

City of Portland  
**Pedestrian Advisory Committee**



**notes**

**Tuesday, June 16, 2015**

**7:00 – 9:00 PM**

**Portland Building, 1120 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Hawthorne Room**

<b>Committee Members:</b>	<b>Alternate Members:</b>
Roger Averbeck* Don Baack* Chase Ballew* Anthony Buczek David Crout* Marianne Fitzgerald Rebecca Hamilton* Arlene Kimura* Doug Klotz* Scott Kocher* Rod Merrick* Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara* Eve Nilenders Suzanne Stahl*	Lillian Karabaic Erin Kelley

*\* Indicates committee members in attendance*

**Bureau of Transportation Staff:**

Sara Schooley  
Alexis Kelso  
Mark Lear  
Shoshana Cohen

**7:00-7:30 Introductions, Announcements, Hot Topics**

- Streetcar Tour: Thursday, June 25 @ 10:30am (meet at SW 3<sup>rd</sup> and Harrison) (Sara)
  - Don would like to attend.
- TriMet Orange Line Tour: July 14th @ noon (South Waterfront / SW Moody Ave station) (Sara)
  - Arlene would like to attend. Suzanne is interested, and wants to know how much walking is involved.
- Parking Symposium – Monday, June 29th from 1-6pm (Sara)
  - Remember to RSVP if attending.
- Community-Initiated Neighborhood Trails Process (Rebecca)

- Rebecca, Roger, and Sara looking into bylaws to see if/how to accommodate Don's request for a fact-finding hearing regarding the CINTP.
    - (Don) – This issue has huge impact on pedestrianism across the city. It needs to be understood in terms of what it means for how we're running things at the city. (Passes around handout – letter to the editor.) If we need to change the bylaws to accommodate this, we should.
  - (Rod) – Not clear what a hearing would mean.
    - (Don) – We need to understand the consequences of this policy. I don't think that's clear to many members of the PAC. Idea for hearing is that Sara would present 30 minutes of the problem she's trying to solve. People for and against the policy would present with goal of trying to inform the PAC of the consequences.
  - (Doug) – Concerned about areas where PBOT is allowing people to block the ROW.
    - (Sara) – If interested, please read the process. There are some things that are outside the process, such as concern about encroachments permits.
  - (Arlene) – This process is not applicable to most of East Portland because don't have the kinds of ROW SW does. In East Portland, the problem is with parking where people walk or in parks.
  - (Rod) – Why request for delay to Council?
    - (Don) – Because four days ago the draft was changed to exclude neighborhood associations from approving trails. In SW, this basically shuts down trail-building. Holding the Council hearing in October would allow neighborhood associations, who are not meeting over summer, to review in September. SWNI transportation committee has already said they want it delayed until October.
    - (Chase) – Have neighborhood associations generally been supportive or opposed to trails?
      - (Don) – Only one neighborhood association has ever opposed trail building.
  - Don motions to write a letter to Council to defer hearing to October. Doug seconds. Motion passes.
  - Follow up: Rebecca and Sara will work on how the PAC can best address these various concerns.
- PAC Annual Walk (Rebecca)
    - Any suggestions for our summer walk?
      - Powell.
      - Foster. Because Foster Plan has been approved.
      - Both?
    - When? August last year, but it could be any time.
    - What do people want to see?
      - Foster might be more interesting than Powell.
    - Follow up: Sara to draft route.
  - Recruitment committee interest for recruiting new PAC members (Sara)
    - (Rod) – Will we have a criteria again? A: Yes.

- (Arlene) – Criteria should include something about being not primarily a car driver. It’s not that you need to walk everywhere, you just need to be willing to look at other modes of transportation.
  - Suzanne, David, Chase will form the committee.
  - (Rod) – Feel that a chair should be involved.
    - (Roger) – They weren’t last year. The subcommittee worked closely with staff.
- Other announcements
  - (Rod) - ODOT has a safety project. They’re putting RRFBs at 24th, 30th, 34<sup>th</sup>, and a HAWK signal at 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - (Rebecca) –Interest in letter to City re: recent pedestrian crashes?
    - Yes, people are interested.

### **7:30 – 7:45 Review of PAC Code of Conduct (Sara)**

- Review (5 minutes)
- What are you going to focus on or hope the PAC will remember tonight? Each meeting attendee responds.
- (Rod) – Don’t agree that we should always clap.
- (Doug) – Don’t agree that we should focus only on questions presenters are asking if their questions are steering the discussion away from more important considerations.

### **7:45 – 8:50 Funding Discussion/Grants (Mark Lear & Shoshana Cohen)**

- Purpose of presentation:
  - PBOT wants to provide policy input (at state and regional level) and project input. PAC can guide this input.
  - PAC can help identify potential projects for grant applications.
- Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
  - Identifies schedule of funding for projects and programs that require state or federal oversight.
  - Covers a four year period, but is updated every 2 years. Currently doing 2018-2021.
  - Decision making at the July Oregon Transportation Commission in July 16 & 17. They make decisions about how much funding is available and for which types of projects.
  - Two types of funds:
    - Fix-it: last time about 75% of funds. Maintain ODOT systems, primarily. But about 8% is HSIP/ARTS which focuses on safety improvements – “hot spots” and “systemic” problems – to any road, regardless of jurisdiction (“jurisdictionally-blind”). This (allowing safety improvements where they are really needed) is a big change in policy and very data-driven.
      - Preservation dollars are allocated on per mile basis.
      - Safety dollars are allocated on concentration of crashes.
      - PBOT thinks this same allocation should apply within a region (ie, if 60% of region’s roadways are in City, City should get 60% of funds). But ODOT wants as much as possible to go to their roads.

- (Chase): Is there a way to adjust for unreported crashes? A: It balances itself out with reported crashes. Another thing this committee might want to look at is allocated funding based on percentage of crashes by mode.
  - (Don): If hot-spots are points and systemic are line, are they the same as high-crash corridors? A: There has been a ranking of cost-benefit. Could link funding sources. C: Could look at insurance data.
  - (Roger): What is the ask of the PAC? A: We haven't gotten there yet, but it's that if you're interested, you should weigh-in on policy to OTC and Metro.
  - (Arlene): Can STIP be used with system development charge? A: We're hoping to link them, mostly through the enhance funds.
  - (Doug): Is the 8% of HSIP/ARTS 8% of the 75%? A: It's complicated.
  - (Rod): What is the interface with OTC? There's only five people making these decisions, so how does that work? A: Art went to their last meeting. We'll get into it more later in the presentation.
    - Enhance: last time about 25% of funds. Projects that enhance, expand, or improve the ODOT system. Likely will decrease this year.
- Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP)
  - MTIP/Regional Flexible Funds
    - Primary PBOT source for ped/bike/transit projects.
      - Step 1: Regional Projects and Program Areas – TOD, RTO, etc.
      - Step 2: 75% to active transportation, 25% to green economy/freight
    - There's a lot of discussion about how to fund SRTS.
    - Public Input will be done in July/August.
    - Project applications due early 2016.
- MTIP and STIP Policy Guidance
  - PBOT is thinking about what they want policy guidance to be.
    - Outcomes: Safety, Equity, Economy/Efficiency
    - Guiding Plans: Climate Smart Strategy, Active Transportation Plan, Regional Transportation Safety Plan
    - (Rod): We have an ATP? A: Metro does.
    - (Elizabeth): On economy/efficiency, it's usually about moving freight. But, you could quantify the cost of pedestrian injuries. A: Good idea. Congestion is usually a measure of efficiency, but with current thinking, congestion is not necessarily a bad thing, so there should be different ways to make data-driven decisions.
    - (Doug): Where's Vision Zero in this? A: Safety. You could add priority of safety in a letter.
    - (Arlene): Will this presentation be posted online? A: Yes.
    - (Suzanne): Could Comp Plan be added to guiding plans? A: Yes.
    - (Roger): Need more than one-word outcomes to understand what they mean and if they're being achieved. A: Yes, we can do some of that, but it's hard because we're changing scales. C: From experience, criteria needs to be clear.

- (Don): Does STIP include state and federal dollars? A: Yes. C: Health should be an outcome.
- ODOT Fix-It/Enhance
  - Enhance will have less money this round. Probably 13% of total. PBOT concerned because relies on enhance funding. ODOT has responded by saying will try to fix problems through Fix-It funds with more discretionary money from the OTC.
  - (Rod): Where is the discretionary money coming from? A: There could be a new category? Or fix-it funds could be more discretionary?
  - PAC Input potential:
    - Higher level of local/regional involvement in STIP policy
    - Safety – get the best projects from the fix it safety money through local input
    - Leverage fix it funds
    - Equity – maintaining the system vs expanding the system
    - Prepare for jurisdictional transfer
- MTIP/RRF
  - Last week, Metro Council put out some policy recommendations. (Three minutes to review handout.)
  - “For Every Kid” – campaign to do policy development around SRTS. Metro going to have open house on SRTS on June 22. Question of how to expand and support SRTS without compromising other programs.
  - Considering TriMet and ODOT to apply directly to regional funds, which hasn’t been done before. Wondering how to support big projects and still have money for smaller projects.
- List of projects is what the PAC identified and presenters have identified if it’s made it to the PBOT draft list of projects to find funds for. (Handout)
- (Roger): Will you come back in July? A: We could. Q: Clearly we need to hit this again. We need to understand the timelines for when PBOT will submit applications, what the total grant ask would be (and other funding sources), and focused time to prioritize projects. A: There is time to do that.
- (Rod): It might be useful to have a budget-focused subcommittee rather than doing this as a whole group. To do this effectively will take another whole meeting.
  - (Rebecca) Is there interest from others in doing subcommittee? A: Yes, with caveat that decision needs to be brought back to whole committee.
  - Maybe interested: **Rod (lead)**, Don, Roger, Suzanne, Elizabeth.