

The Oregonian

Portland Inches Closer to Catching Rogue Airbnb Listings

By Gordon Friedman

November 19, 2018

The city of Portland is close to finalizing a data-sharing agreement with Airbnb the official in charge of negotiations said Monday, months after auditors blamed the lack of data for the city's trouble regulating short-term rentals.

Auditors indicated in July that reaching such an agreement is key to ensuring all Airbnb rentals comply with city permitting rules and pay all lodging taxes owed. Data access would also bolster enforcement of rules stating short-term rental hosts must be the primary resident of their listing and keep guest stays to a maximum of 30 days.

The last time auditors checked, they found four in five listings do not have required permits and tax collectors cannot accurately audit revenues, according to the the July report. Lax enforcement allows scofflaw listings, such as unpermitted rentals or hosts with multiple hotel-style listings, to flourish, auditors found. That practice may exacerbate Portland's supply-stressed housing market.

Officials hope to reach a deal with Airbnb in January, Thomas Lannom, director of the city Revenue Division, said Monday. "It's taking longer than either side wants, but still moving forward," Lannom said.

Negotiators have already agreed on provisions that will allow the city to collect Airbnb data on listings and hosts, Lannom said. But technical details remain to be resolved, he said.

Airbnb spokeswoman Laura Rillos said in a statement that Portland's listings registration system is "onerous" and "difficult for many hosts to navigate."

"We remain committed to working with the city on a simplified registration system that that will make it easier for hosts to register and for the city to enforce its laws," the statement said.

Kari Guy, audits director in the city Auditor's Office, said officials should continue their push to get Airbnb data. If the agreement falls through, Guy said, officials should use publicly available data, such as information available on the Airbnb website, to better regulate short-term rentals.

The Portland Tribune

City Hall Update: Infill Project Schedule Announced

By Jim Redden

November 20, 2018

Plus, Southwest MAX project moves forward and no-car Central City project list approved

The Residential Infill Project will not be considered by the City Council until next summer, according to a new schedule released by the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability last week.

The plan proposes to allow smaller multifamily housing projects in single-family neighborhoods. According to the new schedule, the advisory Planning and Sustainability Commission will be

briefed on a revised economic report on the current version on Dec. 11 and on its final version on Feb. 12. They will vote to send their final version to the council on March 12.

Meanwhile, the Multnomah Neighborhood Association has appealed the inclusion of the project's concept in the Comprehensive Plan update to the Oregon Court of Appeals. Its original challenge was rejected by the Land Conservation and Development Commission.

To learn more, go to www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/67728.

Southwest MAX line moves forward

The proposed Southwest Corridor MAX line supported by the Portland City Council continued to move forward last week when both the Metro Council and the Tigard City Council endorsed the recommended route, known as the Locally Preferred Alternative.

Many things still have to happen for construction to begin on the line in 2022 as tentatively scheduled. They include voter passage of a promised Metro regional transportation bond to help finance it at the November 2020 general election, and the federal government's agreement to pay half the cost, which currently is estimated at up to \$3 billion.

Both Metro and Portland have promised to help fund affordable housing projects in the corridor between Portland and Tualatin to help mitigate predicted rent and home price increases caused by the line, if it is built.

Non-car project list approved

The City Council approved 18 transit, bike and pedestrian projects in the urban core for funding on Thursday.

The projects were identified by the Portland Bureau of Transportation during its Central City in Motion public involvement process. They are intended to reduce automobile trips and increase biking and walking in downtown and inner east side neighborhoods. PBOT is \$9 million short of the being able to pay the full \$38 million cost of all of the approved projects, however.

During the hearing, the council did not approve a proposal by the Portland Business Alliance to remove all automobile lanes from the Transit Mall. Instead, the council approved PBOT's original recommendation of protected bike lanes on Fourth and Broadway.

Willamette Week

City Commissioner Chloe Eudaly Says On Facebook: I Haven't Ruled Out Running for Mayor

*By Rachel Monahan
November 19, 2018*

"I really don't want that job but would run under certain circumstances," Commissioner Chloe Eudaly posted on Facebook.

On November 15, in a moment of pique, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler muttered about how he's hoping the rest of his term passes quickly. That set off a predictable flurry of speculation that he may not seek another term.

That leaves an open question: Who would consider the job?

That same night, in a Facebook post, City Commissioner Chloe Eudaly wrote that she find her job fulfilling—and, in subsequent comments, that she wouldn't rule out a run for the job of mayor.

At 11:01 pm, Eudaly posted on her personal Facebook account about being "hopeful" and "thankful" on a day that where the mayor made less-than-happy comments:

"My day started at 7am and ended at 9:30pm. A LOT happened. I am exhausted. I am thankful. I am hopeful. We have so many smart, talented people in this city dedicated to real change, to true equity, to the greater good, to our collective quality of life, and the future of life on this planet! I love you guys. Good night!"

Eudaly tells WW she was so busy she probably didn't hear about the mayor's muttering until the following day. She also notes that she draws a distinction between the job of mayor and city commissioner.

"Being a Portland City Commissioner is a challenging but very fulfilling job," she tells WW. "I think it's one of the best jobs in American politics. I can't say the same for Mayor of Portland which is exponentially harder and largely thankless."

Regardless, one of her friends took the Facebook thread in a more pointed direction, posting in reply: "Do us a favor and run for Mayor already, this town can't take another D bag like Wheeler."

Eudaly responded by saying she wouldn't rule it out.

"I really don't want that job but would run under certain circumstances," Eudaly responded.

Eudaly, asked to clarify what circumstances those are, tells WW:

"I have previously stated I would never run for Mayor. But I had also stated in years past that I would never run for elected office, yet here we are. While I would still prefer not to, after nearly two years here I can imagine a set of circumstances under which I might feel compelled to do so. Simply put, if no viable progressive candidate stepped forward and I wanted to continue serving on Council I would consider running."

In other news, Eudaly says she intends to seek reelection to her current job.

Eudaly isn't the only current or former Portland-area elected official to publicly discuss who should be mayor next, after the mayor's muttering.

Rep. Diego Hernandez weighed in directly, saying he favored a mayor who "wants to be in the job."

Similarly, former mayoral candidate and state Rep. Jefferson Smith—who now operates nonprofit radio station XRay.fm—commented on Facebook on the mayor's distaste for the job.

"Mayor of Portland is one of the best jobs in the world," he posted on Facebook at 7:15 pm on Nov. 15. "If one wants to have a nice time, be beloved, have a relaxing gig, or set up for a subsequent political campaign, that might not be so."

Later in the post, he attempted to take a lighter touch with Wheeler.

"This is not a knock on the current mayor (and certainly is no statement of a desire to enter any political fray much less any campaign — Portland's next great mayor will be a woman)," Smith added later in the post.

In addition, Jules Bailey, a former mayoral candidate, and an opponent to Wheeler in the mayor's race, appeared to go full subtweet: "I love my job," he Tweeted, along with an inspiration video about his work at the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative.

The Portland Observer

Portland Parks & Recreation Presents Native American Marketplace & Family Day

November 19, 2018

Portland Parks & Recreation will present this year's Native American Marketplace & Family Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 24 at Mt. Scott Community Center, 5530 SE 72nd Ave. This is an opportunity to celebrate Native cultures during #NativeAmericanHeritageMonth with food, crafts, vendors, and free activities for all ages.

Activities include:

- Native arts and crafts vendors
- Free roller skating from 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. (please bring socks for skating)
- Free swimming 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. (note: children under 48" and non-swimmers must be accompanied in the water by an adult)
- Indian Taco sale (fundraiser) at 12 p.m.

All proceeds go to support the Delta Park Pow Wow.

For info or questions, including vendor inquiries, please contact Portland Parks & Recreation's Sheryl Juber at 503-830-2780 or Sheryl.Juber@gmail.com, or visit the event's Facebook page.

Portland Parks & Recreation created its Native American Community Advisory Council (NACAC) in 2010 in collaboration with Native communities and local tribes, and in recognition that the Willamette Valley and Columbia River peoples are the original stewards of this region's land. For more on the NACAC, please visit portlandoregon.gov/parks/63749.