



PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

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Dan Saltzman Commissioner **Leah Treat** Director

PedPDX: Portland's Citywide Pedestrian Plan

Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

Wed. August 30, 2017 5:30-7:30 PM

Portland Building: 1120 SW 5th Ave.

2nd Floor, Room B (facing Auditorium, turn left, go through double-doors)

Members of the public are always welcome!

1. Welcome + introductions (includes public) 5:30-5:40 PM

Committee members, along with members of the public, went around the room and introduced themselves.

2. Housekeeping and updates 5:40-5:50 PM

Michelle Marx gave updates on the Request for Proposal (RFP) and the project timeline.

- New member
- Contract status/consultant kick-off
- Next meeting (likely October, confirmation forthcoming)
- Other housekeeping items

3. Preliminary existing conditions data 5:50-7:00PM

Michelle presented information about the existing conditions for pedestrians throughout the City. The presentation can be found online at: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/652428>.

- Pedestrian activity data
- Pedestrian safety data

Question: Are there different ways to measure safety other than using deaths and injuries?

Answer: You can look at crashes that didn't result in death. You can survey to get feedback about perceived risk. Look at characteristics of roads with higher probability of crashes, etc.

- Pedestrian network completion data (sidewalks and crossings)

Question: Is speed factored in when looking at crossing spacing?



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Answer: Vehicle speeds are accounted for with the type of crossing treatment. We have 85th percentile speed for some of the city, but not the whole city.

Comment: There are other ways to place crossings that are land use based. If there are no destinations, then there shouldn't be a crossing at that location.

Comment: Education necessary to let everyone know that every intersection is a crossing.

Response: After working on detecting infrastructure gaps, we will focus on designing a guidebook for implementing pedestrian improvements. The goal of our plan is to do whatever we can to make Portland a more walkable place.

Question: Network in SW. Could this include walking trails?

Answer: Yes. We want to think about off-street connections.

Question: Crosswalk design by roadway type.

Answer: We don't have a clear process for going out and measuring compliance. We do look at crash rates, especially before we place RRFBs or other crossing treatments. Lots of RRFBs have been hit, so we're going out and reevaluating these.

Question: In regards to the crosswalk evaluation guides, what does meeting twice the pedestrian minimums mean?

Answer: In order to mark a crossing, you have to show 20 pedestrians crossing there at peak hour. What we're suggesting, which comes into play when building greenways, is a future level of service by offering a crossing that's so safe and well-designed that it attracts x amount of people to cross. With these new crossing standards, we're trying to borrow from the standards used for neighborhood greenways. The hope is to generate future demand through engineering and design.

- Pedestrian infrastructure construction

Question: Interested to see how new developments and where people are living are factored into this. Also, interested in the quantity of new infrastructure and how safety is incorporated with design.

Answer: Yes, we will look at this, as well as equity.

4. Draft Public Involvement Plan

7:00-7:25PM

Michelle asked for feedback regarding the public involvement plan. Additionally, the group brainstormed outreach opportunities and groups who should be included in the planning effort.

- Demographic data
- Public outreach objectives and activities
- Brainstorm activity

Question: When it says citywide tour, does that mean site specific citywide open houses?

Answer: Still an open question whether we should have an online open house and/or in-person, road show style open house. Online only format means we would want interest groups to do outreach with.

Question: Is there an opportunity to partner with Oregon Walks? Are there events where we could join up?

Answer: Steptember is coming up. Oregon Walks more of a walking advocacy group. We're Walking Here is another organization. Another one that does walks is AARP (neighborhood walks).

Comment: Regarding education, we haven't talked about bikers. We should reach out to talk about interaction between bikes and pedestrians. Also, we should reach out to people with disabilities.

Answer: We have reached out to Portland Commission on Disabilities and their group that focuses on the built environment. We would love to figure out how to reach out to a broader range of disabled people, since the city commission doesn't claim to represent all disabled people.

5. Public comment

7:25-7:30PM

6. Adjourn