

## Lower Southeast Rising Area Plan Project Advisory Committee Meeting #6: June 23, 2022; 6:30pm – 8pm

### Meeting Notes

Meeting began at 6:35 p.m.

#### Attendance

Committee members: Nancy Chapin, Jed Hafner, Pam Hodge, Michael Kennedy, Aron Klein, Melanii Lambert, Eleanor Manning, Valeria McWilliams, Nick Sauvie, Ben Waterhouse, Anna Weichsel, and Tim Williams

City staff: Cassie Ballew, Kevin Bond, Corrine, McQueen, Bryan Poole, Hector Rodriguez-Ruiz and Marty Stockton

#### Introductions:

- What's your favorite Portland summer activity?

#### Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

## **Online Open House, Survey and Engagement Events: Update on online open house activity and survey results. Engagement events observations.**

Mart Stockton, BPS, and Bryan Poole, PBOT, presented.

### Public Engagement (Marty):

Two neighborhood walks were held on SE 52<sup>nd</sup> and SE 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenues. Approximately 20-30 people per walk, folks of all ages and modes of transportation and furry friends also! The project team partnered on a bike ride with BikeLoud, tabled at the Errol Heights Park Project Meet and Greet event, and last Friday tabled at Mt Scott Community Center to meet with people during their activities. This coming Sunday project team staff will be at the Lents International Farmers Market, as well as at the Summer Free for All Event in July. Also have had about 484 survey responses so far, and this closes next week.

Before we go to the survey results, we wanted to share a few highlights. On 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, there was feedback about filling in sidewalk gaps, a desire to continue the quirky character of 52<sup>nd</sup>, and at Duke/52<sup>nd</sup> there is a large Douglas Fir tree in the ROW that is beloved, and people want to preserve. Feedback on the new crossings, desired other crossings, sight lines (esp. 52<sup>nd</sup>/Ogden), and more businesses and more things to walk to. Appreciation for lawn in front of Moose Lodge as a de facto public plaza.

On both 52<sup>nd</sup>/72<sup>nd</sup>, desire for a welcome to B-D sign, that welcomes community members and acts as a gateway. On 72<sup>nd</sup>, desire for more pedestrian crossings, especially at Lexington and near bus stops, crossing at Harney and 72<sup>nd</sup> by little league park, a desire to have more businesses and things to walk to, desire for more commercial buildings that are vacant to be redeveloped or reinhabited.

### Survey Review (Bryan):

- Most responses were from Brentwood Darlington residents
- Most respondents were White/Homeowners
- Most preferred scenario was Scenario 4
- Top priority for PBOT for folks was ped improvements followed by bike/scooter improvements

*Question from Mike Kennedy – It looks like most of the responses were from white, homeowners? Bryan discussed the difficulties in getting responses from a larger group and our attempt to reach out to using other means (i.e., tabling market in Lents).*

- *Follow- Up Question: Is it worth having the survey open for longer for a week to try and get more responses from other demographics? Concerned this may not be enough time to get more feedback to balance out the survey demographics.*
  - *We would like to do this, but it is a staff capacity issue, so we need to carefully consider the pros and cons of extending the survey. We need to weigh whether it's more beneficial to extend the survey or do more on the focused demographic outreach in future phases.*
  - *Other comments from Anna Weichsel and Valeria McWilliams echoed Mikes concerns – questions pressed on staff to do more targeted, on the ground outreach.*

- *Marty shared that these relationships take time to build, for example it took team about nine months to build a relationship with Latino Network, co-create a scope, and finalize a contract.*

### **Latino Network Engagement: Update of engagement approach and feedback**

Marcela Tupayachi, Latino Network, and Corrine McQueen, PBOT, presented.

Marcela provided introduction to the organizations work to support families in the community.

Corrine reviewed this partnership goals:

- Increase awareness of the Lower Southeast Rising Area Plan Project among Spanish-speaking Hispanic/Latina/o/x community members
- Provide opportunities for engagement for Spanish-speaking community members during two key phases of the project: existing conditions and current online open house period.

Marcela reviewed engagement activities:

- Part 1 issues and needs – met with Colegio de Padres participants in area – interviewed 6 participants;
- Part 2 proposed improvements – met with Colegio de Padres and presented project plan components – conducted follow up interviews and supported people with their participation in the online survey that was translated into Spanish.

#### Community reflections (Marcela):

- What's working: Community and neighbors; public transit for access to schools/jobs/amenities
- What is a challenging: homelessness and camping; harassment; trash and abandoned cars; construction impacts

Areas of Concerns:

- Potholes and poor road condition at: Rural, Cooper, Lambert
- Speeding and lack of safe crossings at 92nd and Rural; poor stopping compliance at intersection of 88th and Ellis
- Pedestrian safety near Wild Lilac Child Development preschool.

What participants would like to see:

- More parks and green spaces
- More community centers and health clinics
- Bike lanes
- Paving and improved roadway conditions
- Increased lighting (increase safety and visibility for people walking to the bus stops, particularly during the winter)

Next Steps

- Continue to strengthen the partnership with this group and find ways to include the Colegio de Padres in work outside of this project.

### **Committee Project Midpoint Reflections: Committee sharing and project team listening**

Marty Stockton, BPS, facilitated.

#### Project Midpoint Reflection Questions:

- What has gone well with the project in your opinion so far?
- What do you think needs greater emphasis in these final stages of the project?
- Is there anything the project team can do to improve the Committee experience?
- What else would you like for the project team to know?

Mike asked has the work Marcela did been incorporated into the survey. Marty responded that this feedback is in a parallel engagement track and documented separately and that this was more focused culturally specific engagement based on what the participants wanted to share. Marcela will be supporting Colegio de Padres participants in taking the online Spanish-language survey.

Aron Klein asked what the plan is to mitigate that the feedback we have received if it is not representative of the community. Staff responded that in future phases focused outreach would be prioritized to those communities that have had limited engagement and input in the project to date.

Valeria adding to Aron's question, will there be an opportunity to do more. Staff responded yes.

Marty stated that the project midpoint reflection questions would be emailed out and asked Committee members to email in any feedback.

### **Next Steps**

Upcoming dates and Committee action steps:

- No Committee meeting proposed in July
- Tabling at:
  - Lents International Farmers Market (6/26)
  - Concert in the Park in Brentwood Park (7/29)
- Pedalpalooza bike ride (8/1)
- Next Committee meeting on August 29, 2022

Action items for Project Team:

- Email any additional feedback on project midpoint reflections – thank you!

The meeting ended at 8:00 p.m.