin plan on attending and are willing to dress up and be painted.

Ali commented that the event and campaign has received coverage on the blog bikeportland.org and the responses from readers have been positive; many want bike-sized stickers.

PDOT will also need help with distributing the stickers.

Small Pedestrian Projects

April has \$50,000 in her (Pedestrian Coordinator) budget each year for various projects that are small in budget and scope and that might not otherwise be funded. The projects are often requested by citizens or other City staff. April passed out a sheet that detailed the projects completed last fiscal year (2006-07) and what projects are planned for construction this year.

There was one project scheduled for last year that was not completed – SW 30th and Barbur. It will be completed this year. The money allocated for it went to make a crosswalk in Linnton.

The committee reviewed and discussed some of the projects in this fiscal year:

Community Transition Center Campus (Green Thumb School) SE 60th, Duke to Flavel

This project initially started out as a curb ramp request. However, it was apparent that there were several gaps and the route to get to the school was difficult. The project will construct sidewalk gap and curb ramps for ADA accessible route to the school.

SE Powell and 98th Avenue

There is a gap in the sidewalk (just before it ends) that is right next to the bus stop. This project brought a discussion about Powell between 92nd and 122nd and the pedestrian (and other) concerns for that section of the corridor.

SW Trails

\$10,000 is set aside for the SW Trails group, but it has not all been requested yet. Money usually goes to trail construction and signage. There was quite a bit of discussion among the group about funding a primarily recreational trail with transportation dollars. It was also suggested that some signage indicating where public right of ways are would be helpful not only in southwest, but all areas of the city. (Areas not obviously public or part of a street network, but nonetheless walkable – e.g. stairs).

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.