

PBOT

PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

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PedPDX: Portland's Citywide Pedestrian Plan Community Advisory Committee

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 5:30-7:30 PM
Portland City Hall, Rose Room (1221 SW 4th Ave)

PedPDX Community Advisory Committee Meeting Notes – November 28, 2018

I. Welcome + Introductions

Francesca Patricolo, PBOT

Committee members, staff and members of the public introduced themselves. PBOT Interim Director Chris Warner thanked the committee for their service in shaping PedPDX and working toward a more livable city. He made note of the Pedestrian Stories video series and described it as “a stunning example of what we can do together.” He commended staff and thanked the entire committee for giving their time as volunteers.

II. What's in the Plan?

Michelle Marx, PBOT

Michelle offered a presentation summarizing each chapter of the Plan. This presentation will be put into a video format to help people find sections of the Plan that are most important to them.

III. Process Reflection

Michelle Marx & Francesca Patricolo, PBOT

The group responded to Michelle's presentation with follow-up questions and reflections on the PedPDX planning process, paraphrased as follows:

- I appreciate the data-based approach rather than a “squeaky wheel” neighborhood approach.
- This plan is exemplary. I hope other cities look to Portland as a model for pedestrian planning.



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- What are the cost estimates for sidewalk and other improvements?
 - Michelle: Approximately \$4 million per mile of sidewalk. Potentially \$1.4 billion over twenty years. However, we aim to leverage opportunities, including new and redevelopment as a path to add sidewalks.
- I am waiting to read the toolbox section. That's where the action is.
- Will there be an accessible version of the Plan?
 - Francesca: Yes.
- I commend you all. Other organizations could benefit from PedPDX's equity approach.
- Will there be a "GoFundMe" type of option for neighborhoods to come together and raise money for pedestrian improvements?
 - Michelle: Yes, there is an action in the Plan to develop a pathway.
- The data is important. People will be surprised by the results they see in the Plan. The Plan is accessible and will help everyone understand the priorities.
- Being part of the committee has been a wonderful experience. PBOT staff exceeded my expectations in follow-through and communication with the committee.
- Staff did a great job incorporating community input into the Plan.
- I was humbled by this process and grateful to be a part of it. I brought the equity matrix to another committee discussion about school funding.
- Staff did a good job reaching out beyond the survey. Education needs to be emphasized in the Plan to teach people to "be seen and be safe."
- How do we communicate combined efforts, for example, Safe Routes to School and PedPDX?
- I tell all my neighbors in SW Portland how wonderful City staff are. It takes time to explain the prioritization methodology, but I try to help my neighbors understand the reasoning behind it.
- I always come back to the need for education. Education for both pedestrians and drivers as well as enforcement.
- Can the City impact the driver's test?
 - Michelle: It is challenging to impact the State's driver's test but the City of Portland is working on a Vision Zero action to require Transportation Network Companies (such as, Uber and Lyft) to take a Vision Zero driver training course.
- How do the various plans work together, such as Southwest in Motion and PedPDX?
- We are a city of neighborhoods. The toolbox captures Portland's spirit of creativity.
- I am concerned about maintenance of new and existing pedestrian facilities.
- How does this impact the city's policy on which neighborhoods get prioritized?
 - Michelle: When we get calls, we will communicate very clearly how and why we have set our priorities. Some neighbors will go to PBOT's leadership to raise their concerns, but staff will again communicate the priorities identified in PedPDX.

- What kind of response should we be expecting from the public and commissioners?
 - Michelle: In addition to our outreach, we put our efforts toward coalition building and have kept our internal partners informed and involved. I expect support from our partners but there may be some concerned groups among the public. Street trees will be a thorny issue. We love street trees and need to work together to address sidewalk maintenance and ADA compliance when tree roots impact sidewalks. We do not yet know the solution to this conflict. I also anticipate some opponents of the Plan might say our alternatives to sidewalk are “second rate” solutions.

IV. Public Review Draft Outreach Plan

Francesca Patricolo, PBOT

Francesca shared next steps for the Public Review Draft. The PedPDX team will host View + Review Parties at seven locations around the city. Video summaries of the planning process and the Plan itself will be shown and the public will have the opportunity to ask questions and give their feedback. Paper copies of the online survey will be available and the public will be invited to identify areas that PBOT missed during the analysis. Feedback received at the events and through the online survey will refine the Plan before it is presented to City Council in the summer.