



1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 800 Portland, OR 97204 503.823.5185
Fax 503.823.7576 TTY 503.823.6868 www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation

Steve Novick Commissioner Leah Treat Director

GROWING TRANSIT COMMUNITIES PLAN

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2016 5:30–7:30PM

BANFIELD PET HOSPITAL CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

MADISON SOUTH COMMUNITY ROOM
8000 NE TILLAMOOK STREET | PORTLAND, OR



Meeting #1 Notes

In attendance: Darin Lund, Emeé Pumarega, Jeff Deng, Phuc Toan Nguyen, Rowena Norman, Sue Ludington, Jennifer Phung, and Jim Howell.

Not in attendance: Tony Lamb, Arlene Kimura, Katie Urey, and Adam Kriss.

Staff present: April Bertelsen, Francesca Patricolo, and Zef Wagner, PBOT; Eric Hesse, TriMet; and Terra Lingley, ODOT.

Welcome and Introductions

Members and staff went around the room and introduced themselves to each other, saying what brought them to join the Community Advisory Group.

Project Overview

April Bertelsen explained the purpose and goal of the project, which is also summarized in the project overview handout shared with the advisory group. She highlighted that TriMet is a key partner in this planning process. April also reviewed the process, structure, and timeline of the project on the back side of the overview handout. She said that the process should wrap up in the summer of 2016. Refer to the handout for details.

Staff and the advisory group discussed the methodology of studying and planning for improvements on a corridor basis rather than as a transportation network. Staff discussed how the corridor method is intended to serve as a model for other corridors with potentially similar characteristics. The exchange touched on whether increasing frequency alone could increase ridership. Staff said they have heard loud and clear that areas need both frequency and better safety and access in place for ridership to increase and sustain.

Community Advisory Group Business

April reviewed the purpose of the CAG and referred to a handout about the member roles and responsibilities. She said that the committee will be able to provide feedback that will be considered for integration into project materials, development of alternatives, selection of a preferred plan, and recommendations to City Council. CAG representatives will be responsible for keeping their individual organizations, agencies, neighborhoods, and/or community and business groups up to speed on the progress of the Plan (if they are representing any particular groups or organizations). Refer to the handout for details.

Advisory group members shared that links to the GTC Plan webpage and meeting materials from both the information sheet handout and the recent email to members included errors.

ACTION: Staff will fix the web link to the main GTC Plan webpage, which also includes links to the meeting materials.

April discussed general ground rules for CAG meetings. An advisory group member suggested that the group should use a “parking lot” for ideas that come up in the meetings but are off-topic. Others agreed and suggested calling it a “bus stop” or a “bike rack.” Additional items to include to the Principles and Ground Rules include statements about creating agendas, taking and distributing meeting notes.

ACTION: Staff will use a parking lot/ bus stop/ bike rack strategy during CAG meetings to help keep meetings on topic and will edit the advisory group document containing Principles and Ground Rules document to reflect this. Staff will also edit the document to include language about agendas and meeting notes.

The advisory group discussed locations, days, times, and nights of the week that work to help staff find the best ongoing meeting place, day, and time.

The advisory group noted that 6PM works a bit better for most members and that Mondays work well for both staff and members. Some members have neighborhood association meetings on the second and third Mondays of each month. Members said that the Montavilla Methodist Church and Lumber Yard are additional location options for the meetings.

ACTION: Staff will follow up with the advisory group to see if the first Monday of the month at 6PM will work for an ongoing meeting date/ time. Staff will follow-up to see if the Montavilla Methodist Church or Lumber Yard will work for ongoing meetings.

Selection of Transit Corridors

April discussed the universe of corridors the Planning Team started with and how they narrowed the corridor options down. She said staff combined some of the corridors, which is how they narrowed down some of the options. The Planning Team looked at existing bus lines with less than Frequent Service currently, yet that are planned for future Frequent Service or improved service frequency in a TriMet Service Enhancement Plan.

April explained the factors that the planners looked at to identify the three corridors with the greatest needs including, Residential Density (projected household density based on the Comprehensive Plan Growth Scenarios Report), Opportunity (helps provide access to opportunity, including educational institutions and concentration of jobs), Equity (the transit line serves concentrations of historically

underserved and disadvantaged populations and people more likely to depend upon transit), Access (known pedestrian and bicycle network gaps/deficiencies that limit access to transit), and Mixed-use Land Patterns (the corridor has a transit supportive pattern of mixed-use zoning and density in the proposed Comprehensive Plan Update). This and more is summarized in the Transit Corridor Selection Report and Appendix shared with the advisory group.

Q: What is Mixed-use Zoning?

Response: It is really a mixture of different kind of land uses one site. One example is shopping on the first floor and apartments above. It is an area that includes businesses where people live. It makes it so that people can more easily ride the bus for lots of different kinds of , like people leaving their home and going to work, others who are getting off the bus to shop or use services, for example.

Eric Hesse told the advisory group about TriMet's service enhancement planning that will wrap up at the end of 2015. He said that advisory group members and their affiliated groups and organizations can provide feedback to identify and prioritize opportunities to improve bus service as well as pedestrian and bike access to transit. <http://future.trimet.org/>

DRAFT Background Policy and Existing Conditions

Zef introduced what is in the documents, highlighted key policies, and reviewed the maps in the Draft Existing Conditions Report.

The group discussed that the policy and existing conditions do not always match. Policy is often an aspiration for what a place will be in the future and guides changes over time. April said those instances can be identified as deficiencies that can be prioritized.

Some CAG members said that the projects list map was hard to read and they noticed that some projects on the list seemed to be missing from the map.

ACTION: Staff will create an 11 X 17 map at a higher resolution, make sure all the projects are on there, and try to make it easier to read.

The advisory group had a discussion about the variety of concurrent and somewhat overlapping or supporting planning processes.

Q: A lot of different groups that have input, how does that come into our room? How do they affect us?

Response: Some are adopted plans, some are happening simultaneously, and staff will coordinate where feedback should land.

Q: Of the three corridors, is there one that is a priority?

Response: All have attributes that are unique to each one. They are all important.

Question about "headways." Headway is the time between arrivals, how long you wait between the busses. Clarification, average daily is average weekday.

Q: I'd love to see an ideal corridor compared to these existing ones.

ACTION: Staff will find ways to show policy vs. what's existing or provide design guides that could show "ideal" compared to existing.

ACTION: CAG members will send their comments on the Draft Existing Conditions Report to GTCPlan@portlandoregon.gov by Mon. Nov. 30, 2015.

CAG members and staff identified the following additions to the Draft Existing Conditions Report:

- Hospitals
- Community centers
- Intersecting routes for transfers
- Pedestrian districts

ACTION: Staff will make the above additions to the Draft Existing Conditions Report.

Advisory group members expressed interest in having an online forum where they can see other members' comments and respond, such as with Google Docs or Google Groups.

The meeting agenda was behind anticipated schedule so staff skipped discussion of the Draft Community Outreach & Engagement Plan (to return at the next meeting) and briefly reviewed next steps.

ACTION: Staff will discuss options for a CAG online forum (that will be public per Oregon Public Meeting Law) and get back to the group with a plan moving forward.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40PM.

Meeting notes are provided as a courtesy and are not verbatim.

To help ensure equal access to City programs, services and activities, the City of Portland will provide translation, reasonably modify policies/procedures, and provide auxiliary aids/services/alternative formats to persons with disabilities. For accommodations, translations, complaints, and additional information, contact Francesca Patricolo by phone at 503.823.5282 or by email at francesca.patricolo@portlandoregon.gov or contact the Civil Rights Title VI & ADA Title II Program by email at title6complaints@portlandoregon.gov, by telephone 503.823.2559, by City TTY 503.823.6868, or use Oregon Relay Service: 711.