

CIC Meeting 11/14/2023

Staff Present: Harmonee, Rheanna

Commission Members Present: Susan, Ren, Mia, Calvin, Jim, Janette, Diana, Tim, Brian

Presentation: PBOT – 2045 Transportation System Plan

Presenters: Francesca, Ari

Committee Member: The pandemic has a significant impact on everything but plans don't always reflect those changes. How has this TSP changed over the past 3 years?

Francesca: The biggest thing is the financial plan. The requirements are that we have a financial plan where we're completely updated with inflation costs, etc. Our budget is down because parking is down and gas usage is down, which is great, but it means that we have less funding, which will have to change PBOTs plans long-term. This means, though, that we'll be significantly crunched on how we plan financially for the future.

CM: How does eco-friendly decision making factor into this?

Francesca: [Talked about the racist background of transportation planning, and gave other equity-based anecdotes]

Ari: Some communities have been affected by climate more than others, so that plays a big role

CM: When you've talked about modes you talked about bike / pedestrian / freight. What about cars? And public vehicles, public transportation? Busses?

Francesca: Transit is required now as an element of the CFEC rules

CM: I'm hearing a lot about equity, but not anything about how PBOT is making transportation more climate-friendly

Francesca: We still have to set goals for our future, but it's worked into the plan to define those eco-friendly goals once this TSP starts.

CM: You keep giving me notes about process, I'm interested in content

Francesca: I can come back and present about that another time, there's also a video online that speaks exactly to that

CM: It's hard to meaningfully engage in this process because I see a lot of things in this plan that do not end up being executed. Would love to hear next time about how you as part of this plan can help hold bureaucracy accountable to get things done.

Harmonee: Based off the previous TSP, are there success stories that when going into community engagement and involvement you can present as examples?

CM: I hear a lot about “climate friendly” but what I want to know is specific goals, specific numbers, to avoid green-washing.

Ari: At a regional level, folks are measuring goals for vehicle miles traveled, so that is happening

Rheanna: There seems to be a lot of opportunity for community engagement and using an equity lens when it comes to making a video

CM: I think it would be a great idea to host a community viewing of the video, it could be an opportunity to have community members speak and share stories

Rheanna: It is important to single out people with physical disabilities from the rest of the list of “underserved populations” when it comes to discussing public transportation

Feedback from breakout groups:

CM: Getting transportation-specific focus groups. Talk to folks who are dependent on certain modes of transportation and can't choose. Get data from Metro's bike town, etc, to see if transportation patterns have changed. For schools, connect with bike/bus/world (?) to find out the obstacles to getting to a local school without a car. Transit needs to be recognized as a community gathering place, even if its not intended that way. As a way to get out of the cold, or as a sobering center, frankly.

CM: For most of these underserved groups, time is very important and a resource that is lacking, so efficiency of transportation is going to be key in increasing usage of public transit.

CM: Some stakeholders are missing – people with long distance commutes, people who have been recently displaced or are about to be displaced, local business interests. To find community resources, you need to get someone on Google to find different places in Portland.

CM: Stakeholders are not going to want to respond to Process, they need something more concrete.

Announcements and Updates:

Council meeting on city re-org happened. Many amendments were proposed – main takeaway is that Council is going to continue to make decisions through Jan 2025.

Budget season is starting! But no new specific information yet.

