

**PORTLAND FREIGHT COMMITTEE
AGENDA
Meeting No. 250**



This was an in-person meeting, while still providing a hybrid option for those unable to attend in person.

WHEN: Thursday, August 1st, 2024 @ 8:30 AM

8:30 AM Welcome and Introductions

Jana Jarvis

- Attendees introduced themselves, including seven new PFC members.

8:35 AM Hot Topics, Points of Interest

Jana Jarvis / All

- PBOT continues to look for a freight coordinator to replace Gabriela Giron-Valderrama.
- Michelle Sprague asked how much input residents will be able to have on RFP language regarding outreach for the study of railroad crossings at SE 8th, 11th and 12th Ave. Kristin Hull offered to help members connect with Bryan Graveline who has been working on a public outreach plan.
- PFC members expressed interest in an update on the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project at a future meeting.
- Steve Kountz shared information around economic conditions in Portland – struggling to recover compared to other cities with major job losses in Multnomah County, especially in retail and food service.

8:50 AM Charter Reform/City Transition

Tate White (City of Portland)

- See presentation for details.

Questions, Comments and Answers:

Does this go into effect January 1?

Tate White: Yes, the charter goes into effect January 1. We're still operating under the pre-revision charter until that time, but the mayor has already taken control over all the city bureaus.

Will contract changes still go to council for approval or will that be decided by the city administrator?

Tate White: Contracts are an area that will see a lot of change. If the contracts are included in the bureau or service area budget, it will be an administrative decision and won't need to go to council.

How will our advisory committees interact with city executives?

Tate White: There is currently a scoping process for an engagement officer who will take a holistic view on the city's approach to advisory committees. You will continue to work with subject matter experts at PBOT, and as constituents you can still advocate on policy with your councilors.

If assistant city administrators can be hired or fired by city administrators, what about bureau directors?

Tate White: The city administrator oversees all employees, so they will technically have that charter authority. It will also depend on other factors related to labor contracts.

Are there any charter provisions between the City and other jurisdictions in the region?

Tate White: I'm not aware of any specific charter provisions, but we're aware of the importance of our regional partnerships. We'll be inviting regional partners to be involved in work sessions as we plan for our onboarding process. The mayor will also play a key role in building those relationships.

9:10 AM

Port Updates

Tom Bouillon and Carmen Merlo (Port of Portland)

- See presentation for details.

Questions, Comments and Answers:

You're asking the legislature for \$35 million in capital improvements. What is that for?

Carmen Merlo: It's for quite a few things. Two of the biggest ones include crane modernization and pavement.

Are there any plans to bring shipping container companies back once the legislature passes funding and container shipping is reopened at Terminal 6?

Carmen Merlo: The container shipping is open right now. We currently have two shipping lines that come to call, and we're looking to increase the number of vessels and expand to different markets beyond Asia.

Are you proposing to do significant construction of pavement at the site, and will this be impacted by the FEMA BiOp?

Carmen Merlo: No. The pavement upgrades will be the extent of our construction, aside from maintaining assets.

With the increased volume, will the river from Portland to Astoria need to be dredged again soon? And is the funding there?

Carmen Merlo: We do have to dredge annually. The funding is there for now but there isn't money for all the dredge material site placements in future. We'll be looking for sustained funding from the state to help with dredging operations.

9:30 AM

SMART Grant Phase 2

Jacob Sherman and Sarah Pullman (PBOT)

- See presentation for details.

Questions, Comments and Answers:

Are the zero-emissions vehicles that will be allowed at these delivery zones medium-duty trucks?

Jacob Sherman: Yes, but they can also be passenger vehicles.

Comment: It would be interesting to see how different this would look on the other side of the river.

Are you tracking whether this project would increase the cost of delivery?

Jacob Sherman: That hasn't been one of the evaluation metrics yet, but that's something we could think about for Phase 2. In that case, we would need industry to provide that information. It would also likely vary between national and local companies, which is why we're also trying to find ways to support local companies in this.

When is it starting?

Jacob Sherman: We're aiming for September.

Have you reached out to parking enforcement officers regarding delivery zone compliance issues?

Jacob Sherman: Yes. They have observed that the food delivery drivers are some of the biggest offenders.

Moving forward, could there be an opportunity to tap into the Portland Clean Energy Fund if eligible?

Jacob Sherman: Possibly. We're in conversations with them right now about goods movement decarbonization.

Comment: Consumer education will be needed so that they know to communicate with trucking companies about what kinds of vehicles are allowed in their delivery zone.

Is there more that this group can do to help in the next step?

Jacob Sherman: Reach out if you have any feedback or questions and would love to engage in any additional conversations. It would also be helpful to know if any of your partners, stakeholders, or employees are thinking about some of these topics when it comes to your fleet.

10:00 AM

HVUT & Fixing Our Streets Update

Mark Lear (PBOT)

- We'll be taking draft project investments to our Fixing Our Streets Oversight Committee.
- Historically, the \$10.5 million generated from the Heavy Vehicle Use Tax has been allocated into thirds – about a third to paving projects in freight districts, a third to investments in bridges, and a third to other strategic leverage opportunities.
- More information will be given at next meeting.

Questions, Comments and Answers:

Who is on our Fixing Our Streets Oversight Committee?

Mark Lear: We're in the process of updating membership. We'll send out the form if anyone is interested in being part of the committee. It would be great to have a strong freight perspective involved.

10:20 AM Public Comments

Jana Jarvis

No public comment.

10:30 AM Adjourn

In-person and virtual* attendees:

Andrew Aebi*
 Tom Bouillon*
 Bill Burgel
 Tim Collins*
 Tom Dechenne
 Ari Del Rosario
 Marie Dodds*
 Nick Fortey*
 Kala Franklin*
 Sorin Garber
 Joe Gardner
 Lynda Gardner*
 Roger Geller
 Tanya Hartnett
 Kristin Hull*
 Sarah Iannarone*
 Denver Igarta
 Jana Jarvis

Kristine Kennedy
 Steve Kountz
 Mark Lear
 Lewis Lem*
 Tim Love*
 Omar Lugo
 Deborah Martisak*
 Carmen Merlo*
 Shelli Romero
 Jacob Sherman
 Bob Short*
 Michelle Sprague
 Chad Wagner
 Tate White*
 Greg Zanavich