

## Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

6:00 – 8:15 p.m.

### Meeting Minutes

**Commissioners Present:** Andre' Baugh, Karen Gray, Don Hanson, Mike Houck, Michelle Rudd, Katherine Schultz, Howard Shapiro, Chris Smith, Irma Valdez

**Commissioners Absent:** Gary Oxman

**BPS Staff Present:** Susan Anderson, Eric Engstrom, Morgan Tracy, Phil Nameny, Julie Ocken

**Other Staff Present:** Art Pearce, PBOT; Courtney Duke, PBOT; Jill Grenda, BDS

**Guests:** Jackie Dingfelder, Mayor's Office

*Chair Baugh* called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and gave an overview of the agenda.

### Items of Interest from Commissioners

- *Commissioner Houck* mentioned the upcoming [12<sup>th</sup> Annual Urban Ecology and Conservation Symposium](#) on February 10. David Montgomery from UW and Tim Beatley are the two keynote speakers. We will also have a brown bag discussion with Tim Beatley about his work on biophilic cities at noon on February 11 that will include staff from BPS and BES. PSC members will receive the invitation to the brown bag later this week. Beatley will also present to City Council on Wednesday the 12th. It's our hope that Council will sign a Biophilic Cities Pledge at some point in the future and join an international Biophilic Cities Network to share information on efforts to better design nature in cities.
- *Commissioner Hanson* provided an update on the SE Quadrant Plan. There are 30 people on the committee. Staff have presented background information about the sub-areas, and the group is just starting to look at ideas for going forward. Business people, neighborhood reps, OMSI and other stakeholders are members of the diverse group. The boundaries of the study area are the Willamette River, western edge of Ladd's Addition, Powell and Burnside.
- *Commissioner Gray* took a tour with Shelli Romero from ODOT to see the Powell Blvd Safety Project. *Commissioner Gray* is also participating on the PDX CAC Social Equity Committee, which has met 4 times and is developing a policy around contracting and employee equity. Finally, Commissioner Novick came to Parkrose schools to do crossing duty, which was a really positive event.
- *Commissioner Smith* mentioned the WHI plan and its end based on the Port's decision not to pursue it. The good news is that the Mayor declined to make any changes to the PSC's recommendation, which highlights the great work the PSC did in crafting its recommendation.
- *Commissioner Schultz*: The West Quad SAC finished up a broad brush planning and is now working on the finer-grained plans for different areas within the quadrant. The project should be coming to the PSC in about 6 months or so.
- *Commissioner Shapiro* noted there are 6 new members on the CIC. It's mandated to have this committee, and it's a great group that is diverse while being homogenous. There is still an opening for a PSC member.
- *Commissioner Rudd* noted that on February 5 is the inaugural [ULI Thriving Cities](#) event. The goal to bring diverse interests to keep economy moving and bring parties together early on in the development process.
- *Chair Baugh* noted that the PSC is recruiting a position for a youth member (18-25 year old). Staff will send a description to partners, local colleges, etc this week to share the announcement.  
Tonight is *Commissioner Valdez's* last PSC meeting. She has been a fun and valuable member of the Commission and has been a strong voice for equity and people and the prosperity of Portland. The Commission will miss her presence.

- *Commissioner Valdez* thanked *Chair Baugh* and the Commission. There are fantastic things going on for me, and I thought it was time to do something different at this time.

### **Vote for 2014 PSC Officer Slate**

Decision: PSC members

*Commissioner Rudd* proposed the slate of officers for 2014 as *Chair Baugh*, *Vice Chair Shapiro* and *Vice Chair Schultz*.

*Commissioner Hanson* seconded and the vote passed unanimously.  
(Y9 – Baugh, Gray, Hanson, Houck, Rudd, Schultz, Shapiro, Smith, Valdez)

### **Consent Agenda**

- Consideration of Minutes from the December 10, 2013 PSC meeting.
- R/W #7560: Request for Street Vacation N Argyle St east of N Kerby Ave

*Chair Baugh* asked for any comments for the consent agenda.

*Commissioner Hanson* moved to approve the consent agenda. *Commissioner Smith* seconded.

The Consent Agenda was approved with an *aye* vote.  
(Y9 – Baugh, Gray, Hanson, Houck, Rudd, Schultz, Shapiro, Smith, Valdez)

### **Director's Report**

Susan Anderson

- Thank you to the PSC members' leadership on the various committees each member sits on.
- Thank you to *Commissioner Valdez*. She's served for 6 years on the PC and PSC and has consistently brought a broad range of perspectives to the table with a strong voice as an advocate for the community.
- At our last meeting we agreed that we would seek a more youthful member for the PSC. The youth position will be for someone 18-25 years old. We have drafted a position description and will send it out soon to local colleges and to all our partners, and to all of you to help us identify great candidates. The position will be a 2-year position to fit better with younger people's schedules. The Mayor appoints this position as he does all other PSC positions.
- We expect to have the draft Climate Change Preparation Strategy and the associated Risk and Vulnerabilities Assessment report available on our website to begin the public comment process during the first week of February. We'll have it out for public comment for at least 6 weeks and will send a link to the website when it goes live.
- BPS budget  
[\[resources handout\]](#)
  - We are short just over a million dollars – and are looking at potential layoffs of about 11 people. This is because we have continued to rely on one-time funding from the general fund, BDS, PDC, and grants from foundations and others.
  - We will ask Council for 4 decision packages. The first is an ongoing request for 3.5 positions. This is to provide ongoing funding for the DLs. We have 5 DLs in the neighborhoods and one for the Central City. We currently have ongoing funding for just about half of them. The request is for \$385,000.

- The second request will be a one-time ask to finish the Comp Plan. This ask is for \$350,000. And is the last request so we can complete the update.
- The third request is for \$250,000 to keep the RICAP program going. That makes small to mid-sized fixes in the code. Currently this is funded by the BDS, which could happen again next year, but we want to get funding regardless.
- Finally, the Mayor has encouraged us to look for new ways to address the clean-up of brownfields, especially in light of the recent turn around by the Port on WHI. The funding would go to develop new policy, technical and financial tools to help private cleanup and development happen more quickly. *Commissioner Houck* noted this could and should be leveraged with Metro and other partners.
- *Commissioner Shapiro* noted the philanthropic community could be helpful for grant opportunities. We are consistently looking at opportunities at all levels, but for basic City services, this has been limited. Housing and gentrification could be unique projects to look at.
- *Commissioner Schultz* noted that the bureau's BAC has been very supportive of these requests. It is time to right size BPS so we don't have to come back year after year with requests. The group wanted to push the innovation aspects and continue to have Portland be recognized as a leader.
- *Commissioner Houck* asked if it would be appropriate for PSC members to meet with the Mayor and City Commissioners to advocate for the BPS budget. *Chair Baugh* agreed and also asked about how the bureau can stabilize funding that's needed.
- Like with any issue that the bureau has brought to the PSC, it would be good to have a strategy to target some of the Commissioners. There will also be budget meetings in the community and the Council budget session. Over the 5 years of the planning and sustainability merger, there have still been great new programs and innovations, but our time has been much more focused on the project side instead of trying to create foundation partnerships.
- We would like to have the PSC also write a letter stating your opinions on the need for additional funding. We probably need that letter on the next few weeks, so perhaps we could work with *Chair Baugh* and *Commissioner Schultz* (as she is on the BAC) to draft something and then send it around for review.
- Introduction and welcome to Jackie Dingfelder, Mayor's Office, policy director. She is our lead liaison on planning issues.
  - The Mayor sends his thanks for your public service. Volunteers do so much of the work on day-to-day issues for the City.
  - I have a planning background and worked as a professional planner in a variety of realms including work on issues regarding land use, sustainability, watershed, energy.
  - Worked with 2 governors to establish the energy policy for Oregon. Chaired the energy and environment committee for the House.
  - Will be working closely with BPS on industrial lands.
  - Also is the liaison for ONI, and I would agree that steady funding for the District Liaisons is really important because there is so much going on at the neighborhood level.
  - *Commissioner Gray* commented the Parkrose has always counted on Jackie as a friend of the district who supports the needs of children in our school districts. She has been a champion in the legislature, and I know the work you do for the City will be great.
  - *Commissioner Shapiro* commented on the good news that Jackie will oversee ONI and that PDC is in the Mayor's portfolio as well.
  - *Chair Baugh* thanked Jackie and noted that the PSC looks forward to working with her.

- The best thing will be to work through Susan when the PSC wants an update from the Mayor's office; Jackie could also be available for one-on-one conversations.

### **Transportation Systems Plan (TSP) Update**

Briefing: Art Pearce, PBOT; Courtney Duke, PBOT; Eric Engstrom

#### **Document:**

- [PBOT Projects and Timeline](#)

#### **Presentation:**

<http://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/webdrawer.dll/webdrawer/rec/6320446/view/>

Eric provided an introduction to the project, which clearly highlights the importance of land use and transportation coordination. Work we've done in the past 18 months that contribute to this work include:

- Networks PEG laid groundwork for what's going into the TSP.
- The Draft Comprehensive Plan Ch. 7 is the tip of the iceberg.
- Urban Design framework and Centers and Corridors lay the groundwork for transportation planning.
- Health and equity are critical elements in how we think about infrastructure (from the Portland Plan direction).
- Map App – one layer is the beginning of the project lists and on-the-ground work.

The TSP is a 20-year plan for transportation improvements. Historically, it's been the public facilities plan for transportation. Portland's plan is to establish transportation goals, policies, and project lists as a component of the Citywide Systems Plan.

The State rule dictates what we need to include in the TSP. We also have the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) from Metro that we need to be in conformance with. The TSP is part of the Comprehensive Plan; the goals and policies are in the Comp Plan Working Draft. There are a number of other smaller plans that overlap and roll up into the TSP.

We have a check-sheet from the State but we can also include other aspects so long as we are in conformance with the outlined goals.

Components of the TSP Phase 1 are in the Comp Plan Working Draft.

- Comp Plan Working Draft Chapter 7 (Transportation)
- Comp Plan Working Draft Chapter 6 (Public Facilities)
- Comp Plan Working Draft Chapter 5 (Urban Design and Development)
- Finance Plan
- New Project Selection Criteria
- Project List Revisions and Reformatting

TSP Phase 2 will include:

- Transportation policies and objectives
- District Policies
- Street Car and Bike Plan Integration
- Conformance with RTP and TPR
- Modal Plans
- Incorporating Other Plans
- Other issues: TDM, Parking, Health Equity, LOS
- Studies

- Street Classifications
  - Pedestrian
  - Bicycle
  - Transit
  - Freight
  - Emergency Response
  - Auto
  - Street Design
- Findings, ordinances, etc.

There is a new Transportation Expert Group (TEG) comprised of 25 experts. The group will meet monthly, and their first meeting is this Thursday. *Commissioner Smith* will be a member as a continuation of his work on the Comp Plan Networks PEG.

The Planning and Project Management groups at PBOT are merging, which will help to tie policy outcomes to the delivery of projects. This is a new change, but ultimately it will shift the bureau's work in a great way by making the TSP and other PBOT work useful and effective. Staff need to see it as relevant guidance that's important for the work we do. One of the big steps is to sharpen the approach and make sure we're using real criteria to see if we can meet the goals through the actions we're doing.

The TSP has historically been about linking to the capital program, but now we want to make sure it is relevant to actual work. PBOT is already bringing on additional staff, including an ask for additional staff in the PBOT decision package.

There are a few fast-moving aspects at PBOT including a conversation about bringing additional revenue to the bureau. This Friday the bureau expects to hire a consultant to help work on a 2-year action plan.

*Commissioner Houck* asked about the TSP. Public right-of-way is a huge aspect. What is PBOT doing to work with BES, for example, about stormwater facilities?

- Policies are drafted in a couple places in the Public Facilities Chapter and in Chapter 7, e.g. for uses for the right-of-way, stormwater facility, community use. Policies support the work of the Street-by-Street concepts as well.
- Phase 2 will include some more details and ways we can work differently in areas of the city.
- Health equity and climate change are areas we want to be sure are included in the Comp Plan.

*Commissioner Gray* asked about bringing more revenue to PBOT. In other counties and locations, I've heard about controversial road fees and other ideas. Given that context, what are some of the ideas you've heard about raising revenue?

- There is a team at PBOT that is looking at funding structures, but things are not yet fully flushed out. There is a potential list in the TSP.
- The local street conversation is important.
- Susan noted we could ask the new Transportation Director, Leah Treat, to come and comment on to the PSC on a few topics of interest.

I recently met with Commissioner Novick re: Powell Division Safety Plan and how the roads are owned either by PBOT or ODOT. Can we start to blur lines about what people need as opposed to who owns the road and is responsible for it? It's about safety, economic development and commerce.

- There is a list of "thorny issues" that we need to keep sight of. It's not clear if the TSP is the right place to acknowledge this, but we do need to make sure the facilities meet the needs of the people and not just cars. There have been a number of conversations about jurisdictional transfers, and we could spend all our resources working through

that issue, so we need to be cautious about how much we allocate resources to it, though we all want to focus on it.

*Commissioner Hanson* asked about selecting projects. What will the evaluation criteria be in general?

- There are existing criteria in the TSP, and staff have drafted some next criteria to have health equity, access to jobs and housing strong, climate change and if there is outside funding available. We are looking at these additions as new factors. Safety, especially for pedestrians and around schools, is very important as well.

*Commissioner Schultz* asked if part of this effort ties into working with planning to resolve parking issues.

- We have some specific parking conversations set up, especially around Centers and Corridors that will start in the spring. Through CC2035 work, we are also looking at Transportation Management Program for the city center as well. Director Treat is interested in looking at other parking issues more broadly, and there is a placeholder in the PBOT budget request.

*Commissioner Smith* noted there are questions from the PEG process that are still unresolved including Civic Corridors and how to replace level of service (LOS) as a measure of how we're doing (cars instead of people movement).

- Both are "thorny issues." PBOT received a grant to move forward on multi-modal LOS work and is now looking at specific geographies to test these ideas. Hope to have this as part of the TSP in 2015. Part of the challenge is that LOS has different meanings at different levels of the conversation.
- For civic corridors, we're working on this during Phase 2 to see if there's something different we need in the classification description, see what projects are in those areas that need to be updated, if centers and corridors are part of the criteria/ranking.

*Commissioner Shapiro* focused on West Burnside between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. The evolution of this area makes it more pedestrian-focused. Powell on 92<sup>nd</sup> is another major issue.

- Some of these issues are at the more operational scale. The TSP should enable these more on-the-ground analysis and solutions. The goal of the TSP will be to help guide these conversations and show the trade-offs about allocating a finite space.

*Chair Baugh* commented that we've heard lots about neighborhoods and equity, so hopefully the TAG is a diverse and equitable group. Parking is a great issue, but it includes both a land use and a transit component. How you think about parking should include transit and TriMet. Also, health and equity are two separate issues/criteria as defined in the Portland Plan. Finally, regarding revenue to build, what do you end up building? How does the criteria evaluate what gets built? Impacts to the communities are definitely part of this conversation.

- These are great points and are similar concerns we've heard from the community.

*Commissioner Smith* noted there is a challenge. I worry that public opinion research could be different from the long-term work. How do we ensure short-term politics don't disrupt the long-term planning too much? Polling is a snap-shot. We need to be sure we're connecting with the guidance for long-term work.

- Whatever funding proposal comes through the process will only be specific to a group of projects and maintenance; it won't be the only way to fund work.

*Commissioner Houck* is pleased to hear that meeting multiple objectives with each project is one of the criteria.

Staff and PBOT Director Leah Treat will return to the PSC with the criteria, funding ideas and other updates.

## RICAP 6

Briefing: Jill Grenda, BDS; Morgan Tracy, Phil Nameny

### Document:

- [RICAP 6 overview](#)

RICAP projects have been on a revolving cycle since 2003. There was a funding gap between 2010 and 2013, but the current work, RICAP 6, has been funded for this fiscal year. The PSC voted to approve the workplan including 42 items in August 2013. There was some pressure to add items to the package. Many were not added, however, three additional items that are time-sensitive were subsequently added to the workplan at the request of the Bureau of Development Services and the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability.

Staff researched the 45 items using case history, and reviewing policy and code history for background and original code intent. They spoke with stakeholders and formulated decisions about moving forward on the items.

From the research, staff developed the [Discussion Draft](#) that is currently out for public review. Of the 45 items, staff proposed to not amend about 25 percent of the issues that were originally brought up, as noted on the summary sheet.

The Discussion Draft has been shared with neighborhood associations, DRAC, district coalition offices and others. This outreach continues through February. There is an Open House on February 11, and the notice/invite was sent to over 700 people. The comment period closes on February 21, at which point staff will make changes as necessary. A proposed draft will be released in March, with a tentative hearing at the PSC on April 22.

Susan encouraged the PSC to look at the proposed draft and ask clarifying questions before the hearing date so that the hearing can be a most effective use of time to hear and respond to testimony. RICAP is on an annual revolving workplan. In order to keep on schedule, we need to make a recommendation to Council so they can vote on it in May and make the code changes effective for the new fiscal year.

PSC members noted that if they can get a sense of what the input has been in mid-March, then they can get a sense of what can move forward quickly and what items might need more input. If there are issues that the PSC has burning questions on, they will ask staff. Staff can provide further updates and details on specific issues for PSC members.

We have already heard from a number of people. At this point, we are collecting comments, clarifying and responding to questions. If the PSC members are hearing questions or comments, please direct people to staff for any needed clarifications.

Staff highlighted some of the details on a few of the hot-topic issues:

- **Bed & Breakfast short-term rental issue:** The City has seen a huge increase in short-term rentals, e.g., AirBnB listings. We are interested in staying ahead of this trend and developing the appropriate level of regulations. "Streamlining" the process by allowing 1 and 2 bedroom rentals is specific to the current land-use amendments, but we are not proposing changes to add building and fire code related inspections. Using the "Type B" home occupation permit process as a model, there would be a single zoning inspection of the site to ensure that it remained residential in appearance and character. There is not a proposal to require permit renewals in the discussion draft. The maximum occupancy is the same as what is allowed for any household (i.e. family plus up to 5 unrelated individuals living in a house). There is a necessary balance

required: costs burdens versus “bootlegging” to avoid the permit process. A clear set of regulations with a low fee incents greater compliance and allows these sites to operate more transparently as opposed to being clandestine and secretive. The Transient Lodging Tax (a.k.a. room tax) is already applicable, but most people aren’t paying it, either to avoid detection or from lack of knowledge.

- Radio Frequency Transmission Tower Siting has not received many comments as staff initially thought it might. The proposal aligns with Federal Communication Commission (FCC) standards and regulations, which limit cities' ability to regulate based on radio frequency emissions. The revisions more clearly distinguish "personal wireless services" (i.e. Cell towers) from radio broadcast towers (like those in Healy Heights). Objective standards for modifying facilities are also included. We are not changing the conditional use thresholds that currently apply.
- Temporary uses. We are getting the chapter updated, since it has not been significantly updated since its adoption in 1991. Commercial filming is currently not addressed in the code. The proposal is to add commercial filming as a temporary activity, giving specific limits on how much time needs to pass before the site can be used for the same purpose. A “break in activity” is 4 times the amount of time that the activity occurs.

In addition to filming, we are adding provisions to allow temporary off-site staging areas for development sites. This generally is about staging areas for big buildings on small sites. This would allow staging construction materials nearby, with requirements that the site be restored after the staging use. One year is the language in the proposed draft, but some large projects take multiple years. Staff will evaluate whether this timeline should be revised for the Proposed Draft.

- Modified fence height regulations are not included in the package. Some of the past issues identified in the database are no longer applicable. There now doesn’t seem to be a demonstrated need to change the regulation.
- 3 items were added after the initial PSC workplan hearing:
  - Public art as an option instead of the ground-floor window requirement without land use adjustment. This applies outside the Central City only. To incent people to use public art and remove one level of the approval process. Interested in how buildings develop in corridors based on this amendment. RACC is advocating for this amendment.
  - Application of Zoning Code in Right-of-Way in historic resources overlay zone. Interested in how this relates bioswales and other "standard improvements" in the right of way.
  - Correcting the approval criteria for Comp Plan Map amendments to include the requirement that the proposed map amendment must also be in conformance with Statewide Land Use Planning Goals. This clarifies the omission in the current Code.

*Commissioner Houck* asked about item #26: Was there a group that wanted to do restoration work? To remove hurdles?

- This was a suggestion from environmental review staff to streamline the process. BPS staff met with BES staff to see about developing standards, but found that safely placing large woody debris is very specific to each site's hydrologic and topographic conditions. Therefore, creating "one-size fits all" standards was not desirable.

*Chair Baugh* asked about spectator seating at schools. Schools were concerned about square footage for seating.

- We haven’t heard from PP&R or the school districts yet. However, this item was spurred by concern of school districts and PP&R.

**Adjourn**



*Chair Baugh* adjourned the meeting 8:42 p.m.

Submitted by Julie Ocken, PSC Coordinator