

**Budget Advisory Committee  
Meeting #4  
January 16, 2018**

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
David Douglas School  
1610 SE 130th Ave | Portland, OR

**Draft Meeting Summary**

**Committee Members Participating**

Jeff Anderson, Judy BlueHorse Skelton, Tonya Booker, Sophorn Cheang, Carol Chesarak, Amourie Downing, Sami Faile, Kolini Fusitu'a, Jenny Glass, Katy Holland, Ian Jaquiss, Jackie Hunter, Jenny Lee, Joe McFerrin II, Angela Moos, Natalie Rush, Jaclyn Sarna, Yoko Silk, Peter Zoltanski, Brian French, Randy Gragg

**Staff, Commissioner's Office, Facilitation**

Mike Abbaté, James Allison, Jamal Fox, Art Hendricks, Ryan Kinsella, Sabrina Neal, Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, Jason Smith, Jennifer Yokom, Trang Lam, Anny Hsiao, Sabrina Neal, Eileen Argentina, Jenn Cairo, Ramiro Villalvazo, Amy Archers-Mathew, Kirstin Greene, Aascot Bohlander, Commissioner Amanda Fritz, Tim Crail

**Welcome, Introductions & Agenda Review**

Portland Parks and Recreation Director Mike Abbate welcomed participants and called for introductions. Facilitator Kirstin Greene reviewed the agenda, and offered BAC members an opportunity to request changes to the previous meeting's summary.

Commissioner Fritz noted that she appreciated the BAC's work throughout the budget process.

**Review Feedback from Related Processes**

Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, Community Engagement and Public Involvement Manager, presented the Public Involvement Summary and Reduction Packages List, which were provided to all attendees in the meeting packet. Elizabeth emphasized that this budget process has had the most comprehensive public involvement component to date for the Parks and Recreation Bureau. The summary included results from each specifically engaged population – respondents to the online survey (overrepresented in Caucasian and female) the BAC's priorities, and culturally-specific focus groups' feedback including guidance from representatives of Portland's Spanish, Russian, and Vietnamese speaking community members.

In response to questions, Elizabeth *clarified that packages that the BAC didn't have any votes for or against cutting* were given a neutral value in the prioritization calculation. They ended up around the middle of the list.

Come committee members said that their constituents did not receive the survey or received it with just a short time to respond. They recommended allowing more time in the future. Elizabeth clarified that

the survey went to about 30,000 emails, friends and partner groups and neighborhood associations and coalitions. We know the comment period was short.

Committee members recommended it go to all City employees in the future and be geographically sorted.

### **Proposed Reduction Packages Priorities**

Amy Archer-Masters, PP&R Finance, Property, and Technology Manager, presented an overview of the prioritized cut packages to participants and allowed them time to review the materials.

She agreed that it wasn't possible to tell how much prep non-BAC participants had. Some relied mostly on staff presentation.

### **Add Packages**

Next, Amy presented an overview of the add packages to the group. She mentioned that the Budget Office estimates \$22.5M in one-time funds this year. Deputy Director Trang mentioned that add packages will be prioritized; committee comments are welcome.

One member spoke to the Parks Foundation, package A20. The funding would be used to raise even more for the Parks Bureau.

Another advocated for the scholarship program as essential.

### **Proposed Reduction Packages Priorities**

Amy presented an overview of the prioritized cut packages to the BAC members. Members discussed the advantage of having a diverse sample of respondents, but noted the sample was small.

Kirstin then facilitated a round table discussion of suggested changes to the proposed packages. Committee members used yellow, and green placards to indicate their level of support. Displaying the red side showed support in moving the package down the priority list. Displaying the yellow side showed support in keeping the package where it is currently. Displaying the green side showed support in moving the package up the priority list. These were the most discussed packages and their final tally.

- #6
  - Red / Move Down / Prevent Cut = 0
  - Yellow / Stay = 17
  - Green / Move Up / Encourage Cut = 3
- #8
  - Red / Move Down / Prevent Cut= 10
  - Yellow / Stay = 9
  - Green / Move Up / Encourage Cut = 2
- #12
  - Red / Move Down / Prevent Cut = 10
  - Yellow / Stay = 11
  - Green / Move Up / Encourage Cut = 0
- #14
  - Red / Move Down / Prevent Cut = 1

- Yellow / Stay = 6
  - Green / Move Up / Encourage Cut = 14
- #18
  - Red / Move Down / Prevent Cut = 3
  - Yellow / Stay = 14
  - Green / Move Up / Encourage Cut = 4
- #27
  - Red / Move Down / Prevent Cut = 10
  - Yellow / Stay = 8
  - Green / Move Up / Encourage Cut = 3
- #29
  - Red / Move Down / Prevent Cut = 2
  - Yellow / Stay = 9
  - Green / Move Up / Encourage Cut = 11
- #30
  - Red / Move Down / Prevent Cut = 1
  - Yellow / Stay = 5
  - Green / Move Up / Encourage Cut = 15

Participants indicated they wanted any “cut” to link to maintained services by the water bureau for the fountains.

#### **Public Comment**

Kirstin opened the floor for public comment. There were none.

#### **Themes for the Committee’s Letter to the Mayor**

After the final tally’s, Elizabeth presented an overview of her suggested letter to accompany BAC recommendations to participants. .

- Minimize violation of our shared, core values
- Align BAC priorities with additional feedback
- Support equity and racial equity plan as well as strategic plan
  - Particularly regarding the fee increase, parks in east Portland
- Support staff safety
- We engaged in rigorous process, we are asking to support an equitable level of service throughout the system
- Provide funding to match expectations
- Are there other bureaus that can do this work? If so, diversify.
- Fountains funding to water bureau, service provided by parks
- Back invisible staff – communications, tech
- Want to keep jobs
- Keep in mind that we are cutting real services, tangible things, and jobs
- Keep major maintenance

Elizabeth called for volunteers to write the letter with her. BAC members Joe McFarrin, Randy Gregg, Yoko Silk, and Judy BlueHorse-Skelton volunteered.

#### **Adjourn & Next Steps**

Mike thanked BAC members for coming and for their very hard work. He encouraged them to stay involved and adjourned the meeting.