

**Tuesday, May 10, 2022**

9:00 - 11:00 am

Hybrid meeting in Room 202 and via Zoom

**Members Present**

Paddy Tillett, Mike Elliott, Casey Mills, Bonnie Gee Yosick, Erin Zollenkopf, Dr. C.N.E. Corbin, Ali Berman, Alejandro Orizola, Randy Gragg, Elana Pirtle-Guiney, Adrienne Feldstein, Sabrina Wilson, David Staczek, Nova Newcomer

**Members Absent**

Paul Agrimis

**City Staff Present**

Adena Long, Todd Lofgren, Tonya Booker, Lauren McGuire, Serin Bussell, Michelle Tran, Kenya Williams, Tim Collier, Brett Horner, Maya Agarwal, Maximo Behrens, Stephan Herrera

**Others Present**

Linda Wysong, Megan Neil, Steve Drahota, Sharon Daleo, Shane Phelps, Aubrey Russell, Cassie Davis

**Call to Order**

Meeting starts at 9:01am.

**Linda Wysong**

Linda Wysong had the floor for 2 minutes to discuss the usage of leaded fuel at the Portland International Raceway. She shared a letter that was written from the Kenton Neighborhood and sent to Commissioner Rubio. She cited a study about lead exposure over time that she felt was applicable to the situation at the PIR.



Leaded Fuel  
Letter.pdf

Tim Collier stated that he would send out an email communication about the matter to the Board after the meeting.

**Announcements:**

No announcements from the floor.

**Approve April Minutes**

Bonnie had a minor correction to her comment on the floor. Casey moved to approve the minutes, and Ali seconded. All voted in favor of approval.

**Director's Report**

Healthy Parks Healthy Portland's (HHPH) Wave 2 Listening and Learning is underway. The HPHP team met with the Senior Management Team and had two all-employee meetings last week to get



staff input. There are plans to work with the Urban Forestry Commission to see how much they want to be involved. We will engage the board in HPHP Listening & Learning during the retreat. The Actions & Results Codesign team's Spring work has completed and will report out this Summer. The HPHP webpage is also now live and will be updated as the project progresses. We will also have a digital handbook that will be accessible in at least four languages (Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Chinese). The bureau is also revisiting the Decision Support Tool as part of our budget process to make a third iteration of the tool.

On May 18th, the City Council will make a proclamation that May 21<sup>st</sup> will be Kids to Parks Day. Council requested a Parks Board member provide testimony at the Council session. Parks will help the Board member with talking points if needed.

### **Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge (Cassie Davis, Steve Drahota, Megan Neill, Sharon Daleo)**

The main priority is to have the Burnside Bridge be ready with high seismic resilience for emergency responders. The bridge is 96 years old, and currently there are no earthquake ready bridges for the city. This project began in 2016 and is expected to be complete by 2030.

The project affects PP&R's work because the demolition and construction phase will impact public parks near and around the bridge. On the west side, parts of Tom McCall Waterfront Park will be used by the contractors. On the east side, the construction project will impact the Eastbank Esplanade with closures and limited access. The team intends to mitigate any damage incurred to the landscaping/hardscape on Parks property by returning it to its original state or better.

Public comment for the draft EIS is currently open and will end June 13. The best way to send feedback is to email [burnside-eis@multco.us](mailto:burnside-eis@multco.us).

Sharon said that City staff were also reviewing this EIS and they asked that any comments from the Board be sent by letter as a group.

Ali asked about light pollution as well as wheelchair accessibility to the bridge. Steve answered that light pollution hasn't been studied as closely, but it was going to be addressed during the final design phase. The team also noted that ADA accessibility was incorporated into the design of the bridge and wheelchair access will be possible.

Corbin asked about the team's decision to choose the Burnside Bridge. Their reasoning was that the Burnside Bridge had less structures connected to the bridge that would collapse, and Burnside is also a transportation corridor, connecting the region between Beaverton and Gresham.

Paddy asked about the effect of the Japanese American plaza, specifically about the condition of the cherry trees. Steve replied that they will set a protective zone of at least 10 feet or more, from any contractor involvement. There may even be another fence to protect the area from the general public during construction.

Adrienne asked to know more about the reasoning for removing a traffic lane on the bridge, besides the lower cost. Megan replied that with the desire from the community to build the bridge faster, it would be more feasible to have one less lane. Funding in general is also difficult. They were not

confident that they could secure the full funding for additional lanes of traffic, but could secure funding with one less lane. Steve added that the traffic numbers from vehicles are actually staying flat, while numbers for transit are higher. They do not believe there will be much detrimental effect to traffic congestion by removing a lane. Also, by increasing the bike/pedestrian lane space, they anticipated those areas being used in the case of an earthquake emergency, as people will likely be crossing the bridge on foot.

Mike asked what the clearance on the West side of the bridge would be versus now, and whether there was consideration for having a center lane serve as a reversible lane that would change direction depending on time of day. Steve answered that modern construction would give at least one foot more of vertical clearance and less columns needed. He acknowledged that the designs are not final, but in further design phases they will consider the aesthetics of the vertical clearance. Regarding a reversible lane, Sharon said that the project did consider a reversible center lane as a solution. However, a reversible lane would be a new concept since Oregon does not have such a bridge currently in the state. With the traffic analysis, it didn't prompt a serious need for including it in the design, but the idea is still on the table and can be added on after construction of the bridge.

### **Working Group Reports**

#### *Community Engagement – Revised meeting schedule proposal and community outreach*

Erin sent the board a proposal that asked for the Board meeting time to be 5-7pm rather than 9-11am. The Board would meet in person between May-September with rotating locations at Community Centers and community-based organizations. Between October and April, the Board would hold meetings virtually on Zoom. The intention with the time and location proposal is to create board visibility with the public since the current meeting time is in the middle of the traditional work day. Many community centers close at 7:30pm, so they could accommodate the new meeting time. For meeting flow, public comment would happen at the beginning or end of the meeting. Other barrier removals considered by the CEWG included paying rental fees, reimbursement for transportation, and offering childcare.

Serin clarified that starting May 1, the city is required to conduct hybrid meetings, with both a virtual and physical location made available to the public.

Mike asked whether meeting time rotation was still being considered in addition to location rotation. Erin replied that to have some consistency for the public, having the meeting times stay the same would be better accessibility-wise. Erin was hoping that if this is voted in, that the schedule and locations take effect for the July meeting. Paddy moved to approve this proposal, and Alejandro seconded. There was no further discussion, and all voted in favor.

Corbin asked about having the open forum of 15 min for public comment be reflected in the Board agendas.

#### *Board Affairs Working Group*

Casey reports that BAWG is excited to be making major progress on the Board Mission, which will be discussed during the upcoming retreat, in breakout sessions and during the HPHP engagement section. One of the topics that the group wanted to bring to the retreat was regarding the process of reviewing issues within the working groups and how they are presented to the Board during

Board meetings. The goal is to bring clarity on the process for all members and increase transparency.

*Land Use/Infrastructure* David reported that Maya gave a great update on the off road cycling report – a project that started in 2015. He hoped that once the report was finalized, the entire board could be briefed on the entire matter since it took so much time.

Lauren gave an update on Albina Vision and briefed the group on Council Work Sessions. There was a lot of engagement and community listening. At Cathedral Park, the results from DEQ testing just came in and there will be additional community meetings about the findings. Regarding Rose City Playground, fundraising was completed and the project will be treated as a pilot program. The Metro Bond Local Share project list will be going to Council on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

An update on the Thompson Elk statue - Portland Parks Foundation has created a project advisory committee consisting of community members and experts. More information can be viewed on the PPF website. There will be a study and once the findings are presented, the Board can discuss whether we can take a stance on the matter and submit a letter as a board.

#### *Financial Sustainability*



FSWG 4\_28\_22  
Meeting Summary.d

Mike reported that the Mayor's budget has come out. There were nine packages from the Levy. It also included the use of ARPA funds, \$9.2 million, towards Mt. Scott Community Center and O'Bryant Square as well as \$1.75 million for the Park Rangers program. Todd added that part of the funds for the Park Ranger program will be for staffing and part will be for infrastructure such as fencing/security. There is a budget note about working with Parks regarding the prioritization of using the Park Levy and general fund dollars in order to align with what voters wanted.

#### *Nominating Committee*

Erin reported that applications are now closed and will be reviewed shortly. We will start reviewing them and making our recommendations in June at the retreat. Council will be approving members on June 15. Stephan will be reviewing applications and make recommendations as well before interviews.

#### *Portland Parks Foundation Report*

Randy reported that PP&R will be proceeding with design and installation of Rose City Playground, with about \$30,000 raised in total. He announced that the Friends and Allies Summit on Thursday where Adena will be speaking and they will be announcing grant winners. They also planned to unveil new posters for four parks.

There has been a lot of prep for Paseo, happening on July 15-17 at the South Park Blocks and Director Park. There will be a lot of music, activities, and programs. They have almost completely reached their fundraising goal. This will be the largest BIPOC-driven festival that has been done.

Regarding the Thompson Elk Fountain – Commissioners Rubio and Ryan are presenting a resolution tomorrow on behalf of all bureaus for the restoration of the statue to its original condition and location. OMF has been asked to withdraw their application for demolition delay. The newly formed Project Advisory Committee put together an RFQ for historic restoration work and will be overseeing the work being done.

### **Retreat**

The schedule and agenda will be coming out shortly to Board members – we recognize that it's difficult to spend a full Saturday for this event.

### **Other Items**

Corbin requested that we explain terminology, as much as possible, when it comes to jargon and using acronyms. There are a lot of terms used by the Bureau that many members of the public and Board members may not be familiar with. Bonnie supported this comment and asked if there was a cheat sheet available from Community Engagement.

Reminder that Saturday May 14 will be the opening of Gabriel Park with PP&R and will be an exciting event. Director Long and Commissioner Rubio will be present and will say a few words.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting adjourned at 10:42am.