

BAC meeting #2: Monday, December 6, 4-5:30 p.m.

Welcome and introductions

- Steph Routh, Planning & Sustainability Commission (PSC)
- Michelle DePass, BPS Non-Rep Representative
- NaTasha Gaskin, BPS DCTU Representative
- Daniel Hafner, CIC
- Erica Thompson, PSC
- Eric Engstrom, BPS Principal Planner
- Quintin Bauer, BPS Waste Collection Manager
- Andria Jacob, BPS Climate & Energy Manager
- Noah Myhrum, City Budget Office
- Donnie Oliveira, BPS Deputy Director
- Julie Ocken, BPS Strategic Projects

BAC members not in attendance today

- Valeria McWilliams, PSC and Community Involvement Committee (CIC)
- Troy Doss, BPS PTE17 Representative

Q&A from the first BAC meeting

Erica: Where are we with the Climate Action Plan? I don't see it referenced anywhere. Looking at the budget, the opportunity to connect the dots of what needs to be done and the fund we need to do that isn't linked very closely. One way to connect that and showcase progress we've made in parallel with the funding requested would strengthen the bureau as a whole.

- Andria: We'll get to the CAP in my presentation.
- Donnie: The budget structure and organization of our work in relation to climate action is in our budget models – some of which is rather bureaucratic. When we are asking for new resources for climate work, not all the asks we put forward are in other bureaus.
- Eric: Especially looking at the past year's budget, we've been in cut mode for a number of years, so that's part of why the budget is structured how it is.

Work Plan Review

Presentations by BPS managers about the upcoming year's workplan by project/program area.

Eric: Planning Programs

- Steph: On Lower SE Rising, I believe this was originally a TGM grant, and BPS is doing coordinating support to PBOT?

Eric: That is planning and transportation, so there is coordination. It continues to be an ODOT-funded project, as is Parkrose Main Street. About half of our activities are grant-funded this

year, which isn't unusual. But there is a tension sometimes between our Strategic Plan and what gets funded since it's not all General Fund dollars contributing to the budget.

- Daniel: I didn't recognize some of the projects and may have specific questions about them.

Eric: We are finishing some projects today, and we'll then pivot existing staff to new projects. But we will have to see what kinds of funding we may be able to ask for.

- Steph: There was a slide of potential 3-5 FTE additions being put towards specific projects. In the last meeting, we talked about how the bureau is currently staff at a historically-low level. So are we looking to identify new projects when the current portfolio is under-funded? And what about ARPA funding availability?

Eric: As we finish existing projects, I don't want to start the same number as we're finishing; we need more robust teams and staffing for each new project. So we'll be looking for larger project teams recognizing that need. This does assume we fill the vacancies we have funding for.

Donnie: The City will be moving forward with ARPA dollars second round being done outside of this budget process, so we have more community input. As we talk about new possible project, we are mindful about what that actually may mean in terms of budget process.

Erica: Where there is a menu of possible program options, what are the criteria that determine how those are prioritized? They each probably have different impacts and implications (e.g., for climate, equity, etc).

Eric: There are a number of dimensions – sources of funding; staff expertise; commissioner interest; PSC ideas... so it's a matrix. Lots of times it comes down to where the money is coming from and who is giving it to us / their priorities.

Donnie: Often our decision packages are at the discretion of our commissioner-in-charge and their interest.

Michelle: I heard there may be a dollar-for-dollar request, but do we know about cuts yet? And about ARPA funds, is there thought about using a participatory budget process for some of those funds?

Donnie: We don't have budget structure/directions yet, so I don't know about a cut or efficiency requirement. The ARPA process is being built right now, so it's still being developed.

Andria: Climate & Energy Programs

- Erica: Thanks for this presentation and the acknowledgement of the piece of the public. My interest is in thinking about this from a position about thinking about how we can create transparency about our goals and how we want to proceed. Thanks for providing some missing context for me.

Kevin: Smart City PDX

- Steph: Related to data governance, does this include third party contractors/vendors?

Kevin: Yes. It's really looking at how we govern data the City has as well as third party data. It's similar for the surveillance data too.

Quintin: Public Waste Collection and Sustainable Engagement Programs

Next Steps

- As we get clarity on our funding, we will share the entitlements/commitments so BAC members can have some grounding.
- BAC members should review the attached presentations from this meeting and feel free to ask questions of managers (please email manager and cc Julie if you do).

Upcoming meetings (tentative agendas)

- December 21 meeting:
 - Budget guidance (Mayor's, budget office).
 - Equity Tool.
 - Performance Measures overview.
- January 7
 - Decision Packages.
 - Program Offer & Performance Measure updates.
 - BAC letter to Council.