PCCEP Community Engagement Subcommittee[i]
Meeting Notes
June 17, 2026

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1. Welcome & Introductions

Emon Ghassemi, Community Engagement Coordinator, opened the meeting, welcomed attendees, and reviewed basic public meeting guidelines, including Oregon Public Meetings law and use of the public Zoom chat.

PCCEP Members Present:

- Tia Palafox, Community Engagement Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Leslie Martinez, Community Engagement Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Kip Silverman, Full Committee Co-chair

City Staff:

- Dori Grabinski, PCCEP Program Manager
- Liz Taylor, PCCEP Program Coordinator
- Emon Ghassemi, PCCEP Community Engagement Coordinator
- Mac Acuay, Councilor Kanal's Office

Independent Monitor Team:

- Antoinette Edwards, Associate Monitor
- Che Ramirez, Associate Monitor

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2. Community Agreements

Leslie Martinez read PCCEP's community agreements.

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3. Staff Updates

Community Outreach Overview

Emon reported significant outreach activity over the prior weeks:

- Participation in neighborhood resource fairs (e.g., Dawson Park).
- Attendance at youth-focused community safety meetings.
- Tabling at the national Wear Orange gun violence awareness event.
- Attendance at the Multnomah Neighborhood Association Meeting regarding the Safe Rest Village.
- Introductory meeting with Seattle's Office of Police Accountability.

Wear Orange Survey Results

23 responses were collected:

- 61% reported feeling "very" or "somewhat" safe in their neighborhoods.
- Average trust in local police: 6.4, with sharply polarized responses (cluster of scores 8–10; several scores 0–3).
- **Top community concerns:**
    1. Gun violence (21 mentions)
    2. Drug activity / substance use
    3. Houselessness / housing instability
- Respondents were largely from SE and NE Portland.

Quarterly Data Collection

Dori noted plans to aggregate all outreach survey data quarterly to support committee decision-making.

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4. Discussion: Youth Engagement Event (Summer Youth Fest '26)

Emon introduced a draft concept for a youth-focused summer event, in partnership with Dream Big City, an organization hosting recurring community programming including skateboarding, basketball, music, art, and drug-free social gatherings.

Event Goals:

- Increase youth awareness of PCCEP.
- Ensure youth perspectives inform PCCEP's public safety discussions.

- Foster informal relationship-building through accessible, youth-centered activities.
- Collect youth-specific safety input through voluntary surveys and informal videos.

Potential Activities:

- Block-party environment
- Skate ramps (already available onsite)
- Basketball
- Youth DJ and live music
- Open-mic PCCEP introduction
- Free food (through Dream Big partnerships)

Scheduling Considerations:

- Possible dates: July 21, 25, or 28 (post-World Cup to avoid competing community events).
- Discussion on whether Tuesday or Saturday would maximize youth attendance; early consensus leaned toward Saturday.

Committee Feedback Highlights:

- Desire to incorporate flyers/QR codes for promotion.
- Importance of members visiting regular Dream Big City's Tuesday events beforehand.
- Interest in joining the upcoming site walkthrough with Dream Big City staff.
- Need for clear communication once date is finalized.

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5. Main Agenda Item: Review of Draft PCCEP Community Engagement Plan

Emon, Dori, Tia, and Leslie led a detailed, section-by-section review of the draft plan.

Section 1 – Purpose

Committee agreed that the section effectively describes the role of the engagement plan as a guiding, institutional framework.

Section 2 – Objectives

Changes/feedback included:

- Add hyperlink to the U.S. v. City of Portland Settlement Agreement instead of listing communities explicitly.
- Add a new objective focused on increasing public awareness of PCCEP.
- Confirmed objectives adequately describe the intended impact of engagement.

Section 3 – Engagement Methods

Suggested edits:

- Add presentations from community organizations to inform section.
- Clarify that “city leadership” includes PPB.
- Add language acknowledging PCCEP’s presence at community events (“in the parks, at fairs, at partner events”).

Section 4 – Engagement Commitments

Committee recommended removing the bullet point referencing quarterly reporting because it is addressed later under outputs.

Section 5 – Subcommittee Responsibilities

Edits included:

- Replace “priority stakeholders” with “key stakeholders.”
- Clarify coordination expectations between Community Engagement, Policy & Reform, Steering Committee, and Full Committee.
- Confirm quarterly synthesis reporting is a single report shared across committees.

Section 6 – Staff Roles & Member Roles

Suggestions:

- Add explicit statement that staff are responsible for notifying members of engagement events.

Section 7 – Standard Outputs

Feedback included:

- Consolidate overlapping bullet points regarding future policy implications and emerging issues.
- Use “may include” rather than “will include.”
- Ensure public comment is included in the themes collected.

Section 8 – Performance Measures

Key changes:

- Rename to “Metrics Documented” for clarity.
- Simplify subsections to Who We Engage, How We Engage, Quality of Engagement, Impact.
- Link impact section to the PCCEP Plan rather than trying to measure concepts like “trust” directly.
- Emphasize documenting whether community input is demonstrably incorporated into committee priorities.

Next Steps for Document Approval

- Staff will revise the draft next week.
- Subcommittee members will review edits by email.
- Full Committee will receive the document for input and eventual approval at a future meeting.

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6. Public Comment

Themes raised by community participants included:

Draft Plan Feedback

- Appreciation for hyperlinking to DOJ documents.
- Questions about definitions of “stakeholders.”
- Comments about PCCEP branding and public awareness.

Broader Public Safety Issues

- Concerns regarding an emerging petition to redirect Clean Energy Fund dollars to PPB staffing.
- Discussion on balancing police response with alternative community safety approaches.
- Reference to recent critical incidents and the need for non-armed response options.
- Appeal for continued evaluation of public comment and community trust.

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7. Next Meeting

Policy & Reform Subcommittee
June 24, 2026 – 6:00–8:00 PM (Zoom)
Public comments may be submitted at: **portland.gov/PCCEP**

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[i] *City staff drafted and edited this content with support from Microsoft Copilot Chat Basic. They independently verified all facts and figures.*