

PBOT

PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

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Chloe Eudaly Commissioner Chris Warner Director

NW Parking Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) Capital Projects Subcommittee	Virtual meeting Zoom Portland, OR March 30, 2021 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
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Capital Project Subcommittee Notes

Members in Attendance

Rick Michaelson (At-Large)
Jeanne Harrison (Northwest District Association, NWDA)
Alex Zimmerman (At-Large)
Amy Spreadborough (Northwest Business Association, NWBA)
Karen Karlsson (Northwest District Association, NWDA)
Parker McNulty (Northwest District Association, NWDA)

Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) Staff

Rae-Leigh Stark, Northwest Parking District Liaison
Kathryn Doherty-Chapman, Project Manager
Lisa Okimoto, Senior Engineering Associate

Public in Attendance

Steve Pinger

Pedestrian Lighting Study

Kathryn presents on the pedestrian lighting study. Have researched best practices, proposed draft study area, met with PBOT staff, created lighting analysis. Looked at study areas, didn't include projects in NWIM. Looked at street classifications where traffic signals and lights are, other projects in play, like Conway area. Shows example of analysis that does not meet uniformity guidelines and where they would add a cobra head. Lisa says all streetlight guidelines are taken into consideration to get lighting values.

Parker says the cobra heads don't provide type of illumination effective for pedestrian safety.



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Recommendation is to install new overhead-fed street lighting on new poles at \$5,000 per installation. This is the most economical option. Rick is surprised the recommendation wasn't to add cobra heads to existing poles. Kathryn says most intersections don't have a pole on the opposite corner. They are way below current guidelines.

Rick has noticed that if the cobra head were lower or turned 90 degrees, that would help substantially. Is strategy to first put additional poles in because we know poles on opposite corners is ideal?

Phase 2 will look at pedestrian scale light poles with tying into existing electrical panels. Future phase could be along NW 20th and NW 21st Avenues. Future phase would be mid-block lighting. Working on recommendations for streetscape plan and lighting guidelines for main streets in future phase.

Talks about glare and LED fixtures. The glare will be reduced because adding an additional light fixture. The green cobra head is used on arterial streets, will provide warmer white light. Goes from 0-5 ratings. Have reduced color temperature. Will perceive a warmer light.

Karen wants to know about shielding of lights, particularly for people in apartments. Request that when tree trimming occurs, property owners are notified. Wants to see examples of some of these things, luminaire proposed, rainy nights. Wants to point out there is intersection where she noticed the height of light made a difference: NW 17TH Ave. and NW Marshall St. Cobra head light on the corner is lower, maybe it's not standard but it seemed like that alone lit up the intersection.

Rick wants to see a few intersections done as a sample, instead of the whole package. Likes the idea of adding fixture to existing poles. Needs to see what an intersection would like look.

Kathryn says there are no good examples for northwest. Lisa says this would be a new roll out.

Jeanne is concerned that when new poles go in they could be placed in a bad place for pedestrian movement. Example of intersection of NW 23rd Ave. and NW Raleigh St. Crosswalk button is in the middle of the sidewalk, making it not ADA compliant anymore. Wants to make sure new ADA ramps won't be blocked by poles.

Kathryn says, we wouldn't install new streetlight pole if it would clear ADA access, and Lisa confirms and says they could install outside of ramp. Lisa says she is familiar with the design that Jeanne is talking about. Street lighting is better ahead of crosswalk. Want the streetlight before the crossing, which means they need to stay out of ramp area, would be different installation than what is seen with the pedestrian pole. Phase 2 is to get all intersections covered that aren't meeting basic standards. Will tie into existing street system. Rick asks if they are priced individually. Kathryn says they are priced individually.

Alex wants to know if they had a line item for this and total cost? How many years are we planning to do this? Wants it to be continuing audit and make sure they haven't missed any spots, look at private

development upgrades. Wants to focus improvements along equity corridor in Northwest In Motion (NWIM).

Rick says they are infilling where NWIM is not. Kathryn says the map she is presenting is corresponding with equity scores. As for the budget, they budgeted \$100,000 for the project and spent \$5,000 of it. Rick recommends additional money if things work out in phase 1. Kathryn asks if they want to focus money just on getting intersections covered or maybe spend \$50,000 on the streetlight poles at intersections and \$40,000 on ped scale lighting to have a demonstration? Rick wants to spend some on intersections and see whether we could add fixtures to existing poles but doesn't think they are ready to make recommendation. Wants it in the budget for next year.

Jeanne says with pedestrian scale lighting, wants Planning Committee to way in on what it looks like, because she knows there are options, and this relates back to streetscape, once you've made a decision to go one way you are stuck with that, doesn't want to make a decision that's the wrong one. She does support putting more poles in now sooner before a dark, rainy winter.

Parker's concern is adding more poles, if we end up taking a slower approach but thinking about it more holistically, if we establish more pedestrian scale lighting, we won't need more poles. Could partner up with developers to get more out of it. Quality of light is so low with cobra heads. With diffusion lenses and temperature, it's going up to the wall of the building next to it. It needs to be aimed down, doesn't need to be so bright.

Kathryn: we wouldn't install something with light trespass. Lisa explains, those fixtures near New Seasons are the pedestrian scale, at the intersection, this block is also exceeding our light levels that the developer went with. To speak to leveraging developments, a little hamstrung when it comes to city code, that is where having a master plan really helps us lay out lighting requirements for the district. Pedestrian scale lighting is better for horizontal illumination you don't get as much with cobra head, it is the gold standard of street lighting but with the developments they are limited to requiring what meets the guidelines. There are developers that want to invest, but if there is overhead they are hesitant to spend the money. Does ultimately want to install pedestrian scale lighting.

Kathryn says next phase is handing off to developers.

Alex echoes what Jeanne says. Makes sense to go through with first phase and not put anything we may find at a later date that we would need to change. Maybe if there are examples we could use that as a case study. Hesitates to go ahead without knowing the standard. Have the roadway lighting done, then fill in pedestrian scales. Says mixing and matching will lead to confusion.

Karen agrees with Alex and Jeanne. Need more work on standards for pedestrian lighting and for design, and look at them as they relate to street scape. Also consider lighting levels and types of lights. Doesn't think we are ready. Doesn't promote spending money on pedestrian lights, because we can do other lighting for a lot cheaper. Will be more where they don't have underground power.

Rick says false dichotomy with pedestrian lighting versus street lighting, we confuse the type of fixture with the goal of the lighting. Better to talk about street lighting, side walk lighting, pedestrian crossing lighting, doesn't matter as much whether it's a fixture on the pole or a beautiful thing, it's getting the

light where we want it. The number one priority is getting light in the crosswalks, then sidewalk lighting. The \$50-70,000 for intersection cobra lighting, doesn't need much more planning.

Alex agrees with Rick. Thinks of this phase as roadway lighting, lighting up road and crosswalk.

Parker thinks the cobra heads don't accomplish what we are trying to do right now because it creates a hazard for wet winter driving. If we put a little more effort in now and find the lights we want we can put them at the intersections. That doesn't mean we have to go and put a new pole in, we can sister onto existing poles, and can just use a different light.

Lisa says with existing wood poles, any installation would be cobra head. The issue with the pedestrian scale fixtures on wood poles is the pedestrian scale we have on few systems and all of the overhead utility poles are unfused and direct fed, which we can't do with ped scale lights. Kathryn says additional cobra heads make crosswalk safer.

Kathryn pulls up map. Rick says to focus on the central section.

Jeanne notes the central section makes a lot of sense because that is the most heavily trafficked by people and cars. or look at intersections with the lowest illumination now.

The next phase is for the lighting team to evaluate the installation and then evaluate mid blocks and see if we can use those poles.

Rick wants to do 10-15 of them this spring, and get a bigger batch done by the darkness of November.

Parker concerned about cobra heads glare, unfiltered, undiffused light in rainy season. Should focus on test study on NW 23rd and NW 21st Avenues where the majority of pedestrians happen to be. Half of the recommended installs have new poles, shouldn't be installing new poles anywhere, that shouldn't be on us. Feels rushed but is supportive of what we are trying to accomplish.

Kathryn said we agreed to focus on NW 18th and 19th Ave. corridors because they have a new bus line, used equity map, access to schools, senior centers, and where NWIM is not going. NW 23rd Ave. is going to have another process.

Lisa asks if another option is to look at intersections where we have existing light and not only are we looking at installing the additional light but replacing additional fixture with one that is better rated for glare and getting rid of the old one. For the materials and labor it would be about \$750 and wouldn't need a new service connection. Jeanne says that sounds economical.

Alex wants something about the purposes of this type or project and this type of material in the memo. Wants the technicalities.

Amy asks about tree trimming and if it happens concurrently.

Action Items

- PBOT staff will work on proposal for the next SAC meeting and a memo will look at the technicalities on the purposes of this project type and material
- Lisa will look at new projects where they use the updated material list. Will look outside of the neighborhood.
- Lisa will find out about tree trimming timing

Meeting Adjourned.