

# Lower Southeast Rising Area Plan Project Advisory Committee - Kick-off Meeting

## Meeting Notes

Meeting began at 6:03.

### Attendance

Committee members: Anna Weichsel, Aron Klein, Ben Waterhouse, Brian Choe, Carolanne Fry, Eleanor Manning, Jef Hafner, Julie Gardner, Kathy Brock, Melanii Lambert, Michael Kennedy, Nancy Chapin, Nick Sauvie, Pam Hodge, Ryan Ernst, Tim Williams, Valeria McWilliams, Vivian Schoung

City staff: Andrea Pastor, Bryan Pool, Corinne Montana, Marty Stockton, Mauricio Leclerc, Shane Valle, Zef Wagner

ODOT: Hector Rodriguez-Ruiz

Introductions: The 18 Committee members introduced themselves and answered the following questions:

- What is your relationship to the Project Area?
- What motivated you to participate in this Committee?

### Project Background

This Lower Southeast Rising Plan is building off of a previous PSU Masters of Urban and Regional Planning school project, Say Our Name. It was a well-done graduate planning process that got community members excited. And we were too. Internally at the City we try to advocate for projects, and one of the ways we do that is to go after grants. The first was a Metro grant in the 2018 timeframe, which was unsuccessful. But Zef suggested the City apply for a TGM grant, which is managed by ODOT. We applied for this and had great community stakeholder support, with 17-18 letters of support from various neighborhoods and organizations. A lot of this was building off the regional flexible funds grant for sidewalk on Duke and Flavel and the Knapp Ogden neighborhood greenway. This grant is beneficial in that it allows us to look at land use and transportation together.

While Woodstock is a Neighborhood Corridor, 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Foster Road are Civic Corridors, there is a big question mark around the Brentwood Darlington area that is recognized by the city for growth and investment. On the other map the red lines identify sidewalks, which highlights that south of Duke there are very few sidewalks with some of the least coverage in the city. Most of the streets don't have sidewalks, some with none, some unpaved streets, and the map also shows the transit lines. It might look like good transit coverage but the routes zigzag, are infrequent or inconsistent and many bus stops aren't high quality.

The project goals were outlined in the grant and are also on the website. The goal is to develop strategies to increase livability and housing stability. And to improve access, both transportation-related access but also the location of employment and other opportunities. It also will look at reducing displacement, both housing, business, and places of identity. Also want to link affordable housing, economic development, and business stabilization opportunities. In this plan we will be raising awareness of this area. We have a technical advisory committee with expertise about housing and development, as well as people like Nick Sauvie on this committee. There is also a desire to enhance access to transit and ped/bike network connectivity.

Question from Michael Kennedy, this says the plan will enhance access to transit, so will it or just explore ways to do that? Response: We should probably qualify that this is a plan without funding, but that it will help raise the profile, make the priorities clearer, and is a typical prerequisite to find funding. Also, these are ultimately decided by TriMet who is participating on the project's technical advisory committee but not directly involved in the project.

Regarding the timeline, we are working on existing conditions now and kicking off this committee. In the summer there will be public involvement opportunities. In the fall we will be looking at the alternatives analysis or possible solutions. In winter/spring we shift to the implementation phase, what are the recommendations to make changes and improvements in the area. Then in spring or more likely summer we will have the first draft of the plan all pulled together. Later in 2022 we shift to the legislative process, ultimately ending with taking the plan to City Council for adoption.

Now we will discuss the bylaws and formalities of what it means to serve on a committee. The committee is charged with identifying ways to address livability, stability and access in the Lower SE Rising area. As far as main roles, you are the consultants and advisors that we will enjoy together. We'll need assistance with developing the public involvement plan, reviewing plans on land use and transportation alternatives, feedback on implementing strategies, and providing input throughout.

This committee is founded on a working agreement for some ground rules.

### **BPS Shared Ground Rules**

1. Listen to understand, not to respond
2. W.A.I.T.
3. Assume good intentions, but attend to impact.
4. Be willing to make mistakes and be forgiving of those who do.
5. Allow for, and appreciate, disagreement of opinions, ideas, methods – respectfully.

6. Personal stories stay, lessons can be shared.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank.)

This committee will develop its own culture, so there might be additional ground rules developed by the group. For committee member responsibilities, we lead with equity. We acknowledge the City's role in previous planning work that exacerbating inequities, and we realize this is an opportunity to repair harm and distrust. We need to adhere to Oregon and Civil Rights law. You are an official body, and specific to this law we will make sure you're prepared what this means.

An email tomorrow will provide a draft charter, the charge, the working agreements, and bylaws. In this it will list the bylaws specific to this group. And the charter and charge components are in draft form so you have an opportunity to make changes to this. We ask for regular attendance as best as possible and we want you all here to be part of the journey. Regarding information sharing, we'll get you information as soon as possible, and if you engage with others on the project we encourage you to include a City staff member on the email to ensure they are part of the public record. And to be part of the committee you had to fill out a conflict of interest disclosure.

As far as the committee roadmap and meeting plan, we are planning a minimum of 7 meetings with this group. We may need one or two additional meetings, but this is the map we are starting with this spring. There are four phases. The first phase includes this kick-off and then a June/July meeting to go over the Public Involvement Plan and Existing Conditions. This will set us up for the summer. In Phase 2/fall timeframe, we'll discuss what we heard about the existing conditions, concerns and aspirations for the area. Then start to shift into possible solutions. In Phase 3, early 2022 we'll shift to implementing strategies that will have two meetings. In Phase 4 we'll have the first draft of the plan, which will be in May-July 2022. What's not on the slide is the legislative process. Typically the life of the committee is through the plan draft before shifting to the planning commission and City Council.

### **Wrap up and next steps**

The next Committee meeting will be held in June or July from 6-8 p.m., where we will discuss the Public Involvement Plan and Existing Conditions.

Possible meeting conflicts: Bike loud every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, Woodstock meetings every 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, SE uplift every 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, PSC meeting every fourth Tuesday from 5-7, ROSE board meeting every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, EPLUTC Housing committee every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, Jade District every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday.

Question from Nancy Chapin about meeting on June 15 at Thai Fresh on 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue at 3pm. Marty confirmed she could attend this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.