



Community Involvement Committee (CIC) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 8, 2022 | Time: 5:00 -7:00 pm

Location: Zoom meeting

Attendees:

Susan Novak, Valeria McWilliams, Daniel Hafner, Rachael Hoy (BPS), Steve Kountz (BPS), Tom Armstrong (BPS), Harmonee Dashiell (BPS), Anita Yap (MutliCultural Collaborative) and Sarah Omlor (Enviroissues).

Apologies:

- Rachel Bernstein, Harranie Chavers, Nikoyia Phillips (BPS)

Welcome + Check-in (5:00 pm)

Anita Yap welcomed the committee and reviewed the meeting guidelines and agenda for the evening.

Project updates (5:15 pm)

Rachael Hoy, Steve Kountz, Tom Armstrong briefed the committee about the Portland Economic Opportunities Analysis (EOA) and discussed how the project can engage more BIPOC communities and workers to expand engagement beyond the usual industry leaders and environmental groups.

The City is required to do an EOA every 5-7 years to analyze the growth capacity of land and how that relates to employment growth for the next 20 years.

Project elements:

1. Recent trends and market factors
2. Employment growth forecast (demand)
3. Land development capacity (supply)
4. Reconciliation – surpluses and shortfalls
5. Policy choices to meet 20-year capacity needs

Project goals:

- Analyze and provide an adequate 2045 land supply for businesses and jobs.
- Promote inclusive prosperity and reduce BIPOC income disparities.
- Analyze industrial growth capacity to optimize multiple objectives.

The EOA studies four sectors of job types; Industrial, Office, Institutional and Retail & Consumer Services. Growth in all four sectors is important for economic growth. Job growth in the last 20 years as been the slowest in the industrial sector, probably because of limited industrial land and therefore no room to grow. Industrial land is difficult to develop like other sectors, but one way to increase land is by investing in brownfield redevelopment. The office sector has been able to grow because of investment in office space by building multi-story buildings. This growth in office sector jobs also correlates to a majority job growth in high wage positions that require advanced education.

BPS also compared job growth by sectors and how it affects wages by race. Industrial sector jobs increase wage percentages the most for Black, BIPOC and white employees. Statistically in Portland, and nationally, Black households make about half of the income of white households. Middle wage Industrial sector jobs are considered at risk in the 2035 Comprehensive Plan.

CIC shared the following feedback regarding the potential engagement strategies:

- EOA's are extremely technical; the data should be distilled down as much as possible for groups that are not as familiar with planning to best engage with the information.
- Recommendation to use focus group formats that are led by a community leader who is third party to the City and has existing relationship with BIPOC communities.
- Suggestion to include technical schools, trade schools, minority trade associations, etc. as a stakeholder.
- Recommendation to tailor presentations for specific groups rather than giving a generic presentation to each. If possible, work with a representative from the group ahead of a meeting to do this.
- Providing the same incentives as in-person meetings as much as possible and making the presentation more interactive would help to engage BIPOC communities.

Bureau updates (6:10 pm)

Harmonee shared an update about a new state policy going into effect for public meetings that will require accommodations for in-person participation beginning this fall. Although the CIC doesn't often receive public participants, it is technically a public meeting and will need to provide in-person accommodations, even if the committee members continue joining remotely. The committee staff welcomes suggestions for meeting spaces that have technical components for joining Zoom meetings and aren't in downtown since the Portland building will be available there.

Harmonee mentioned that the City is currently hiring many new employees so there may be some new faces at upcoming meetings.

Discussion (6:20 pm)

Harmonee kicked off discussion with an update on the group's current size, upcoming term endings and recruitment for new members. The current committee has shrunk to the bare minimum as committee staff moves to a more uniform recruitment schedule so that new members can be onboarded during the off months over the summer, while still staggering terms.

As the group discussed what they want the CIC to look like in the future, Harmonee led an activity asking "Who is a Portlander?" and discussed the following questions:

- Who does our work serve?
- How does city planning affect those who live outside of city but work here?
- How does planning affect those who live in Portland but work outside of Portland?
- What is a community?
- What is our role in programs and resources for communities that have been displaced out of Portland?
- How might individuals or families utilize the City of Portland without living here?
- What can we do differently in outreach and engagement to reach people who do not live in Portland?"

The following summarized a few points of discussion:

- The displacement of the Black community in N & NE Portland was done intentionally.
- Is there an obligation to keep this community in mind in land use planning even though the gentrification already happened?
- Despite being displaced to other areas communities often continue to gather in Portland
- Being more active on social media and through commuter programs could be ways to reach community who no longer lives in Portland.
- How will the large amount of folks who now telecommute affect the City and how can they be engaged?
- The committee will continue to think about these tough questions and provide more input via email.

Meeting Evaluation + Next Steps (6:55 pm)

The meeting evaluation was shared digitally, along with the discussion questions since there were only two members present. The group adjourned approximately at 7:00 pm.

Adjourn (7:00 pm)