

City of Portland - Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI)
Bureau/Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) Summary Notes
November 18, 2013

In Attendance:

Christina Albo (Resolutions NW), Richard Bixby (EPNO), Sylvia Bogert (SWNI), April Burris (Community Member), Jan Campbell (Portland Commission on Disability), Lew Church (Portland State), Shoshana Cohen (NECN), Anne Dufay (SEUL), Leslie Foren (Elders in Action), Duncan Hwang (APANO), Kayse Jama (CIO), Moshe Lenske (Woodstock NA), Marianna Lomanto (CIO), Mary Loos (Downtown NA), Jane Netboy (Goose Hollow), Rick Paul (Pleasant Valley NA), Nancy Ramirez-Arriaga (Latino Network), Victor Salinas (Latino Network), Angela Southwick (NWNW), Anna Volkova (Russian Speaking Network).

ONI Staff: Amalia Alarcon de Morris (ONI Director) Amy Archer (Livability/Operations), Michael Boyer (Crime Prevention), Nickole Cheron (CNIC/Disability), Kathy Couch (Livability – Noise/Liquor), Brian Hoop (CNIC), Stephanie Reynolds (Crime Prevention), Mary Schneider (Crime Prevention), Teresa Solano (I&R), Paul van Orden (Livability-Noise Control).

Other/Council Offices: Mayor Charlie Hales, Chad Stover (Mayor's Office)

Welcome and Introductions

Opening Comments from Mayor Charlie Hales

Mayor Charlie Hales attended the budget kick-off meeting to welcome participants and thank them for the participation in developing ONI's budget. Following is a brief summary of additional comments regarding the budget from his perspective:

- This is a different budget process this year. It has been a down draft since 2008 recession. We have weathered the storm and reduced the size of the City budget to manage within actual resources.
- The plan for this year's budget is to hold the line and continue to do what we did last year. There will be opportunity to consider some enhanced services but will only be able to do a few of those.
- We lost things over the years of cuts that we may want back so BAC's should not be bashful about requesting restorations but there will be a very thin layer to spread across the entire City budget so it will be for the highest priorities.
- Enterprise bureaus like Water and the Bureau of Environmental Services will be going through a different process than general fund bureaus, but they too are trying to control spending and avoid rate increases.
- There are some areas of the budget that need revenue such as Parks where there has been underspending historically and some neighborhoods have not received enhancements. He will be working with Commissioner Fritz to figure out how to fund capital and maintenance needs to address these issues.
- Similar issues face Transportation where we are behind the curve with maintenance and unpaved roads. He will be working with Commissioner Novick

to figure out funding to address these issues.

- He is always interested in identifying ways to use money more effectively. The Innovation Fund was created with one-time funding to provide opportunities to use funds to achieve long term efficiencies. He is meeting with Andrew Scott (Director of the City Budget Office) to discuss how the fund will work.
- He is looking forward to a budget with less drama than the significant cuts required in his first round of budget as Mayor.
- In response to an inquiry about the Office of Management and Finance (OMF), the Mayor stated that he is currently looking at OMF and completing an evaluation of the organization of services. There may be some actions that come as a result. The budgeting department that was formerly under OMF was made by Council into a separate City Budget Office. This provides a greater opportunity for an evaluation of the financial super structure and check of effectiveness.
- A member of the BAC stated that the Diversity and Civic Leadership Program was added as an innovative new program but was not a one-time project. ONI reallocated budget in subsequent years to make it an ongoing program and have almost cleaned it up. In response to an inquiry about whether there will be guidance for add packages:
 - The Mayor advocates that the City practice honesty in budgeting. If a program is an ongoing program then it should be declared as such. He does not want to see the City get back into the situation it was in previously where we cobble together one-time funding to keep ongoing programs going.
- He plans to work on the grey areas between services paid by the City and County jointly and sort out what each should be doing.
- He hopes the budget can be understandable to a broader audience. The last process had a robust public process and testimony.
- Council recently had presentations from a Demographer on who is Portland today that demonstrated a population that is more diverse, younger and more college educated. It also looked at what is happening to work in Portland. There was also an update from Adam Davis on the Oregon values and beliefs survey that included both a statewide and Portland sample. The survey included interesting questions about trade-offs and generally showed some pretty consistent values statewide, with Portland more passionate in certain areas. The content of the presentations he referenced are available at:
 - Portland Jobs Analysis – Powerpoint presentation
<http://www.portlandonline.com/fritz/index.cfm?c=49205&a=469776>
 - Portland Today – Council Work session slides
<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/cbo/article/469390>
 - Job Polarization Study
<http://oregoneconomicanalysis.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/oregon-job-polarization.pdf>
 - Oregon Opinions Survey 2013
<http://www.portlandonline.com/fritz/index.cfm?c=49205&a=469734>
- A BAC member stated that ADA/Title VI accommodations can be costly with materials translation, interpretation services, etc. In response to the

statement/inquiry he stated that there is a workgroup across bureaus that is evaluating the implementation. He is not sure how it will translate into budget, but recognizes there are cost implications.

- A BAC member inquired about any insights related to small grants. He suggested that it is something that should be requested in the budget and explain why it is a priority. He stated that it is a relatively small ask and an ongoing expense so this is a good budget to propose it. He suggested that including information about how the dollars are leveraged is valuable information to include.
- He gave congratulations to managers that have been responsive to the direction to keep spending down and that has created a surplus that provided opportunity to pay down some debt and thus create some revenues that can be requested in this budget.

Networking/Partner Building Exercise

The BAC participants spent some time in dyads/small groups interacting and learning about each other and their programs. No detailed notes are available for the exercise.

Budget Orientation

Amy Archer provided an overview of the City and ONI budget process. The slides from the presentation are available online at

<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/oni/article/470126> or hard copy was provided in the budget binders distributed and is also available upon request. A video of a similar presentation from a prior year is available online at <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/oni/budget>.

Future Agenda items:

- Program Overviews/updates
- Identify and discuss gaps in Five Year Plan for Increasing Community Involvement
- Priorities for 1-2 years if increase ongoing funding
- Priorities for 1-2 years in increase one-time funding

Next Meeting: Monday, December 9, 2013, 5:30pm-8:30pm, Portland Building Room C, 1120 SW 5th Ave, Portland OR 97201