



City of Portland Design Commission

Briefing

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 11, 2019
To: Portland Design Commission
From: Hillary Adam, Design Review
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Re: Marquam Hill Connector

In June 2018, BDS, PBOT, Trimet, and Metro staff briefed the Design Commission on the future SW Corridor MAX light rail line as part of their outreach during the Draft Environmental Impact Statement review. Included in that briefing was a discussion of a future connection between an anticipated MAX stop at the Barbur Boulevard and Gibbs Street intersection up to Marquam Hill with a possible connection to Terwilliger Boulevard. Since that briefing, a Working Group, Green Ribbon Committee, and Steering Committee have been formed to select the specific mode of transport up the hill from Barbur and Gibbs.

Attached is a small packet describing three options recently considered by both the Marquam Hill Connector Working Group and the Green Ribbon Committee. Both groups have considered several different modes of transport for moving people up the hill, some of which will be briefly shared with the Commission. As the process has continued, the Working Group and Green Ribbon Committee have used values-based criteria (attached) to narrow the number of modes for further consideration to those described in the attached packet; please note that an Aerial Tram is still being considered for further study even though it is not included in the packet. Please also note that while these options have been considered, there are many unknowns yet to be resolved; these include the final landing destination on the hill, who is responsible for funding and maintenance, whether or not there will be a user fee, whether or not Terwilliger Boulevard will be accessible with the proposed design, etc.

The purpose of this Briefing is to keep the Design Commission informed of the process as the Design Commission will ultimately serve as the decision-maker on the specific system proposed and designed for construction. The Commission's comments are welcomed and appreciated. The Steering Committee will make a final decision on the preferred alternative on May 13th following a City Council Work Session on May 7th and recommendation by the Green Ribbon Committee on May 8th.

For more information, please see the SW Corridor Light Rail Project webpage: <https://trimet.org/swcorridor/>. Documents related to the Marquam Hill Connector Green Ribbon Committee can be found here: <https://trimet.org/swcorridor/library#marquam>

Please contact me with any questions.

Attachments: Marquam Hill Connector – Green Ribbon committee packet for April 10, 2019
Marquam Hill Connector Goals and Criteria