

PBOT

PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

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Phone: 503-823-4000 Portland.gov/Transportation

PBOT Bureau and Budget Advisory Committee (BBAC)

Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 8, 2024 | 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: The Portland Building (1120 SW 5th Ave, Room 216). A virtual option will be provided for those who cannot make it in-person. Online participants can register for this meeting at this [website](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
4:00 p.m.	Welcome and public comment
4:05 p.m.	Vision Zero reading
4:10 p.m.	Bureau update
4:20 p.m.	Budget update
5:00 p.m.	Overview & discussion of BBAC letter
5:15 p.m.	Vote on final BBAC letter
5:25 p.m.	Closing and next steps

Committee Members Present

Susan Johnson
Jennifer Young
David Stein
Delanie Graham
Mariah Hudson
Trevor Luu
Rob Martineau

Committee Members Absent

Kara Helgren
Ignacio Simon
Josh Roll
Sean Sweat
Timothy Bowers
James O'Laughlen
Theodore Labbe
Rambod Behnam

City Staff

Kevin Bumatay
Matt Grumm
Shoshana Cohen
Marianna Lomanto

Bureau/Office

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Attendees

Joseph Bicycles
Ruthanne Bennett

Welcome and Public Comment and Vision Zero

Mariah Hudson, PBOT Bureau & Budget (BBAC) Chair, welcomed committee members and guests. She provided guidelines for engaging in the Zoom meeting and reviewed the agenda. Mariah then opened the public comment period. However, no public comment was provided during the meeting. As a reminder, BBAC meetings are open to the public and public participation is welcomed. Comments are accepted at the beginning of each meeting in advance via [email](#) or in person during the meetings.

Next, PBOT staff proceeded with reading the Vision Zero names. Those are the names of people who have died in traffic crashes since the last BBAC meeting on January 18, 2024.

Bureau Update

Intergovernmental, Resources and Policy Affairs Manager, Shoshana Cohen, gave a bureau update and noted that PBOT Director Williams was at the Budget Work Session, which was being held simultaneously. Shoshana indicated the Work Session went well, and shared other bureau updates before transitioning to the budget presentation. Key highlights from PBOT updates include:

- Progress made on 82nd Ave, with recently released safety plans.
- State legislature transportation-related bills that the bureau is tracking pertain to housing bills which may have infrastructure implications as well as two bills related to ebikes.
- Winter storm response and recovery efforts, including goal to fill every reported pothole within 30 days.
- Emphasis on PBOT's continued commitment to the goal of eliminating traffic deaths. Two summary documents will be released this month: the 2023 Traffic Death Report that identifies crash trends and honors victims of traffic violence and a summary of 2023 Vision Zero program highlights.
- Appreciation for BBAC members for their engagement and feedback over the last year.

Based on the bureau update, a BBAC member was curious about PBOT's messaging about sweeping during winter weather cleanups. There seems to be a guidance of sweeping starting after emergency operations wind down, where makes it easier for people driving. However, the impact on other road users is not being considered. PBOT staff shared the bureau takes a balanced approach, with an agreed-upon emergency routes identified to ensure they are cleared for first responders. Staff acknowledged it as a good observation and noted there is an opportunity for continued conversation about how the bureau balances the needs of all users after a storm and messages about them.

Budget Update

Kevin Bumatay, Financial Services Division Manager, provided a budget update based on the presentation PBOT Director Williams gave to City Council at the Work Session.

Kevin provided an overview of the breakdown of the fiscal year 2024 adopted budget. Highlights include:

- PBOT budget for the current fiscal year is about 500 million and the bureau manages 19 billion dollars in assets.
- About 75% of PBOT funding comes from restrictive sources. These are funds that must be dedicated to specific programs and services such as federal grants for projects, permit revenues, and transportation system development charges that cannot be used for other purposes.

Kevin spoke about the current forecast. The current shortfall is \$32.4 million per year, very similar to the forecast communicated to the BBAC previously. He noted that since the last forecast that the bureau has been able to identify new funding opportunities to mitigate the losses the bureau continues to experience from the decreased state highway fund and parking revenues.

Kevin went over the summary of the necessary reductions and position impacts across PBOT as well the programmatic cuts that PBOT staff discussed with the BBAC in October. He also noted that bureau leadership has been working hard to identify other funding opportunities to prevent these cuts. He discussed proposals to use PCEF investments, increased parking enforcement activities and Fixing Our Streets funds if the measure passes. For a detailed summary of the current budget proposal to address PBOT's funding deficit, see: <https://www.portland.gov/transportation/bbac/documents/february-8-budget-work-session-presentation-transportation/download>

If the proposed investments are approved, PBOT will only be left with a \$ 4 million budget cut. After the presentation, the BBAC chair asked for clarification about one of the at-risk-programs, \$90,000 in public space activation, and what it means. PBOT staff clarified public space activation is different from the space activations that Portland Parks & Rec does and is for things like public plaza activation. There was also a question about the \$590,000 for support services and staff shared that is for services such as finance, contracting, etc. that are internal services to the bureau as opposed to services provided to the community.

PBOT staff indicated the Work Session was very well received, and council were generally supportive of the proposals that PBOT needs council support on. PBOT staff expressed optimism about being in a better place than the bureau was several months ago.

BBAC Budget Letter Overview, Discussion and Next Steps

The meeting then transitioned to the discussion of the BBAC budget letter. BBAC chair, Mariah Hudson, provided background on the letter and work done up to date. She reviewed the revised letter speaking to the edits that were made since the last BBAC meeting and the rationale behind them. The highlighted sections reflect the revised language. The letter can be found here:

<https://www.portland.gov/transportation/bbac/documents/fy-2024-25-bbac-recommendations-letterrevised-draft02-01-24/download>.

Next, the committee worked on refining the letter, primarily aiming to enhance its clarity through minor adjustments.

Since the committee did not have quorum to take a vote, the BBAC will vote on the letter at the next meeting in March. The revised letter will be shared with the BBAC prior to the next meeting.

In closing, PBOT staff clarified that with less than 24 hours notice they were asked for BBAC testimony at the Work Session, something that staff previously thought was only for city staff. Considering this, BBAC leadership was invited to provide testimony on behalf of BBAC. BBAC Chair, Mariah Hudson, was able to attend and acknowledged the official letter has not been finalized but was able to speak to the themes that have been discussed at the BBAC. PBOT staff thanked Mariah for their testimony at the Work Session.

After concluding the formal business of the agenda, the meeting adjourned by 4:51pm.

Meeting Reminders

- Sign up [here](#) to receive BBAC meeting notices and reminders.
- BBAC meetings are open to the public. BBAC meetings allocates the first minutes of each meeting for public comment. To submit written public comment electronically or to sign up to provide live comment at the meeting contact [BBAC Staff](#).