

Public Involvement Advisory Council (PIAC)
Meeting Agenda & Notes
October 8, 2013

Members Present: Kelly Ball, Glenn Bridger, Liam Frost, Donita Fry, Greg Greenway, Tim Hall, Brian Hoop, Denver Igarta, Paul Leistner, Linda Nettekoven, Marty Stockton, Mike Vander Veen, Desiree Williams-Rajee, Christine White

Members Absent: Mohamed Abdiasis, Teresa Baldwin, Robert Boy, Kyle Brown, Mike Crebs, Bill Gentile, Muna Idow, Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, Inger McDowell, Carri Munn, Rick Nixon, Khalid Osman, Colleen Poole, Goldann Salazar, Amy Spring, Keith Witcosky.

Guests: Bill Beamer (BPS), Jaymee Cuti (Housing Bureau)

Staff: Brian Hoop

Agenda

A. Business & Announcements

1. Announcements
2. Report from the Budget Group
3. Presentation of Comprehensive Plan Draft
4. Update on City Bureau Public Involvement Assessment
5. Integrating ASPIRE and Comprehensive Plan Group Recommendations
6. Organizational Issues during Staff Transition

B. Small Group Meetings – No small group meetings

Notes

A. Business & Announcements

1. Announcements

Marty Stockton announced the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability will begin “mapping conversations” with the community in November. This is part of the release of part two of the Comprehensive Plan, which focuses on the maps. She encouraged PIAC members to look at the bureau’s “map app” on their website.

Bill Beamer informed the group about the BPS “Repair Café.”

Chris White announced the Hillsborough Airport Fair on October 10.

Donita Fry announced the NAYA Gala on November 15 at the Portland Art Museum.

2. Report from the Budget Group

The budget group is considering wrapping up its work, although there is potentially more work to be done. Two actions to pursue in the short term are a meeting with BAC

coordinators to get feedback on the adopted City BAC guidelines, and inviting City Budget Director Andrew Scott to PIAC to get feedback on the City's budget outreach.

3. Presentation of Comprehensive Plan Draft

The Comp Plan group outlined a plan over the next three meetings to receive PIAC input on the draft Community Involvement sections of the Comprehensive Plan. At this meeting, they reviewed a section related to community involvement in Chapter 8 (Administration). In November they will present the draft goals and "ongoing" policies in Chapter 1 (Community Involvement), and in December they will present "project-specific" policies in that chapter. The Comp Plan group handed out an outline of the Chapter 1 goals and policies and the text of the Chapter 8 goal and policy.

There are two opportunities for PIAC to influence the Comp Plan language on community involvement. The first is by giving feedback to Marty at these PIAC meetings, so she can refine the draft that she submits to the bureau before the end of the year. The second is by giving comments that can inform PIAC's formal comments on the final draft that goes public in early 2014.

The draft language in Chapter 8 includes a goal requiring a Community Involvement Program for all decisions covered by the Comp Plan, and a policy requiring creation of a Community Involvement Committee to oversee and evaluate the Program.

Separate notes from the conversation are being compiled by the Comp Plan group. They will be used to inform Marty's edits of the draft document and PIAC's formal comment letter when the final draft is released publicly.

Topics discussed included:

- Marty explained the background to the Comp Plan (Vision PDX and the Portland Plan), and the City's intention to integrate its adopted Public Involvement Principles into Chapter 1. PIAC comments at this meeting will help with editing of the "preferred draft" by the end of the year, which is the document prior to the "proposed draft" that will go public.
- Benefits vs. disadvantages of locating public involvement language in the "administration" chapter – good because it does not segregate "public involvement" and says, "This is how we do business throughout the City," but calling something "administration" has been a way to justify budget cuts.
- What is the scope of authority of the "Community Involvement Committee?" Marty answered that it would review any projects that go to the Planning and Sustainability Commission and that its role is advisory. It would also review public involvement plans for projects from other bureaus that are governed by the Comp Plan.
- What is the governance of the Committee (composition, terms, etc.)? Marty explained that these questions are to be determined. The Committee could have

- What is the relationship of this Committee to the existing Citizen Involvement Committee for the Comp Plan itself? Marty explained that it is to be determined. City Council appointed the Comp Plan committee because it is required by law. The new Committee specified in the draft Chapter 8 language could make the existing committee permanent, give the role of the new Committee to the Planning and Sustainability Commission, create a hybrid committee that includes Commission members, or create an entirely new entity separate from the Commission. These issues would be worked out later. It was noted that some members of the working group preferred an approach that created a new, independent body.
- Staffing. There were questions and concern expressed about the level of staffing that will be required to support the Committee.

4. Update on City Bureau Public Involvement Assessment

The ASPIRE group presented its summary and recommendations at the June meeting. It represents a synthesis of the baseline assessment data and an analysis of how bureaus currently conduct public involvement. The draft report summarizes its conclusions about current citywide practices, and makes recommendations in the form of 20 “foundational practices” that bureaus could use to bring their actions into greater alignment with the Portland Public Involvement Principles.

Liam explained that the original intention was to do a “road show” to promote the findings and recommendations of the report. Since June, there has been an ongoing conversation between ASPIRE and the other members of PIAC about how best to roll out the report. Liam suggested that, at a minimum, the next step is to edit the report with sensitivity to how it will be received by bureaus and elected officials.

5. Integrating ASPIRE and Comprehensive Plan Group Recommendations

The discussion continued from the September meeting about how best to integrate the recommendations of the ASPIRE and Comp Plan groups. Several themes emerged:

- There is substantial overlap between the two groups’ recommendations. Greg provided a “mapping” of the ASPIRE foundational practices and the Comp Plan draft goals and policies that showed at least one corresponding concept for each key concept across either document.
- The main points of intersection are related to the recommendations for implementing the Public Involvement Principles. This led to the suggestion that the ASPIRE report can be separated into two components: summary and analysis of the survey results, and recommendations for action. There was support for the idea that members of both groups could start their collaborative work with the recommendation that all bureaus should have a public involvement

- This led to a discussion of whether the ASPIRE summary/analysis should be released as a stand-alone document or integrated (in full) into PIAC's annual report.
- There was some concern about starting with requirements for bureaus. Kelly suggested that one risk is that it would meet resistance, and another is that PIAC wouldn't be able to provide the tools and support necessary to help bureaus carry out a mandate. Instead, several member spoke up for an approach that emphasizes guidance and support from PIAC. Paul suggested we might aspire to have City Council to direct us to create a template or tools for bureaus, rather than asking for a new requirement on bureaus. Linda suggested that we might try a pilot project with a small number of willing bureaus to demonstrate success. Tim asked why all bureaus don't already have a policy, since the Water Bureau was required by the Auditor to have one.
- Several members said it is important to use clear and consistent language (e.g., policies, frameworks, programs, or strategies for bureaus).

6. Organizational issues during staff transition

Brian announced that Greg will be serving in a part-time, interim capacity to staff PIAC until a full time person is found to staff the Public Involvement Best Practices Program. Staff will be asking for input from PIAC on the job description, which will be strongly informed by the feedback given at the last meeting (sticky wall exercise).

B. Small group meetings

There were no small group meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.