



City of Portland, Oregon
Bureau of Development Services
Land Use Services
FROM CONCEPT TO CONSTRUCTION

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Briefing

DISCUSSION MEMO

Date: October 1, 2020
To: Historic Landmarks Commission
From: Hillary Adam, Design / Historic Review Team
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Re: Ross Island Bridgehead/SW Naito Parkway Main Street Project
Briefing Memo – October 12, 2020

Attached is a memo and presentation from Patrick Sweeney, PBOT, regarding the upcoming presentation to the Design Commission on the Ross Island Bridgehead/SW Naito Parkway Main Street Project. The memo contains links to additional information on the project, including background and other outreach efforts. Please consider the questions by PBOT staff included in the attached memo.

The purpose of the project is to establish transportation and land use plans in South Portland, particularly the area around the Ross Island Bridgehead, where it meets SW Naito Parkway, as this area is proposed to be reconfigured. Below is an aerial image of what the Bridgehead on/off ramps look like today as well as an image of a possible design of the reconfigured bridgehead.

As has been previously discussed, the South Portland neighborhood has been subjected to multiple transportation projects that have resulted in higher speed traffic, disconnected neighborhoods, and congested residential streets. The proposed project has an opportunity to repair some of that past damage and re-envision SW Naito Parkway with more controlled intersections that can help slow traffic and reknit the neighborhood back together in a way that assures greater pedestrian and bicycle safety.

The project area includes significant grade changes at some locations and abuts Portland's first historic district. New developable parcels will be created by the project, including within the historic district which will provide new opportunities for developing affordable housing and commercial uses.

Per the project website, planning throughout 2020 will result in:

- Designs for realigning the Ross Island Bridgehead;
- New land uses and street designs for a complete street along SW Naito Avenue;
- Development concepts for publicly owned opportunity sites created by the Ross Island Bridgehead realignment; and
- Updated South Portland Historic District Guidelines.

Staff welcomes the Commission's comments on the existing and potential character of this area.

Please contact me with any questions.

