# PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN

Project Advisory Committee Meeting #3

	ETING DATE: CATION: E:	Thursday, April 28, 2016 1900 SW 4th Avenue, 7th floor 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.		
m R		eview and discuss the community engagement strategy; identify echanisms to reach historically under-served communities eview the purpose and content of the Needs Assessment scuss next steps		
AGE	NDA			
1.	(Info)	Welcome and Overview of Agenda Adrienne DeDona, JLA Public Involvement	10 minutes	
2.	(Info)	<b>Review Overall Community Engagement Strategy</b> Adrienne DeDona, JLA Public Involvement/ Michelle Kunec-North, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability	15 minutes	
3.	(Info)	<b>Equity in Decision-making</b> Desiree Williams-Rajee, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability	15 minutes	
4.	(Info)	Needs Assessment Overview Kristen Lohse, Toole Design Group	10 minutes	
5.	(Info/Discussi	ion) Phase I Community Engagement Adrienne DeDona, JLA Public Involvement/ Michelle Kunec-North, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability	45 minutes	
6.	(Info)	Public Comment	10 minutes	
7.	(Info)	Meeting Wrap up/Next Steps Adrienne DeDona, JLA Public Involvement	10 minutes	







# PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN

community outreach and engagement plan

April 2016 Update





## PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN Community Outreach and Engagement Plan

Prepared for:

City of Portland, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Prepared by:

JLA Public Involvement, Inc.

1110 SE Alder Street, Suite 301

Portland, OR 97214

April 2016 Update

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## Introduction

This Community Outreach and Engagement Plan will guide stakeholder and community involvement during the development of the Off-Road Cycling Master Plan. The Community Outreach and Engagement Plan outlines the planned community involvement principles, process, opportunities, tools, and key audiences.

The planning and community engagement process is designed to facilitate community and partner agency input into components of the Plan as they are developed. In addition, the compiled Draft Master Plan will be available for public and agency review and feedback. This feedback will be used to craft a Proposed Master Plan, which will be submitted to City Council for consideration. The Director of the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability and the Mayor will forward the Proposed Master Plan to City Council for adoption by resolution.

#### **Project Description**

The City is developing an Off-Road Cycling Master Plan to address community recreation needs and expand opportunities for Portlanders to be active and experience nature in the city. This project will develop a citywide vision and plan for a system of off-road cycling facilities – such as sustainable trail systems, skill parks and pump tracks – for children, adults and families of varying skill levels. It will make recommendations for the future improvement and management of these trails and facilities based on community needs and input; site opportunities and constraints; and best practices in design, development and management. The plan will be developed through an equitable, collaborative and transparent process.

The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability is leading this project in collaboration with Portland Parks & Recreation, the Bureau of Environmental Services, the Bureau of Transportation, the Portland Water Bureau and other local government and community partners.

The primary plan development phase will occur between October 2015 and September 2016. In November/December 2016, a draft Master Plan will be forwarded to City Council for formal consideration, public review and adoption. The City may also pursue site-specific feasibility and design work for initial sites at that time.

#### **Planning Principles**

Based on early conversations with public agencies and community partners, the following principles are guiding the scope of the plan:

- Plan for a variety of users, including children, families and adults.
- Incorporate a spectrum of facilities and experiences, including skill parks, pump tracks and trails of varying levels of difficulty.
- Apply best practices in sustainable off-road cycling trail and facility planning, design, and management to meet multiple goals, maximize benefits, and limit potential negative impacts or user conflicts.
- Engage and collaborate with people who ride bicycles off-road, other trail users, public agencies, businesses, community members and local organizations.
- Coordinate with Metro's off-road cycling planning efforts and regional opportunities.

## **Community Outreach and Engagement Purpose and Goals**

Community input will contribute to and shape the development of the plan. The planning process will include a variety of ways for Portlanders to get involved and voice their ideas and feedback.

The goals of the community engagement and information process are to:

- Use various media and public forums to reach a variety of partners, stakeholders and interested community members.
- Communicate complete, accurate, understandable and timely information to the public throughout the development of the Off-road Cycling Master Plan.
- Actively seek public input throughout the project and engage a broad, diverse audience.
- Provide meaningful public involvement opportunities and demonstrate how input has influenced the process.
- Seek participation of potentially affected and/or interested individuals, neighborhoods, businesses and organizations.
- Build capacity for partners, stakeholders and community members, especially those who have been historically under-represented, to engage in and influence the planning process.
- Foster a common vision for off-road cycling facilities.
- Provide opportunities for community outreach and education to build awareness and understanding of off-road cycling and mountain biking as a recreational activity and active transportation opportunity.
- Resolve conflicts to meet multiple objectives for public lands.
- Ensure that the public involvement process is consistent with applicable state and federal laws and requirements and is sensitive to local policies, goals and objectives.

## **Stakeholders and Target Audiences**

Community outreach and engagement efforts will reach a variety of stakeholders, including agency and community partners, affected stakeholders and interested community members. As the Off-road Cycling Master Plan is a city-wide plan, outreach efforts will initially focus on engaging a broad and diverse set of stakeholders. As the process moves forward, the list of stakeholders may evolve or become more focused on neighborhoods and communities where new off-road cycling trails or bicycle parks are proposed.

#### Key stakeholders

- The general public, particularly park users and people who are interested in riding a bicycle off-road in the city.
- Communities of color and organizations that represent their interests, particularly those with a focus on recreation and transportation access.
- Youth and youth-focused organizations, particularly those with a focus on recreation and transportation access.
- Portlanders with disabilities and organizations that represent their interests.
- Trail organizations and user groups.
- Cycling organizations, particularly those focusing on access for youth, women and communities of color.
- Park neighbors and friends groups, particularly for parks where off-road cycling exists or is proposed in the plan.
- Bike shops and tourism organizations.
- Watershed and environmental health organizations.
- Health organizations.
- City bureaus and other public agencies with an interest in the plan's outcome.
- Elected officials and advisory boards and commissions relevant to the planning topic.

## **Engagement Focus**

The community outreach and engagement strategy focuses on reaching those stakeholders who may be highly impacted by the plan but who have traditionally been under-represented in City decision-making. These stakeholders include communities of color, youth and Portlanders with disabilities. The process will also encourage the ongoing participation of all impacted stakeholders.

#### Levels of Engagement

The Off-road Cycling Master Plan's engagement strategies are designed to provide a variety of levels of engagement, which correspond to project needs and to stakeholder's degree of interest in the project.

#### Information

The engagement process will provide balanced and objective information to assist community members in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and solutions.. Communication methods will inform those that will be impacted by the project, those that may be interested in the project and process, decision-makers and others who may be influential to the process, and the general public. Web-based information and new releases are examples of information strategies.

#### Consultation

The planning process will use a variety of engagement strategies to consult with the public and obtain feedback on background analysis, potential alternatives, and proposed recommendations. These strategies include community tabling events; physical and virtual open houses; web-based feedback tools; questionnaires; and meetings with organizations, neighborhood groups, and City commissions. As the plan begins to take shape, and as potential sites for off-road cycling facilities are identified, those that may be affected or are adjacent to possible future sites will be consulted more directly.

#### Involvement

The public will be directly involved in all phases on the project to ensure their needs, concerns and aspirations are understood, considered and reflected in project alternatives. The planning process will involve the community through the Project Advisory Committee, focus groups, surveys and an interactive mapping tool. In addition, the City will provide information on how public input influenced the proposed plan.

### **Key Messages**

Key messages are descriptive, clear, concise and factual statements about the project that provide the public and stakeholders with information essential to being informed. They are the foundation statements that the project team and partners will use to ensure understandability, consistency and accuracy in describing the project.

The key messages for this project are:

- The City has previously undertaken multiple site-specific planning efforts that considered off-road cycling use on public properties, most recently as part of the Riverview Natural Area Management Plan. As a result of this process, the City recognized the existing and growing need for additional off-road cycling experiences within the City.
- The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan project will develop a citywide plan for a system of off-road cycling facilities such as sustainable trail networks, skill parks and pump tracks for a variety of users, including children, adults and families.
- The City is committed to engaging the public in the planning process and is employing engagement tools to be accessible to a broad, diverse audience.
- This project provides an important opportunity to engage the public to determine the existing conditions and needs for a broad spectrum of off-road cycling experiences in the community.
- This process will result in a system plan that identifies recommended trail or facility improvements, including identifying facility locations and types, general alignments, general design and management considerations, and planning-level estimated costs.

- The plan will be based on best practices for sustainable trail and facility planning, design and management to help protect and restore the environment.
- Site suitability criteria and feasibility assessments will include careful consideration of natural resource preservation and protection; impacts to historic, cultural or scenic resources; and impacts to adjacent property owners.

### **Decision-making Structure**

The Portland City Council is the project's final decision maker. The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff and the project consultant team will make recommendations to the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Director based on technical analysis and stakeholder input. Susan Anderson, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Director, and the Mayor will forward the Proposed Master Plan to City Council for adoption by resolution.

To support development of a credible decision-making process, a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) was appointed by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Director to provide community-based recommendations. The PAC will advise staff and the consultant team throughout the development of the plan and will have the opportunity to submit a Committee Report in the plan's transmittal to City Council. All meetings will be open to the public and include a public comment period.

Based on this information, the decision-making structure shown in the following figure was developed.



#### **Project Team Member Roles & Responsibilities**

The following are the key project team members and their roles in the public involvement program:

#### City of Portland, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

- Michelle Kunec-North, Project Manager
- Lori Grant, Associate Planner

The BPS Project Manager will coordinate and facilitate the planning process. BPS staff will be responsible for:

- Maintaining coordination and communication with the project team, including regular project updates; planning and facilitating team meetings; making information requests and keeping the team informed of input opportunities
- Recruiting and managing the Project Advisory Committee and coordinating communication and meetings
- Facilitating collaboration with community partners and stakeholders and participating in community engagement efforts
- Maintaining the project website and publishing public informational materials
- Communicating with BPS leadership and City Council offices, as necessary
- Managing formal review of the proposed Master Plan

#### Planning & Technical Consultant Team

- Kristen Lohse, Toole Design Group, Project Manager
- Rob Burchfield, Toole Design Group
- Nat Lopes, Hilride Progression Development Group LLC
- Rachel Lopes, Hilride Progression Development Group LLC
- Tim Brooks, Winterbrook Planning

The consultant team, led by the Toole Design Group Project Manager, will provide technical analysis and expertise, and assist Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff in the development of the Master Plan. Technical consultants will attend PAC meetings to provide information, hear feedback and develop recommendations.

#### Public Involvement Consultant Team

- Adrienne DeDona, JLA, Public Involvement Project Manager
- Jamie Harvie, JLA, Public Involvement Coordinator

JLA Public Involvement will provide strategy oversight for the community outreach and engagement program – including public involvement, outreach and communications – and will meet with the project team regularly to discuss public involvement issues. Adrienne will serve as the facilitator for PAC meetings, including assisting with coordination between meetings and development of the meeting agenda and meeting documentation. Jamie will provide support for community outreach tasks, including attending and documenting PAC meetings.

#### **Project Advisory Committee**

The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) was appointed by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Director to provide a community perspective to the process of developing the Off-Road Cycling Master Plan. The PAC will develop recommendations to the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff and the project consultant team based upon their knowledge and expertise in the areas of cycling, including off-road cycling; trail and park users; environmental and watershed health; youth; equity in transportation and recreation access; business and tourism; health; and neighborhood perspectives. All meetings will be open to the public and include a public comment period.

#### Project Advisory Committee Members

#### Punneh Abdolhossieni

Punneh works for Partners in Diversity, an organization partnering with Oregon and SW Washington employers to attract and retain professionals of color. Her academic focus was outdoor education and recreation and overcoming barriers to participation for communities of color. Punneh represents the Community Cycling Center and enjoys off-road cycling and racing.

#### Kelsey Cardwell

Kelsey is the communications director for Stand for Children Oregon, an advocacy organization focusing on preparation for and access to college for all children. She is also the President of and represents the Northwest Trail Alliance, a mountain bicycling advocacy and trail stewardship organization encompassing NW Oregon and SW Washington. Kelsey is an off-road cyclist and trail runner.

#### **Erin Chipps**

Erin is an environmental specialist for the Federal Highway Administration Western Federal Lands Division, reviewing environmental impacts of road and trail projects. She has a background in biology and a Masters in Environmental Management. Erin is an off-road cyclist and racer.

#### **Matthew Erdman**

Matthew is an attorney and manager at Legal Aid and previously worked with El Programa Hispano, supporting low-income, English as a Second Language and minority residents. His educational background is in economics with a focus on valuation of natural resources. Matthew is a road and off-road cyclist and bike racer.

#### Jocelyn Gaudi

Jocelyn is an active volunteer within the off-road cycling community and is a certified mountain bike instructor, with a focus on encouraging more women and youth to ride off-road. She is also a member of the Komorebi Cycling bikepacking group. Jocelyn serves on the Portland Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Friends of Gateway Green board, both of which she represents.

#### **Mike Houck**

Mike Houck has been a leader in urban park and greenspace issues since founding the Urban Naturalist Program at the Audubon Society of Portland in 1980. He helped found the Coalition for a Livable Future and now directs the Urban Greenspaces Institute. He is a member of The Intertwine Alliance's core group and its board of directors. He is an avid hiker and urban naturalist. Mike serves on the City of Portland's Planning and Sustainability Commission.

#### Adnan Kadir

Adnan is a professional cycling coach with Aeolus Endurance Sport and member of the Oregon Bicycle Tourism Partnership. He is on the board of the Bicycle Transportation Alliance (BTA), where he works to implement programs in low-income neighborhoods and with at-risk youth. Adnan is a member of the Buckman Community Association and enjoys off-road cycling, hiking, and trail running.

#### **Carrie Leonard**

Carrie is a children's bike specialist with Islabikes, Inc., a company that produces high quality bikes for children. She has a background in freshwater conservation and engineering. Carrie is a road cyclist and trail runner, and her children are off-road cyclists. Carrie is a member of the Portland Society, a group of professional women who are passionate about business and bicycling.

#### **Torrey Lindbo**

Torrey is the Water Sciences Program Manager for the City of Gresham, bike commuting daily from SW Portland on the Springwater Corridor. He is also president of the Tryon Creek Watershed Council, and has served on the Johnson Creek Watershed Council for eight years. Torrey is a hiker, trail runner, and on the board of Team Red Lizard, a Portland running club.

#### Kelly McBride

Kelly is an occupational therapist with Legacy Memorial Hospital and volunteers with Adaptive Sports Northwest, focusing on accessibility for people with disabilities. She is a hiker and trail runner and has begun riding off-road with her husband, who uses a handcycle.

#### **Renee Meyers**

Renee is the Director of the Forest Park Conservancy, which she represents. The Forest Park Conservancy's mission focuses on the interdependent values of protecting Forest Park's ecological health while encouraging responsible recreation and access. The Conservancy works directly with Portland Parks & Recreation to restore the park and build and maintain natural-surface trails.

#### Jim Owens

Jim is a public policy, land use planning and community engagement specialist with the Cogan Owens Greene consulting firm. He has worked on many complex environmental and recreation projects and plans, including environmental impact statements for recreational uses in Northwest Forest lands. Jim serves on and represents the Portland Parks Board. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Portland Parks Foundation.

#### Nastassja Pace

Nastassja leads Oregon bicycle tourism development efforts at Travel Oregon, with a focus on building local economies around outdoor recreation tourism. She serves on the Scenic Bikeway Advisory Committee, convenes the Oregon Bicycle Tourism Partnership, organizes and facilitates Oregon Bicycle Tourism Studio workshops, and oversees the Oregon Bike Friendly Business program. Nastassja represents Travel Oregon.

#### **Bob Sallinger**

Bob is the Conservation Director for the Audubon Society of Portland. He has worked on urban natural area and natural resource issues for over 20 years, serving on the Portland Parks Board and the BES Watershed Management Plan Advisory Committee, and has participated in off-road cycling planning efforts in Forest Park, Riverview and Powell Butte. Bob represents the Audubon Society of Portland and is an avid hiker and naturalist.

#### **Evan Smith**

Evan is Senior Vice President of the Conservation Fund, a national environmental organization, overseeing 200,000 acres of forestland managed for sustainable timber harvest, watershed restoration and recreation. His educational background is in geology and hydrogeology. Evan is an off-road cyclist, trail runner and bike commuter. He lives near Forest Park in the Linnton Neighborhood.

#### **Michael Whitesel**

Michael owns the Lumberyard Bike Park and located his business in an under-served area of East Portland to provide recreational programs to youth. He is also President of the Oregon Big Tent Recreation Coalition, which advocates for safe and responsible recreation in Oregon.

#### Agency Representatives and Resource Members

To assist the Project Advisory Committee, staff from City bureaus will be available to offer factual information, feedback and perspectives relevant to their agency. Their participation will help ensure the committee accurately and adequately considers technical, policy and implementation issues and requirements, but they will not be voting or contributing to the final committee recommendations.

- Portland Parks & Recreation: Maya Agarwal, Astrid Dragoy, Lucy Cohen
- Portland Bureau of Environmental Services: Shannah Anderson, Jennifer Devlin
- Portland Bureau of Transportation: Abra McNair
- Metro: Robert Spurlock
- International Mountain Bicycling Association: Michelle Barker

### **Community Outreach and Engagement Strategies**

The Project Advisory Committee will serve as the primary hub for collaboration and consensus building on the project. The following table includes a list of stakeholder engagement and informational tools and activities that will be used throughout the project to engage and inform a broader public audience as well as engage key stakeholders who may be impacted by potential sites identified for off-road cycling.

Appendix A shows how the Community Outreach and Engagement Strategies fit within the overall context of the planning process.

Tool/Activity	Description	Lead
Website	The project website, https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/68157, is the primary source for public information. The site includes a project overview, copies of project materials and contact information for project staff. It will host online surveys, educational videos and the interactive map. Upcoming meetings and events will be announced on the site. <i>Timeframe: Ongoing (at least monthly updates)</i>	BPS (with support from JLA for web content)

Tool/Activity	Description	Lead
Social media	The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts will include project announcements, news and meeting information. These tools will also be used as a method for soliciting feedback by posting videos, photos and surveys and directing people to the project website for more information. <i>Timeframe: Ongoing (at least monthly updates)</i>	BPS (with support from JLA for content)
News releases	The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability will identify opportunities to keep the project in the news by producing media releases. <i>Timeframe: Prior to community events, open houses and at key project milestones.</i>	BPS
Community partner meetings and workshops	The City will meet with interest groups such as cycling organizations, bike shops and tourism groups, multicultural organizations, schools, trail organizations, watershed and environmental agencies, health organizations, and youth groups to discuss the project and collect input. These briefings are an opportunity to meet with people to collect feedback critical to the process and keep those who are following the project informed on progress.	BPS (with support from JLA & Toole)
Internal outreach	Timeframe: Ongoing at key project milestonesThe City will hold briefings with other City bureaus and stakeholder groups, such as the Portland Parks Board, the Portland Bicycle Advisory Committee, and the Portland Planning & Sustainability Commission, as well as elected officials to share information, collect input and build consensus.Staff from City bureaus will also be available at PAC meetings to learn and offer factual information, feedback and perspectives relevant to their agency.Timeframe: Ongoing	BPS
Community tabling events	The project team will host information tables at community events such as farmers markets, at seasonal festivals like Sunday Parkways, and in partnership with community agencies to provide one-on-one opportunities to talk about the project and get feedback from the general public. These venues will also be used to promote feedback via surveys and the interactive mapping tool. <i>Timeframe: Summer 2016 (May-September)</i>	JLA & BPS (with support from Toole)

Tool/Activity	Description	Lead
Project videos	Two project videos will be created to raise awareness and interest in the project as well as solicit feedback. The first video will showcase best practices and educate the broad general public on what off-road cycling is. The second video will be developed to explain the draft plan and its various elements. This video will be used in conjunction with feedback mechanisms like the interactive map, online surveys and open houses. The videos will be posted on the project website and social media sites engage and educate diverse stakeholders and will include English and Spanish subtitles. <i>Timeframe: Video #1: April, Video #2: August</i>	BPS (with support from Toole, Hilride & JLA)
Interactive online map	An interactive online map tool will be produced and made available on the project website. The mapping tool will be developed for the existing conditions/needs phase of the project and adapted to address the site assessment/screening phase and, finally, the system plan. This tool will allow for community feedback from a broad range of stakeholders. The map will be promoted via social media outlets, community tabling events and community partners, including youth groups. <i>Timeframe: May-October</i>	BPS (with support from Toole)
Open houses (both physical and virtual)	<ul> <li>Community tabling events and traditional open houses will be held throughout the project at key milestones. These events will be accompanied by a virtual/online open house made available on the project website. The online open houses will provide opportunities for a broader audience to become informed and comment on project related materials and proposals.</li> <li>Community Event Series (or "mini open houses") will serve as an opportunity for the community to gather information and provide feedback on the project Vision, Goals and Objectives, Existing Conditions report, and Needs and Impact Assessments.</li> </ul>	JLA, Toole & BPS
	<ul> <li>Open House #1 will serve as an opportunity for the community to review and comment on the draft system plan, including potential sites selected for off-road cycling facilities based upon an in-depth suitability analysis.</li> <li>Open House #2 will serve as an opportunity for the community to review and comment on the draft Off-Road Cycling Master Plan prior to it being forwarded to City Council for adoption.</li> <li>Timeframe: Community Event Series: May-June, Open House #1: August, Open House #2: November</li> </ul>	

Tool/Activity	Description	Lead
Youth focus groups	Opportunities to engage youth will be coordinated with community partners such as The Lumberyard, Safe Routes to School, Sunday Parkways, the International Mountain Biking Association, Hacienda and the Community Cycling Center. These events will be held at key project milestones; first, to gather important feedback on needs, challenges and opportunities, and later in the process to gather feedback regarding the draft system plan and sites. <i>Timeframe: May and August/September</i>	BPS (with support from JLA, Toole & Hilride)
Site-specific outreach	Up to three potential sites may be identified based on direction from the City, the public and the Project Advisory Committee. Once these potential sites have been determined, more in-depth outreach will be conducted in order to identify and address stakeholder concerns, and identify additional actions, plans or policies to mitigate potential impacts. <i>Timeframe: July/August</i>	BPS (with support from JLA & Toole)
Community engagement summary report	At the completion of the project, a summary report will be produced that outlines the engagement strategies and outcomes, including common themes heard from stakeholders throughout the process. The report will also include Project Advisory Committee recommendations. <i>Timeframe: November/December</i>	JLA

Appendix A: Community Outreach and Engagement Plan At-A-Glance

## A PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN

community outreach and engagement plan at-a-glance





Additional meetings scheduled as necessary

NOV

DEC

## **DRAFT PLAN PHASE**

collecting and incorporating feedback

#### **INPUT**

- Does the plan meet the needs and goals?
- How can we implement the plan?
- · How can we design and manage sites to minimize impacts?

#### **OUTCOMES**

- Design and management recommendations, implementation strategies finalized.
- Draft plan presented to decision-makers.



#### **METHODS** (in addition to above)

- Open house #2
- Formal public hearings

#### TARGET AUDIENCES

- Community partner
   organizations
- General public
- Public agency partners
- Underserved communities
- Youth

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Potentially affected neighbors & park users











**PROPOSED PLAN** presented to BPS Director and Portland Mayor for recommendation to

Director and Portland Mayor for recommendation to City Council; City Council makes the final decision in adopting the plan