



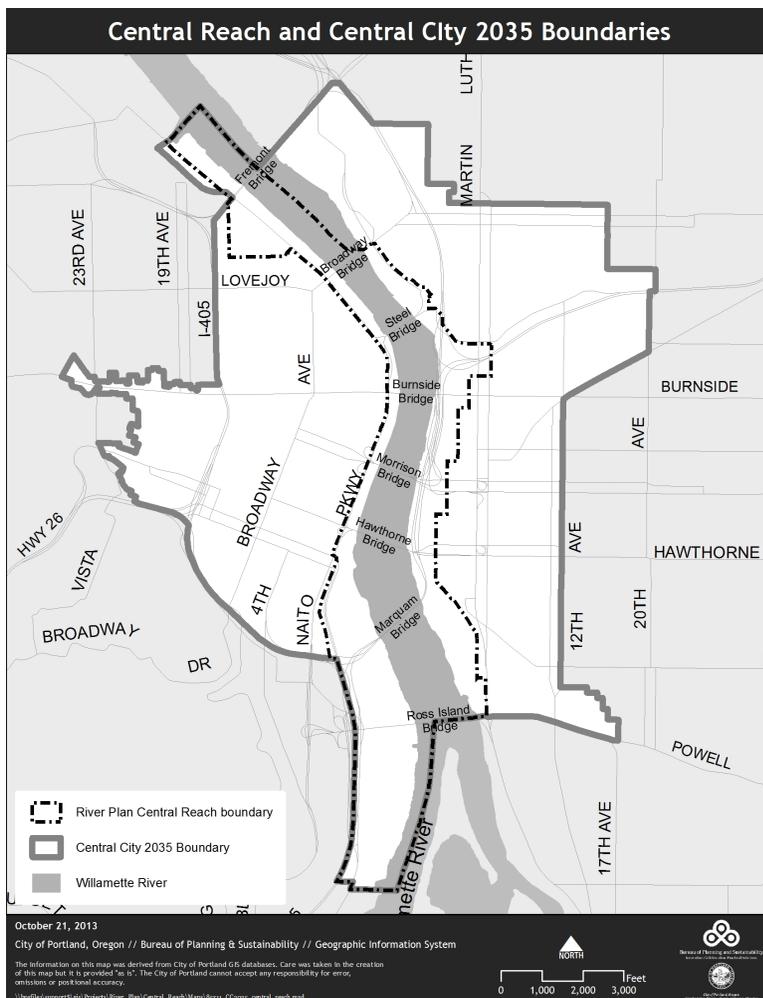
Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
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Willamette River Central Reach Working Group Central City 2035 Plan

October 21, 2013

Purpose

The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) is completing a comprehensive update to the 1988 Central City Plan called Central City 2035 (CC2035). At the heart of the Central City is the central reach of the Willamette River, stretching from north of I-405 to south of the Ross Island Bridge (see map).



Project staff are forming a Central Reach Working Group (CRWG) to augment other public involvement activities. This open group will provide opportunities for river-focused discussions that consider the river holistically across subdistricts, and inform the larger planning efforts. Key topics are:

- Water-based recreation and activities.
- Access to and along the river.
- Fish and wildlife habitat.
- River commerce.
- River transit and associated infrastructure.
- New development and uses close to the river.
- Educational and cultural opportunities.

Currently, planning staff are developing quadrant plans for the west side and southeast (Central Eastside) parts of the Central City. Staff recently completed the North/Northeast Quadrant Plan. The quadrant plans include goals, policies and actions, including potential zoning changes that will be integrated into an overarching CC2035 Plan. Public involvement processes for the West and Southeast quadrant plans are underway with Stakeholder Advisory Committees (SAC) and other input opportunities and events. Comments from the CRWG discussions will be shared with project staff and the SACs to inform group discussions and help shape planning products.

Building on work that has already been done, the CRWG will help frame key issues and opportunities, as well as offer suggestions that will contribute to broader public discussions and products for each quadrant plan and the CC2035 Plan. Working group participants are encouraged to bring information back to organizations they might represent and/or participate in the larger Central City planning efforts to provide Willamette River-related perspectives. CRWG input will also inform future work on CC2035 implementation.



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Composition

The CRWG is open to interested members of Central City stakeholder advisory committees, the 2035 Concept Plan and symposium participants, and other members of the public. People who are interested in and have expertise in the following areas (with examples provided) are especially encouraged to participate:

- Water based-recreation and activities (boating and docks or ramps, swimming and docks or beaches).
- Access to and along the river (trails, street connections, etc.).
- Fish and wildlife habitat (in-water and riparian enhancement, restoration, mitigation).
- River commerce (river-dependent industries, tour boats: day tours, and longer term).
- River transit and associated infrastructure (taxis, ferries, docks).
- New development and uses close to the river (river-related or river-enhanced development, such as restaurants, etc.).
- Educational and cultural opportunities (OMSI, tribal, etc.).
- Public agencies and nonprofit organizations associated with any of the above topics.

Meetings and Timeline

The CRWG will meet periodically throughout the Central City 2035 planning process. Staff expects to hold a minimum of three gatherings in fall/winter/spring 2013-14. The *initial concept for upcoming meetings is:*

Two-Day Central Reach Workshop (December 4 & 5, 2013):

Two-day event to build on work and comments received related to the Willamette River and more closely analyze river-related topics and issues, opportunities and themes; generate ideas and suggestions about how to optimize the Willamette River as the heart of the overall Central City. A detailed agenda will be available prior to the event. Day One will include specific public discussions on a robust river economy, a healthy river, and vibrant riverfront districts; along with drop-in times for review and input. Day Two will be a staff working day to process Day One feedback and will culminate with an open house and facilitated public conversation integrating all river-related topics. For those new to Central City planning, there will be an opportunity to learn more about the CC2035 projects and planning processes.

Follow-up Meeting (Spring 2014)

Reporting out results from the December workshop and subsequent follow-up with West and Southeast Quadrant Stakeholder Advisory Committees; group discussion about how to best integrate these results into the quadrant plans and/or the CC2035 Plan. Meeting discussion will also identify topics and issues for further work.

Ongoing

This CRWG will be invited to participate in the process as the quadrant plans are finalized, the Central City 2035 Plan is developed and staff move into plan implementation.

Learn more about and follow Central City Planning

For more information about the Central City 2035 planning effort, including the current West Quadrant and Southeast Quadrant processes; please go to:
<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/CC2035> .

You're Invited

Come join the Central Reach Working Group at the Central Reach Workshop, on December 4 & 5, 2013, at the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, 1900 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 7100, Conference Room 7A (7th floor). Contact Debbie Bischoff (see her information below) to receive the workshop agenda when available.

You can't make the first event? No problem. Just let Debbie know you'd like to be informed of future meetings. She can be reached at Debbie.bischoff@portlandoregon.gov or 503-823-6946.

