



**PORTLAND PARKS BOARD**

Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

3:00 – 5:00 pm

**Room B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**Portland Building**

**Board members present:** Patricia Frobles, Paddy Tillett, Paul Agrimis, Kathy Fong Stephens, Michelle Dedeo, Kendall Clawson, Jenny Glass, Tonya Booker, Aubré Dickson.

**Board members absent:** Judy BlueHorse Skelton, Jim Owens, Meryl Redisch, Ian Jaquiss, Jeff Anderson, Joseph O’Leary, Gladys Ruiz, Christa Stout.

**PP&R Staff present:** Commissioner Fritz, Mike Abbaté, Jason Smith, Eileen Argentina, Ramiro Villalvazo, Cristina Nieves, Margaret Evans, Jenn Cairo, Trang Lam.

**Call to order, Welcome and Introductions** Pat called members to order at 3:08 pm. She welcomed Commissioner Fritz and asked the Commissioner to make some opening remarks.

**Commissioner Remarks** Commissioner Frits asked Board members to introduce themselves and share their reasons for serving on the Parkk Board. The Commissioner said she welcomed the change in the date and time of Board meetings because it would allow her to participate on a more regular basis.

**Public Testimony Invited** There was no public testimony.

**Committee Structure and Assignments** The Board confirmed that going forward the Board will meet from 3 pm to 5 pm on the first Tuesday of every other month. On the first Tuesday of the alternative months, the Board committees will meet from 3 pm to 5 pm. The goal is to facilitate an in-depth review of specific topics at the committee level and free the Board to concentrate on higher level-bureau and city-wide issues, such as the strategic plan and 2040 Vision. Pat noted that this is an experiment, and encouraged feedback on what’s working and what’s not as the Board moves forward.

Each Board member has been assigned to at least one committee based on their respective interest and area of expertise. Any Board member who is interested, can volunteer to be on more than one committee. Kendall indicated that having the committees meet at the same time and location every other month is an opportunity for the committees to cross-pollinate and share ideas.

See [Annex I](#) for committee descriptions.

**Strategic Plan** Trang reviewed the process and schedule for developing the strategic plan. She reminded the Board that the goal was to complete the vision plan by the end of September, so that it is available to guide the budget process. Jason reviewed the draft strategic plan emphasizing that each objective included specific performance criteria to measure whether the objective has been achieved.

The Board had a lengthy discussion of the plan with a particular emphasis on the performance measures attached to the objectives relating to equity and inclusion. Kendall observed that one criteria measured whether there is an increase in the percentage of people of color employed by the Bureau. She suggested that it would be more meaningful to look at the percentage of people of color in management. Tonya stated that retention is important and should be an area of focus. Kathy suggested that socio-economic diversity as well as racial diversity should be addressed in the plan. Mike added that the PP&R Bureau will not only address racial diversity, but will also include people with disabilities. Commissioner Fritz stated that equity and inclusion for people of color and people with disabilities are priorities throughout the City. Jason said that he would be working with the Bureau Equity Team on the performance measures. He noted that the 5-year Racial Equity Plan for Portland Parks & Recreation is available at <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/oehr/article/620147>.

In general, staff are encouraged to review all the performance measures to ensure that they accurately reflect meaningful progress within the respective objective. A new draft of the strategic plan will be presented to the Board in October.

**Central City Plan** Paddy summarized the key elements of the Central City Plan. He noted that one of the plan's priorities is to increase access to public open space, a priority shared by PP&R. For more details, see [Annex 2](#).

Kendall asked whether the Plan addresses issues related to the Cascadia earthquake. Paddy answered that it is not addressed in the Plan.

Paddy presented a draft testimony letter for Board approval and submittal to City Council. Paul moved to approve the letter. Tonya seconded. The letter was approved. Paddy agreed to testify at the City Council meeting in accordance with the terms of the letter.

**Approval of the Minutes from July and August Meetings** Motion to approve the July and August minutes was made by Paddy, seconded by Paul and passed unanimously.

**Director's Update** Paul reported on the visit to Poet's beach. He described the challenges associated with some of the homeless population living near the beach. Mike reported on the results of the surveys conducted at the beach:

People spend 86% of their time at the beach rather than in the water.

62% Had fun.

75% Will come back

98% had fun.

48% - Female

38% - Male

79% - White

6% - Hispanic

6% - Asian

1% - Black

1% - More than one race

Average group size: 2 adults and 2 youth

The Parks S.A.F.E. initiative works on creating safe spaces for the employees.

This is a result of the increased number of assaults to staff.

Last week the Bureau celebrated the opening of Lents Park and next week will celebrate Duniway Park. Under Armour donated 5.5 million dollars for the improvement of this park. Mike invited Parks Board members to attend the event.

**Meeting Adjourned** The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

## ANNEX I

### **Parks Board Standing Committees 2017-2018**

The Parks Board has four standing committees, as follows:

**Policy Committee:** Provides recommendations to the Parks Board regarding the impact and appropriateness of plans and policies adopted or being developed by PP&R, other city bureaus, boards and commissions or by other government agencies that affect parks, natural areas, open space and recreation facilities and services in the City. It is anticipated that in 2017-18, the Policy Committee will consist of two subcommittees – one looking at the issues related to the impact of homelessness on parks, natural areas and PP&R staff, and one focusing on significant land use policies and initiatives.

**Infrastructure Committee:** Provides recommendations to the Parks Board regarding capital improvement projects, the creation of new parks, natural areas, trails, open spaces and recreation facilities, proposed major maintenance projects, capital funding and health, safety and environment efforts. One or more members of this committee will participate in the annual Capital Improvement Project process (CIP) conducted by PP&R.

**Community Development Committee:** Provides recommendations to the Parks Board regarding public outreach, education, advocacy and opportunities for creating a forum for public discussion about parks and recreation issues, including equity in parks and in the delivery of recreation services and outreach to underserved communities, recognized Friends and Partner groups, community organizations, volunteers and other collaborators. This committee will review and make recommendations to the Parks Board with respect to the Bureau's efforts to implement its 5-year Racial Equity Plan.

**Financial Stability Committee:** Provides recommendations to the Parks Board with respect to the annual PP&R budget; the structure, strategy, campaign leadership and funding, amount and timing of new levies or bond issues; and alternative sources of sustainable financing for PP&R. The Committee will participate in, and provide recommendations with respect to, the Bureau's System Development Charges (SDC) efforts and the development of City Council policy on such issues as ongoing operations & maintenance funding, cost recovery and preschool financial stability planning. It is anticipated that this Committee will review the Parks Board participation in the Budget Advisory Committee and make recommendations for improving the effectiveness of that participation.

**Changes to Committee Charge:** On an annual basis, each committee will review its charge and recommend to the Parks Board any changes to that charge the committee finds appropriate.

**Committee Membership:** On an annual basis, the Parks Board Chair will assign Board members to the respective committees, based on each member's interests and expertise. Each Board member is expected to serve on one committee. However, any Board member may volunteer to serve on more than one committee. In addition to members of the Parks Board, individuals with relevant expertise or experience may be nominated, with the approval of the

Board chair, to serve on any committee without having to also serve on the Parks Board. In July of each year, the Board Chair will make recommendations to the Parks Board with respect to the chair of each committee.

**Chair Responsibilities:** The chair of each committee is responsible for scheduling meetings, developing and distributing committee agendas and materials, and serving as a liaison with PP&R staff. Committee chairs should distribute meeting notices, agendas and minutes (if taken) to the entire Parks Board at the same time distribution is made to the relevant committee. It is anticipated that the Parks Board will meet every other month. Committee chairs are encouraged to schedule at least one committee meeting during the months the Board is not meeting, at the same time at which Parks Board meetings are held.

**Committee Attendance/Minutes:** Any member of the Parks Board may attend any committee meeting. Each committee may decide whether or not to take minutes of the meeting. Bureau staff will not be available to take minutes.

**Committee/Staff Relationship:** The Director of PP&R will assign one or more staff members to act as liaisons to each committee. The role of the staff liaison is to respond to committee requests for information and direct committee chairs to subject matter experts in PP&R with information or expertise relevant to the committee's work. Any request for a staff member to spend substantial time on a committee project must be approved by the Director of PP&R.

## **ANNEX 2**

### **Central City Plan 2035**

The Land Use Subcommittee has drafted testimony for Board approval and submittal to City Council. Paddy Tillett has agreed to present the Subcommittee's recommendations to the Board and to testify on behalf of the Board at the City Council's September 7 hearing.

#### What is the Central City Plan 2035

- Replaces the 2008 Central City Plan that guided land uses within the Central City, over the past almost 20 years. Both Paddy Tillett and Jim Owens were part of the team that developed that plan.
- Implements the Portland Comprehensive Plan and the Portland Plan within the Central City.
- Includes an update to the plan for the Central Reach of the Willamette River.
- Defines goals and policies for land uses and urban design within the Central City generally and specifically for the 10 districts that comprise the Central City.

#### Why is this important to the Parks Board

- The Plan will guide how the Central City and its 10 districts develop and change in response to the significant growth projected over the next 20 years. The Central City is expected to absorb 30% of the city's projected population growth on 3% of the city's land base.
- The Central City is the region's economic, government, cultural and tourism hub, with the densest population of people and jobs. Central City 2035 is the plan for the future of the heart of our city.
- The plan's urban design concept is predicated on reconnecting with the Willamette River, recognizing and cultivating the distinct characteristics of each of the Central City's 10 districts, and creating a more fully connected public realm consisting of open spaces, greenway, and trails.