

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

8:00 - 10:00 am

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Board Members Present

Punneh Abdolhosseini, Paul Agrimis, Alejandra Cortes, Mike Elliott, Bonnie Gee Yosick, Jenny Glass, Randy Gragg, Tamara Layden, Casey Mills, Lorena Nascimento, Alejandro Orizola, Paddy Tillett

Board Members Absent

Katy Holland, Ian Jaquiss, Juan Piantino, David Staczek, Erin Zollenkopf

City Staff Present

Maximo Behrens, Tonya Booker, Tim Collier, Margaret Evans, Brooke Gardner, Vicente Harrison, Todd Lofgren, Adena Long, Lauren McGuire, Tate White, Everett Wild, Kenya Williams

Call to Order/Social/Check-in

Paul Agrimis called the meeting to order at 8:01am. Paul reminded the Board that their meetings are open to the public, and recordings of meetings will be posted publicly. Paul asked members to fill out a Conflict of Interest form if they have not already. The Board shared what they did for the holiday weekend.

Review/Approve August Minutes

Paul asked for a motion to approve the August meeting minutes. Paddy made the motion, Casey seconded, and they were unanimously approved.

Director's Report

Workforce Development (WFD) Manager, Margaret Evans shared that the bureau is working on finalizing guidance for PP&R staff in the field who may face bigotry and/or hate speech. The Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) is also developing a city-wide Administrative Rule that would prohibit harassment in the work environment internally and externally. BHR and PP&R are working together to expand the Employee Assistant Program benefits to seasonal employees who are on the front lines and need this support as much as permanent staff.

Security and Safety Manager, Vicente Harrison shared that their team is working with WFD, Equity and Inclusion, and the Office of Community and Civic Life to create a Trauma Support team for employees. This team will launch at the end of 2020. PP&R has a daily check-in with the Portland Police Bureau to discuss the impacts the public demonstrations are having on parks and employees, to review PP&R priorities, and to direct resources to keep staff safe across the park system. Needed updates are being made to the Redbook - PP&R's emergency action plan for all employees. The new version will include information about how to respond to and report violence, demonstrations, needle sticks, and more. Incidents happen daily and



often go unreported. Bureau leadership is coaching staff to report these events and providing protocols for staff to use when they feel unsafe.

Working Group Reports

Community Development

Tamara will be connecting with Punneh and Alejandra to review the focus of the group's discussion. Tamara encouraged the bureau to look into the work being done to determine the effects of tear gas on plants and wildlife.

Financial Sustainability

Mike noted that the PP&R Fall Budget Monitoring Process (BMP) revised budget will be submitted soon. The Council work session on the Fall BMP will be held in October. Division Managers submitted ongoing and one-time reductions, and these were presented to the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) and Financial Sustainability working group. There were no proposed changes to the Equity and Inclusion budget. The two divisions most affected were Urban Forestry and Recreation Services. Recreation is revising their work from the ground up and looking at three different models for reopening. They are continuing under the current guidelines to meet budget needs and retain staff. The BAC submitted a letter with the recommended changes. The Community Engagement team is developing a plan to engage over 30 community stakeholder groups that will drive budget planning going forward. The results of the community engagement efforts will be reported in December.

Land Use/Infrastructure

The working group received a presentation on the new Parklane Park design. There are no other changes to last month's updates.

Process Improvement Ad Hoc

Bonnie reported that at the second meeting of the PP&R/BES process improvement task force participants talked about the goals of each bureau to create a shared vision for the tree planting program and worked to identify needed metrics. The third meeting will be scheduled in September.

Portland Parks Foundation Report

Randy shared that the Foundation has been busy with campaign activity. On September 26th, the Foundation is hosting the Friends and Allies Summit that will be an exciting day for volunteer and nonprofit groups devoted to parks. Dr. Alisha Moreland Capuia will hold a workshop on using a trauma informed perspective to address individual and systemic racism. Adena and Randy will be doing the opening session, and Jordan Hayles will be MC for the day.

Paul encouraged board members to participate in one of the equity trainings offered by the City if they have not already.

PP&R Progress Report: Vision 2020

Adena shared that with Vision 2020 sunsetting at the end of the year the bureau's next steps will include idea gathering through continued community engagement. Any significant changes will center community voices with an equity lens. Board members will be invited to participate.

Senior Planner, Tate White shared an overview of the Vision 2020 progress report. The Vision was created in 1999-2001. It identified emerging issues that are still being dealt with today. It founded the PP&R Board and established five highly ambitious goals. They are: Ensure Legacy for Future; Recreation for All; Nature in the City; Walking City of the West; and Promote Community. In 2009, the Board reviewed the progress towards the five goals and established an improved assessment process.

The metrics have been tracked and there will be a 2020 assessment available to the Board soon. The bureau made progress on almost half the measures, held steady on 19%, and fell short on 6%. The remaining measures could not be reported on due to data constraints.

Most measures were placed under Ensure Legacy for Future and Recreation for All. The bureau has fallen short on Walking City of the West due to poor measures. They met or exceeded protected habitat, new downtown and neighborhood plazas, and increased volunteer hours goals. The bureau has made progress on the following goals: full-service community centers, new parks in neighborhoods, greenways and trails, and joint initiatives with Portland Public Schools to maximize public benefit. They held steady on park acres and residents living within one half mile of a park. The regional trails goal was to double the miles of trails which would be 150 additional miles. The bureau added 33 miles. The 40-Mile Loop has not been completely built out, but there has been significant progress.

Many bureau successes were not reflected in the Vision Plan. These include: the PP&R Racial Equity Plan; workforce demographics better reflecting Portland; Park Ranger program expansion and success; 2014 Parks Replacement Bond; SDC program expansion of \$200 million in investments; and Title 11 Urban Forestry Code. Some caveats include lack of data systems and investments; changing methodologies limiting direct comparison; halfway through 2020 - a standout year due to COVID-19; and limits with survey methods.

Tate reviewed the lessons learned which included: develop clear and measurable performance measures; find balance between aspirational and realistic goals; apply inclusive engagement strategies; use improved tools and methods of analysis; focus more on tree canopy and climate crisis; and address increasing bike ridership and other recreation trends. The final report will be available for the Board when it is completed.

Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge

Heather Catron introduced the presenters of the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project. The project is needed to provide seismic resiliency and emergency response, regional recovery and rebuilding, and long-term use. It is in the environmental review phase. The team was last with the PP&R Board in August of 2019. The recommended preferred alternative from the

community task force is the long span replacement. Bridge type selection is happening now. Long span is best for seismic resiliency, affordability, enhancing/preserving community resources, improving safety for bike/pedestrians/ADA, and reducing impacts to natural resources.

Steve Drahota reviewed the features that enhance or preserve community resources and the traffic options during construction. Full bridge closure during construction was recommended and will save \$90 million and two years of construction time. Steve reviewed the results of their summer outreach which included 24,000 site visits to their online open house and 6,000 survey participants. 88% supported the bridge option, and 84% supported the traffic option.

Jeff Heilman reviewed parks considerations which include: Waterfront Park and events; Japanese American Historical Plaza; historic landmarks and districts; Rose Festival and Fleet Week; Eastbank Esplanade; Saturday Market; Ankeny pump station; park access; tree impacts; and social services. Construction access for the temporary work bridges would be from Waterfront Park which may have some impact. Other construction impacts would be the barges coming in with materials and material staging near the bridge. Bikes and pedestrians will be rerouted to Naito Parkway on the West side. Parks staff may have access to the construction site if needed. Eastbank Esplanade traffic will be redirected to the North and South. Mitigation considerations include: returning parks facilities to pre-construction or better condition; gaining usable space under the bridge at Waterfront Park; replacing trees removed during construction; relocating assistance for Saturday Market during construction; providing a wall separation between Japanese American Historical Plaza and construction; and going through the Non-Parks Use Permit (NPUP) process. The team is open to other mitigation measures and feedback.

Next steps include taking the results from the community outreach to their policy group next month which includes regional elected officials and agency leaders. When approved, a draft environmental impact statement will be published. The team is open to questions and comments about what they should be thinking about moving into the type selection phase and preparing for the environmental impact statement.

Randy asked about alternative East side ADA access to the bridge such as an elevator. This option is on the table. The group has selected a location at the light rail station for West side access. Paddy stressed the importance of bringing a design architect in as early as possible to integrate access into the design rather than attaching features later. Randy stressed that the complexity of the project necessitates a design vision and that should not come from a committee.

October Agenda Conversation

Paul asked board members for October agenda item suggestions. Tamara requested that the Board revisit the day and time for their meetings as it hasn't been reviewed since appointing six new members. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55am.