

The Oregonian

Editorial Peak: A Win for Portland

By The Oregonian Editorial Board

August 21, 2019

With hundreds of right-wing protesters descending on Portland for a showdown with antifascists, last Saturday had all the makings of a disaster. Some, it seemed, were practically rooting for predictions of all hell breaking loose to come true.

But by late afternoon, with few skirmishes to report, the verdict was in: Saturday was unequivocally a win for Portland. Our leaders, public safety agencies and Portlanders themselves came through.

That's due in no small part to the exhaustive work that Mayor Ted Wheeler, Portland Police Chief Danielle Outlaw, law enforcement partners and many others invested in preparing for the protests. Wheeler set the tone by marshaling leaders from across Portland's political, civic, nonprofit, faith and business community to unite together in a powerful condemnation of violence. He and Outlaw worked to line up the support and personnel from other law enforcement agencies to ensure they would have the numbers needed to quell violence before it snowballed. At the same time, police officers on the ground smartly kept rival protesters separated and moving, ensuring they could exercise their right to protest while keeping a lid on the opportunity for conflicts.

The day was a win, too, for the hundreds of Portlanders who came downtown to counter right-wing protesters' presence. With costumes, music and humor, they showed the city's creative personality in support of a message of inclusion and peace.

Certainly, things didn't go flawlessly. There were a few skirmishes, about 13 arrests and some post-protest antics by individuals in the anti-fascist crowd who either don't recognize or don't care that blocking streets and similar actions punish Portlanders as much as anyone.

And unfortunately, Proud Boys, a right-wing, "Western chauvinist" group whose members have frequently clashed with anti-fascists, said it plans to come back to Portland next month unless the city takes action against anti-fascists.

But Portland leaders have shown that they know how to respond. And that's a message both outside agitators and the city's residents needed to hear.

Roughly 450 migrants received free legal help from Portland to fight deportation, seek asylum

By Gordon Friedman

August 21, 2019

In its inaugural year, Portland's free legal assistance program for immigrants provided at least 341 people with lawyers to represent them in deportation hearings according to the initiative's manager, Stephen Manning.

The program, called Universal Representation, also helped at least 105 would-be refugees apply for asylum. And of the people served, 23 were unaccompanied immigrant children, Manning, the founder and director of the Immigration Law Lab, said in an interview Tuesday.

Portland's City Council approved the service last year and put \$500,000 toward its budget from property tax collections. It is run through the Equity Corps of Oregon, with lawyers provided by nonprofits Catholic Charities of Oregon, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, Immigration Counseling Service, Innovation Law Lab and Metropolitan Public Defender.

The program was championed by Commissioner Chloe Eudaly, who said at the time of its passage that hundreds of unauthorized immigrants living in Portland faced deportation and could not afford lawyers. She said providing attorneys free of charge was a matter of "protecting everyone's constitutional right to due process." Eudaly didn't respond to a request for comment Tuesday.

This year, Multnomah County allocated \$290,000 to the initiative and the state approved an additional \$2 million to expand the service statewide — the first state to do so in the nation.

According to internal city progress reports, the people who received legal services through Portland's program hailed from many countries: Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Iran, Iraq, Mexico, Nicaragua, Russia, Ukraine and Venezuela.

Manning said people enter the program via an eligibility screening that checks they live in Portland, don't earn too much and are in fact facing deportation. Most who receive help are families and people fleeing persecution in their home countries, he said. As an example, Manning said he assisted two people Tuesday facing deportation who are thought to be victims of human trafficking.

The results of the legal aid are unclear. Immigration cases move slowly and Manning said the federal government's reorganization of deportation courts has thrown the system into further disarray. The Oregonian could not verify the Universal Representation program's work because immigration court records are not open to the public.

Receiving pro bono legal help can sometimes make the difference between a person remaining in the U.S. or being sent into a dangerous situation in their country of origin, Manning said. "The one thing we know changes outcomes is access to an attorney," he said.

Portland's program helps immigrants know their rights — and assert them, he said.

"It doesn't mean you will win," Manning said, "but it means you get a fairer shake."

38,000 in Portland area were homeless at some point in 2017, study finds

*By Elliot Njus
August 20, 2019*

An estimated 38,000 people in Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties experienced homelessness at some point in 2017, according a new Portland State University study, and a fix could cost billions.

The study, the first of its kind, takes a regional and more expansive view of homelessness than the single-night tallies required by the federal government, which each county conducts separately. The counties, in their canvasses of shelters, camps and vehicles, found a combined 5,700 people without permanent housing.

The 2,037 people who were found sleeping outside is the highest the count has found in the last decade and represents some of the area's most entrenched issues -- they are disproportionately people of color, mentally ill or have a substance abuse problem.

The Portland State study uses those counts as a starting point. But it also attempts to account for people who experience homelessness off and on, as well as families who double-up with friends or family because of economic hardship, using data from public school districts.

The federally mandated Point in Time count provides a snapshot of one night of homelessness in counties across the country. It has traditionally been used to evaluate how to distribute federal, state and local money and other resources. However, officials always warn that the count is likely undercounting how many people actually experience homelessness.

The Point in Time results released last month illustrate the discrepancy -- in 2017, Multnomah County found that more people were in shelters than living on the street. But that number had flipped by 2019, with vastly more people living in tents, cars or other places unfit for human habitation than under a roof.

This study's resulting 38,000 figure could provide policymakers another, more realistic lens through which to examine their efforts to address homelessness than the point-in-time numbers, said Marisa A. Zapata, the lead author of the study.

"When people ask why we're not solving the problem, it's because they're looking at a very small portion of the population," Zapata said. "Our hope is by putting out a more realistic number, we can start to have a discussion of the actual number of people who need help."

The estimate also allowed researchers to estimate what they say the cost of addressing homelessness across the region would be, and that price tag came to a staggering \$2.6 billion to \$4.1 billion over 10 years.

That includes the cost to build new affordable housing, subsidize rents and offer employment services, with additional costs assigned to households that require support services because of disability, addiction or other medical needs. It does not include what it would cost to prevent people from becoming homeless.

The new estimate far dwarfs what local governments have allocated for homeless services. Portland and Multnomah County have budgeted \$70 million combined for the Joint Office of Homeless Services -- the most in the metro area. But both Mayor Ted Wheeler and Chair Deborah Kafoury have said that even by cutting into other departments, they can not set aside enough to fully deal with the crisis.

Both have said they are interested in proposing a new funding stream -- a tax or levy or other mechanism -- that would generate money just for homeless services since the federal government has not indicated it would ramp up spending and the state government's dollars mostly go toward affordable housing projects.

The figure would include some amount of cost that's already being paid. It doesn't, for example, account for money already being spent through existing housing assistance or affordable housing construction programs. The needed spending would also be offset by the \$653 million affordable housing bond approved by voters within the Metro regional government's boundaries, and the city of Portland's \$258 million housing bond.

The \$4.1 billion represents the cost to stabilize or house people who are currently homeless, but it doesn't address the structural underpinnings that could lead more people to fall into

homelessness, which span housing affordability, health care policy and the criminal justice system.

“This can feel like a really big number in terms of cost over 10 years, but we’re going to have to keep paying it until we look at structural policy solutions,” Zapata said.

The study also found that 107,000 households were at risk of homelessness across the three metro-area counties because they’re relatively low-income and spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing, which leaves little room for saving or unexpected expenses.

The report jumped off a study done two years ago in which Portland residents said they were split on whether they thought the growing number of people living on the street was caused by economic forces or individual choices.

The cost of providing universal housing vouchers to those households could cost \$11 billion to \$21 billion over 10 years.

That cost similarly doesn’t account for money already spent on housing assistance. Today, however, rent assistance is far from universal. Only one in four households that qualify for rent subsidies based on income actually receive them.

The Portland Tribune

Your City Hall: Input sought on East Portland redevelopment

*By Jim Redden
August 20, 2019*

The 'Building Healthy Connected Communities Along the Division Transit Corridor' report is now online and available for public review

WHAT IS HAPPENING? The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability is seeking public comment on a newly released report on how redevelopment should take place along Southeast Division Street between 76th Avenue and the Gresham city limits near 174th.

The report is titled "Building Healthy Connected Communities Along the Division Transit Corridor." It envisions additional transportation options, higher residential densities, new open spaces and more for many blocks on both sides of Division.

WHERE WILL THE REDEVELOPMENT TAKE PLACE? The report envisions the most planned redevelopment in three following areas:

- The Jade District, which is concentrated along 82nd Avenue.
- Division Midway, which stretches from 117th to 148th avenues, but is concentrated along 122nd Avenue
- 162nd and Rosewood, which extends along 162nd Avenue to the Rosewood neighborhood, which is being studied separately for redevelopment in the Rosewood Initiative.

The report calls for similar upgrades in all three areas, including improved streets and sidewalks, more bike and pedestrian connections, new parks and other spaces, and new apartment buildings on underdeveloped properties. But the report also proposes specific transformational projects in each area, such as a multi-use public plaza in Division Midway.

WHY IS THE REPORT BEING RELEASED NOW? The City Council has long promised to focus more resources on East Portland, where the infrastructure has historically been unfunded. The area also has a higher portion of lower-income households dependent on transit than much of the rest of the city.

The council also is supporting TriMet's \$175 million Division Transit Project, which is scheduled to overhaul and expand bus service along a 15-mile stretch of Division between Portland and Gresham in coming years. A related bureau project, Better Housing by Design, seeks to revise development and design standards in the city's multidwelling zones outside of downtown, including East Portland.

IS THERE ANY OPPOSITION? Some local officials and people who live in the area are concerned the improvements will increase housing costs and force many existing households to move. The council is working on anti-displacement policies to minimize the effects of gentrification, which it admits has happened along other transit lines.

WHAT CAN I DO? You can read and respond to the report at the bureau's website at www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/739966. Comment is being sought through December, when it is expected to be presented to the council.

You also can watch an upcoming council work session on some of these projects. The Housing Opportunities work session is scheduled from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 3, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. It will include a discussion of the anti-displacement strategies and the Better Housing by Design project. If you can't attend in person, the session will be livestreamed on the city's website and aired on community television.

Willamette Week

While the Nation Watched, the City of Portland Defused Politically Motivated Violence—For Now

*By Nigel Jaquiss
August 21, 2019*

For most citizens, it was a relief. For Mayor Ted Wheeler, it was a reprieve.

Portlanders awoke Aug. 17 under a microscope.

For weeks, right-wing extremists had promoted a waterfront rally set for that day as a reckoning with Portland antifascists. Right-wingers—often from Vancouver, Wash.—have regularly visited Portland for more than two years to clash with antifa. The confrontations had repeatedly descended into street brawls.

This time, a group of Proud Boys rolled in from across the country, led by a Floridian named Joe Biggs. He echoed President Donald Trump's call that antifa be declared a domestic terrorist group, and he threatened to bloody the leftists. Biggs drew coverage from Fox News—which meant Trump paid attention, and the president started the weekend with a tweet.

"Portland is being watched very closely," Trump said at 7:04 am Saturday. "Hopefully the Mayor will be able to properly do his job!"

He was. Despite the build-up, the protests that unfolded in downtown over the next 11 hours resulted in less violence and fewer arrests than many previous clashes.

For most citizens, it was a relief. For Mayor Ted Wheeler, it was a reprieve.

"People were poised for a worst-case scenario," Wheeler tells WW. "And that didn't come to pass."

Observers of Aug. 17 say it showed Portland officials have learned from past mistakes. But they also warn that unless Wheeler and others adjust again, the exhausting and unnerving drama of last weekend won't end.

Here are the three big lessons of a fight that fizzled.

Wheeler and other leaders said, "No."

Since early July, Biggs and his allies had promoted a rally in Portland in support of Andy Ngo, a right-wing writer and videographer who was beaten by masked assailants at a June 29 march downtown. Wheeler, who is running for re-election next year, could ill afford the kind of all-out melee promised by Biggs, who formerly worked for right-wing conspiracy theorist Alex Jones.

Last week, Wheeler convened an unprecedented Pioneer Square gathering of business, nonprofit, community and political leaders who urged the right to stay away.

Meanwhile, over the past two weeks, Portland police arrested a half-dozen of the most recognizable figures in the local far-right movement, including Joey Gibson, the Vancouver, Wash., leader of a protest group called Patriot Prayer. The arrests were tied to a May 1 attack outside a cider bar where antifascists had gathered—but they also seemed to send a message to other visitors who wanted to fight antifa.

Gibson says he thinks the arrests were orchestrated to deflate the energy of the Aug. 17 event. "Of course they were," Gibson says.

Wheeler says he had no input in the law enforcement decisions that led to those arrests. Some critics say the arrests, or a similar signal to right-wing groups, should have come long before now.

"Would it have been helpful?" Wheeler asks. "Yes. But the police don't make arrests on my timeline or when it's politically expedient."

The chilling effect, however, was obvious. On Aug. 15, the Oath Keepers, a national right-wing paramilitary group, pulled out of the Portland rally. "Frankly, given the prior statements of Joe Biggs that will be used against all attendees of his rally, it would be best for the patriot/conservative cause if this Aug. 17 rally were simply canceled," Oath Keepers president Stewart Rhodes said in a statement.

Eric Ward, executive director of the Western States Center, has been heavily critical of the city's response to previous right-wing rallies. He says Saturday was different. Ward points to an outpouring of peaceful opposition from groups ranging from the NAACP to Pop Mob—and Wheeler.

"The mayor showed phenomenal leadership in the lead-up to the event," Ward says. "That leadership really showed this weekend. When each part of the community shows what it can do, that shrinks the oxygen white nationalists can have."

The Portland Police Bureau changed tactics.

The city of Portland combined an overwhelming show of force by 15 law enforcement agencies with smart tactics and an uncharacteristic flexibility.

More than 700 officers from federal, state and local agencies swarmed the streets. They outnumbered the right-wingers (police estimated 300 attended) and were nearly as numerous as the left (about 900).

The police made two key decisions that kept the two political sides separated. First, they made the Morrison Bridge the dividing line. After a crowd of MAGA-hat wearing, flag-waving Proud Boys marched west across the Morrison Bridge late Saturday morning, police channeled them south, away from the concrete Jersey barriers and thick line of cops under the bridge. North of that line, antifa and its allies stood jeering, but they couldn't get to their enemies.

Having crossed the Willamette River, the right-wingers were effectively done. After a prayer and a couple of brief speeches, they asked police for permission to exit downtown—and distance themselves from antifa—by walking back to the eastside via the Hawthorne Bridge, which had been closed to all traffic and was again closed, as soon as the right got across.

That flexibility by the police—not always their strong suit—ensured physical separation between right and left, and made violence less likely.

Even City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty, a longtime police critic, tipped her cap.

"I understand to some this looked like collusion between police and white supremacists," Hardesty said about allowing the bridge to act as an escape route in an Aug. 19 statement. "However, I truly believe this was the strategic and smart move to ensure violence did not break out."

Perhaps the tensest moment on Saturday came shortly after noon, when a bespectacled young man in a dark blue shirt wandered among the 300 or so right-wingers gathered under the Marquam Bridge, just north of OMSI.

"Fuck you, fuck you, fuck you," he said, pointing to individuals—and even a dog. ("You're cool," he told the dog.) He was quickly surrounded by hostile right-wingers, but even before a squad of bicycle cops rushed to his aid, burly Proud Boys rescued him from harm.

Although many of the assembled marchers flashed white supremacist hand signs for photos and occasionally yelled back at passersby, there was a clear "do not engage" directive from leaders of the rally in effect.

Gibson, fresh from being booked and released on felony riot charges Aug. 16, was a subdued figure Saturday. On Aug. 19, he said the event was a success. "It went really well," Gibson says. "No Patriots were violent. It was peaceful on our part, and there were no big brawls in the street."

Gibson adds: "It is a win for the mayor."

The right will be back.

Michael German, a fellow at the Brennan Center for Justice's Liberty and National Security Program, says rallies like the one Aug. 17 reflect classic authoritarian tactics.

German, who, as an FBI agent, infiltrated white supremacist groups, says Biggs and his allies are in essence acting at Trump's behest and intentionally taking their brand of grievance politics to cities, such as Portland, where they know they are least welcome.

"One of the things authoritarians do is unleash their allies to commit violence against their opponents," German says. "This is not a new tactic. It's one the Nazis used in Germany."

After crossing the Hawthorne Bridge, Biggs declared "mission success" and said the right would be back in force every month until Portland cracks down on antifa.

German says the test for Wheeler is whether he can turn Saturday's success into policy that will discourage the right's attempts at intimidation. "The Portland Police Bureau's job is protect the residents of Portland," German says. "To the extent people are threatening that safety, the PPB should act to restore the trust and confidence of the people they serve."

Wheeler says he won't allow Biggs or others on the far right to dictate terms.

On a day when his political future may have hung in the balance, Wheeler spent Saturday hunkered down with Police Chief Danielle Outlaw. He's as effusive in his praise for her bureau as he is dismissive of Trump, who started the day by tweeting that the White House was watching Portland.

"Honestly, [Trump's tweet] had virtually no impact," Wheeler says. "I was focused on what was happening on the ground, not paying attention to him."

Carmen Rubio Seeks to Be the First Latinx Member of City Council—and Says Now Is the Time

*By WW Staff
August 21, 2019*

"I want to be the person people feel comfortable coming to."

Carmen Rubio has been preparing to run for office for a while. But she says now is a crucial moment.

After graduating from the University of Oregon, Rubio, 45, worked for County Commissioner Serena Cruz, Mayor Tom Potter and City Commissioner Nick Fish. For the past decade, she's been the executive director of the Latino Network, growing the nonprofit's budget from about \$500,000 to \$10 million. When City Commissioner Amanda Fritz announced earlier this year that she wouldn't seek a fourth term, Rubio rose to the top of many insiders' lists as a successor—and launched her candidacy in July. She's seeking to become the first Latinx commissioner elected to Portland's City Council.

Last week, Rubio sat down with WW for an interview to talk about her priorities, how the mayor is doing, and being a woman of color seeking public office in the time of Trump.

WW: Can you tell us about your background?

Carmen Rubio: My grandfather was a bracero. He was a Mexican contracted laborer from Durango, Mexico. He came up in the '40s. My grandmother joined him in Texas. They made their way up to the Napa Valley and eventually, North Plains, Ore., and settled there in the migrant camps. My dad had a similar trajectory. He's Mexican from Chihuahua and his mom and siblings came up by way of New Mexico and then to Oregon. We didn't have a lot of money—I moved probably about 10 times before I was 14. That's why housing and stability in families is really important to me.

What got you interested in politics?

I was the first in my family to go to college and graduate. I got very, very interested in politics after I took my first Chicano studies class. That's the first time I think I really understood that my community had a history in this country. That's why ethnic studies courses are so important, because they help people develop their identity and their confidence. And I felt like I didn't deserve to be there: It was really hard for me to ask for help.

One of the most formative experiences I had was when I worked for [then-Multnomah County Commissioner] Serena Cruz. Not even two weeks into the job, I got a phone call from this woman in rural Central Oregon. She needed to talk in Spanish, and she was looking for help for a local issue. We were like, ‘Why is she calling us in Portland?’ It was pretty clear she wanted to talk to someone who understood her and would treat her with dignity. That’s really part of what compels me to run: I want to be the person people feel comfortable coming to. All Portlanders, no matter what your background is.

Why run now?

What prompted me to run is the really terrible environment right now. I’m seeing a lot of fear and trauma in vulnerable communities. I’m seeing division among groups that haven’t had this level of tension before. And so more than any other time in my life, I feel like it’s important to have representative leadership.

If you were elected, what would you focus on?

I would definitely advocate for more prevention programs and intervention programs. One of them is rent assistance. As a community-based organization that disperses funds for the city and the county to needy families and individuals, the Latino Network sees people in crisis every single day. I would definitely support increasing rent assistance as one of many other strategies. I also believe in the importance of permanent supportive housing that includes social services, including mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Where else do you see room for improvement?

The Office of Community and Civic Life. I’m supportive of the position of including more voices at the table. I think that’s something neighborhood associations want as well. How we do that is an interesting challenge. I’m also very interested in how we retain the cultural personality historic to those neighborhoods, but also encourage business growth and development and community participation. And I’m specifically talking about east of 82nd Avenue.

Do you support changing Portland’s form of government?

Yes. I would push toward election by districts.

What grade would you give the mayor so far?

I think the mayor is doing his best in a really hard time. I’m not going to assign a grade to him. If I’m elected, I’ll have to work with him. And I want to have a relationship where I could probably give him the feedback that he needed.

You’re seeking to qualify for public financing for your campaign. Why should taxpayers pay for your campaign rather than critical services you’ve identified as underfunded?

I run a nonprofit, I’m needed there. And I also am on my own. So I can’t take time off to run. I’d prefer to have the opportunity to really learn the issues and meet with people—rather than spending my time raising money.

We’re living at a moment when the president uses racist slurs against elected officials who come from different backgrounds than him. Does that frighten you?

Yes, it’s terrifying. There are days where I very much have to put aside my feelings and really say encouraging words to my staff so they can feel some confidence in going back out there and talking to crying parents and children. Every time something happens, there is a direct reaction or impact on our communities here.

The Portland Mercury

City Releases New Information About June Police Shooting

By Alex Zielinski

August 20, 2019

The death of David Downs on June 9th marked the third fatal shooting by Portland Police in 2019.

Downs, 38, was shot by an officer after holding a woman hostage in a Pearl District stairwell and threatening to hurt her with a knife. He was homeless and estranged from his family at the time of his death, factors that might explain the lack of public outcry following the shooting.

Since his death, the public has learned little about Downs or the incident that prompted a police officer to shoot a bullet into his head. On Monday, the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) released files documenting their investigation into Downs' shooting, which paint a more thorough picture of the events leading up to the June death.

Downs ended up in the stairwell of 1331 NW Lovejoy—a mixed-use building called "The Lovejoy"—after meeting Bethanie Johnson near Portland's Greyhound bus station the morning of June 9. Johnson, who was also homeless at the time, told detectives that she had never seen or interacted with Downs before that morning. Johnson said she agreed to walk to Safeway, which occupies the first two floors of The Lovejoy, with Downs and "shoot up" methamphetamine in the store's stairwell. Johnson said Downs was the only one who ended up smoking meth that morning. Afterwards, Downs and Johnson began "messaging around" on the stair landing, and she took her pants off.

It didn't take long, however, for the mood to change. According to Johnson, Downs suddenly grew angry and allegedly threw her against a wall four times.

"The guy got mad because he thought I took his dope so he punched me," Johnson told PPB Officer Nathan Simmons. She also told Simmons that Downs had punched her three times, and then held a knife to her throat. Johnson said she had not touched his meth.

That's when Edward Connors, a lawyer who works on the ninth floor of the building, heard the two scuffling. In an interview with another PPB officer, Connors said Downs yelled at him: "I have a knife! I have a bomb! And I have a hostage! Bring it! Do you know who I am?" Connors said he heard a woman's voice yell "Help!" So he called 911.

The officers' presence didn't seem to intimidate Downs. Officer Cassandra Wells—one of the responding officers—offers the most detailed narration of the encounter in her follow-up interview. After entering the stairwell and locating Downs, Wells said she told him to drop his knife. He didn't. Instead, Downs held up what appeared to be a small handheld clicker, and told Wells he had a bomb and was going to detonate it. Wells and other officers at the scene said Johnson was half-naked, bleeding from the head, and was cowering in a corner behind Downs.

Another officer, Jackson Oldham, fired so-called "less-lethal" munitions at Downs, in hopes of getting him to drop the knife and suspected detonator. (The reports don't detail what type of less-lethal weapon was used by PPB).

"The guy's behavior doesn't change, he doesn't flinch," Wells, who had a gun trained on Downs at the time, observed.

Wells said that's when Downs grabbed Johnson and pulled her in front of him, wrapping one arm around her waist. In his other hand, Downs held the item officers suspected was a detonator.

"He said, 'Shoot me one more time,'" Wells recalled. Both Wells and PPB Officer Nathan Kirby-Glatkowski had their guns aimed at Downs. After a brief interchange, Kirby-Glatkowski opted to pull the trigger.

"The guy collapses and blood starts pouring out of his head," Wells said. Downs died instantly.

As other officers guided Johnson to an ambulance waiting outside, Wells said she gave Kirby-Glatkowski a long hug.

"He said 'I never wanted to have to kill somebody,' and I said, 'I know but it needed [to be] done and it was either you or me,'" Wells explained in her interview.

When PPB Detective Eric Kammerer called Downs' mother, she allegedly told him that she had "expected a call at some point in her life that her son had been killed."

Kammerer said she told him that Downs had tried to kill her in the past, and she had a protective order against him. She had not spoken with her son for several years, and said he was "born bad."

Per PPB policy, Kirby-Glatkowski's interview by PPB Internal Affairs will not be made public.

On August 16, a Multnomah County grand jury determined that Kirby-Glatkowski was justified in his use of deadly force, and dismissed any criminal charges against the officer. The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office has yet to make the grand jury transcript—which includes Kirby-Glatkowski's testimony—public.

It's also likely the grand jury transcript will contain a toxicology report from Downs, which would show if he had any illegal substances in his body at the time of his death.

Portland's Using Behavioral Science to Help Reduce Carbon Emissions

*By Blair Stenvick
August 20, 2019*

It's a phenomenon almost everyone can relate to: You make a plan to go the gym in the morning. You get your gym bag ready and set your alarm the night before. But when that alarm goes off in the morning, you hit the snooze button and trade a workout for more sleep.

This situation might feel so commonplace that it doesn't need to be explained—but for behavioral scientists like Elizabeth Weingarten, it's a classic example of the often invisible "intention-action gap," or "the space between the thing that we want to do, and that we ultimately end up doing."

That space is what Weingarten studies at Ideas 42, a nonprofit that uses behavioral science to find solutions for social problems ranging from college affordability to the opioid addiction crisis—and now, Ideas 42 is working with the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) to find ways to encourage people to use more environmentally sustainable forms of transportation.

Portland is known for being a bike-, pedestrian-, and transit-enthusiastic city, but according to recent data, about 70 percent of people living in the Portland Metro area still use a car as their

primary form of transportation. That's less than other cities, but it still makes for a clogged road system and a significant contribution to the world's ever-climbing amount of carbon emissions.

Last year, Portland was named one of the winning cities in the Bloomberg American Cities Climate Challenge, a private initiative funded by Mike Bloomberg to help cities reduce their carbon emissions. The \$2.5 million prize includes funds for PBOT to work with Ideas 42.

That work is just getting started, and will wrap up in early summer of 2020. Weingarten said her team will be working with PBOT to figure out how planned structural changes to the city's transportation system—like the 18 projects associated with Central City in Motion (CCIM), most of which have not yet been carried out—can include behavioral science concepts from the start.

“We have this opportunity to incorporate behavioral design into the structural changes that are happening,” Weingarten said.

That might take the form of a “process audit,” or work to identify the barriers that come up when people try to make a sustainable transportation choice—Weingarten pointed to the hassle of filling out paperwork to sign up for a reduced-cost transit pass as an example—and finding ways to reduce those hassles, or at least provide extra encouragement for people to overcome them.

“People still aren't doing it as much as we want them to, and the question is, 'Why?'" Weingarten said. “And sometimes the 'why' is because the process itself is really challenging, or the information isn't being communicated with what we know about human behavior in mind.”

Portland is one of 20 cities that Ideas 42 is working with through the American Cities Climate Challenge. Weingarten said each city has its own “idiosyncrasies” that present unique behavioral science challenges—but that Portland is a city rich with opportunity. In addition to CCIM—which includes making Better Naito permanent—PBOT also has a plan to add red priority bus lanes to streets across the city.

“There's a tremendous amount of awareness about sustainability [in Portland] and wanting to reduce carbon emissions, which is really great,” she said. “The opportunity that we see in Portland is that there's this structural change.”

While Portland may have a population that cares about sustainability, it's also a city with miles of unpaved, sidewalk-less streets, and traffic deaths that aren't declining despite efforts from PBOT. Weingarten stressed that behavioral science can only go so far—and that in order to incentivize taking public transportation or biking as alternatives to driving, Portland needs to have a transportation system built to accommodate that switch.

“What we would never want to do is try to encourage someone to take the bus if that infrastructure wasn't there for them,” Weingarten said. “If they didn't have access to a really good bus line, or if the route they were going to take was significantly longer or more onerous than taking the car, that's something we would not want to nudge somebody to do, because clearly the structural change isn't matching up with the behavioral change.”

The Skanner

Portland Parks, Partners Host Charles Jordan Birthday Celebration

August 16, 2019

Portland Parks & Recreation invites the community to a birthday celebration for Charles Jordan, the former City Commissioner and Portland Parks Director. The celebration will take place on Saturday, August 31 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Charles Jordan Community Center located at 9009 N. Foss Avenue.

Jordan was the first African American City Commissioner elected to the Portland City Council. Jordan died in 2014.

“My father’s passing left our family and our entire city with a tremendous void,” said Charles Jordan’s son Dion Jordan who will serve as the event emcee. “I’m honored to be a part of a celebration of his life. It’s fulfilling to honor his lifelong passions for children, families and the environment, and to come together as a city and a community.”

Portland Parks Director Adena Long will join Dion Jordan and other honored guests for a short program of celebration at the event.

The free celebration will feature games, plantings, arts and crafts, a building tour, health and wellness screenings, music, birthday cake, refreshments and more.

“Charles Jordan was a visionary leader, a mentor, and a friend,” said Commissioner Nick Fish.

“We are proud to honor his family and his legacy,” said Fish.

In June 2012, Portland City Council voted unanimously on a measure put forth by Commissioner Nick Fish to rename Portland Parks & Recreation’s University Park Community Center in honor of Charles Jordan.

The Charles Jordan Community Center was rededicated on Sunday, July 22, 2012, with a free public celebration, which Jordan attended.

Jordan’s book “More than Just Fun and Games” will be on sale at the event. All proceeds go towards scholarships for youth so they can take part in activities and classes at Charles Jordan Community Center.

Event partners include Portland Parks & Recreation, the Portland Parks Foundation (PP&R’s chief philanthropic partner), volunteers, the Jordan family, former PP&R Citywide Collaborative Services Manager Michelle Harper, and the New Columbia Community Campus Partnership.

[Learn more about the event online.](#)