

City of Portland
Pedestrian Advisory Committee



Meeting Notes
Tuesday, September 16, 2014
6:00 – 9:00 PM

Portland Building, 1120 SW 5th Ave, 8th Floor Hawthorne Room

Committee Members:	Alternate Members:
David Aulwes*	Chase Ballew
Roger Averbek*	Anthony Buczek*
Don Baack*	Boris Kaganovich*
David Crout*	Lillian Karabaic
Marianne Fitzgerald	Scott Kocher
Rebecca Hamilton*	Eve Nilenders
Melissa Kaganovich*	Ray Tanner
Erin Kelley	Bridger Wineman
Arlene Kimura	
Doug Klotz*	
Noel Mickelberry	
Rod Merrick	
Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara	
Suzanne Stahl	
Jonathan Winslow	

** Indicates committee members in attendance*

Bureau of Transportation Staff:

Sara Schooley, Pedestrian Coordinator*
April Bertelsen
JP McNeil*
Courtney Duke*
Andrew Aebi*
Bob Haley*
Lance Lindahl*

6:00 – 7:00 **Optional PAC Boot Camp: TSP Policies (Courtney Duke, PBOT)**

Courtney Duke provided information about the current state of the TSP and Comp Plan, and how the PAC can productively contribute to the discussion.

Brief Boot Camp Update:

- Courtney provided some background on policies included in the TSP update
 - Surrounding uses in the ROW
 - Safety
 - Green Hierarchy
 - Vision Zero language
- Some of the policies are pretty bold compared to the last TSP update

7:05 – 7:20

Introductions, Hot Topics, Points of Interest, Successes

- Security for future meetings - We'll need to start rotating members to stand downstairs and let people in the building. Otherwise it would be necessary to hire security to wait at the door at a cost of about \$300 per meeting.
- Annual PAC walk – Thoughts?
 - David Aulwes thought the walk was great. The PCC representative offered valuable insight into what's going on in the area.
 - Doug Klotz was disappointed to see how the PCC campus is designed – seemed too suburban.
 - Rebecca Hamilton: It seems that absent any separation of pedestrians from traffic on 82nd, it will never be a good pedestrian walking environment (even if ODOT projects make it safer).
- Metro Design Challenge Advisory Group: Elizabeth will be serving on this committee. Hope to get an update from her next meeting.
- Parking Advisory Committee PAC representative – Rod Merrick will be serving on that committee.
- The Bicycle Advisory Committee is looking for new members – especially business owners, neighborhood representatives, increased diversity
 - Whatever happened to the Active Transportation Committee?
 - It is stalled until after Our Streets Initiative (street fee) is decided.
- In-Lieu of Fee – What happened to this idea?
 - Commissioner Novick wanted to hold off until after street fee controversy passed - Sarah will get more info.

7:20 – 8:20

St. Luke LID (Andrew Aebi, PBOT)

Andrew Aebi and Lance Lindahl were in attendance to present a proposal to update and renegotiate the St Luke LID, which they will be bringing to Council on September 17th. The PAC opposed the previous LID proposal that was approved by Council in 2012.

Background: The Church approached Andrew with some logistical considerations that emerged after approval of the previous street vacation and LID.

- The crux is that ADA requirements make it very difficult to build a public pedestrian connection along the vacated portion of SW 46th Ave. That area is relatively steep and constructing a ped connection along the SW 46th alignment that meets ADA requirements would be a challenge. The new proposal would still allow for an improved north-south ped connection, reduce the amount of ROW to be vacated, and include additional dedicated ROW for a future east-west ped connection.
- The new proposal would include:
 - SW 46th Ave still to be vacated, though the intersection of 46th and California would no longer be vacated.
 - North-south pedestrian improvements along SW 45th Ave (an arterial)
 - This will be part of a larger effort to connect sidewalks along 45th from Vermont to Multnomah.
 - Southbound bike lane on SW 45th
 - ROW Dedication along southern edge of church property for a future east-west ped connection along the SW California St. alignment.
 - This is above and beyond the previous vacation and LID, which contained a condition to “explore” the east-west connection but no actual ROW dedication.
 - In light of the increasingly limited opportunities for extractions, this proposal maximizes the extraction of property from an owner through a land use review.

Don Baack provided an alternate proposal:

- Maintain the full ROW along 46th for a future connection as well as along SW Florida.
- This could be used to access parking on the church property from the Southwest Community Center as part of a shared parking agreement.
 - Add pedestrian crossing across 45th from the community center to the church.
- Include the east-west ROW dedication at California.
- Also require a dedication or easement along the west side of the church property for a future north-south connection along the St John the Fisher driveway.

Discussion:

- Bob Hailey – It's not clear what the benefit of this proposal is over doing the existing proposal for public street improvements on SW 45th.
- David Aulwes – the SW Florida pathway is valuable only when coupled with a shared parking agreement with the church and the community center.
- Andrew Aebi – Sees the value of the SW Florida ROW.
- Staff also supportive of the 45th Ave ped crossing. They will look into it.

8:25 – 9:00 Better Blocks PDX (Melissa, Boris, and Jonathan)

From October 3 to October 5, Better Blocks PDX will be demonstrating street enhancements in Old Town/Chinatown on 3rd Avenue from NW Davis to SW Ankeny. The demonstration will add public seating, extra pedestrian spaces, and a South-bound bike lane.

- Tactical Urbanism in action: Better Blocks PDX has taken on a couple of parklets projects to date:
 - Park(ing) Day to create a block long plaza along SW Stark St.
 - Popcorn Plaza at SE 26th and Clinton – took west lane of 26th Ave and created a plaza.
- Now, BBP is expanding the idea with the Old Town/Chinatown Re-Imagination – a temporary redesign of 3rd Avenue between NW Davis and SW Ash.
 - The problem: The street is expansive and there is too much ROW in this area (especially south of Burnside), creating some dangerous pedestrian crossings. Also, during busy weekend night hours, fights can break out because there are too many people on the narrow sidewalks.
 - The proposal: Close all but the center lane to traffic, create a bike lane on the west side of the street, and parklet and pedestrian areas on both sides of the streets. This installation will test out a new design to alleviate some of the problems.
 - The impetus for this? A post on Bike Portland.
- What is BBP asking of the PAC?
 - Support to push PBOT to develop a process to make it easier to get approval for a street or lane closure. As it stands there are two types of permits – one for a temporary, short term street closure (i.e. block party) or for permanent encroachment into ROW.
 - Melissa and Boris will draft a letter for the next meeting to ask PBOT to improve the process
 - Also, they're looking for help about to help with materials and other things from this committee. Boris and Melissa will send out an email about what they need.