



Powell-Division Transit and Development Project Steering Committee

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

4 to 6 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Colonial Heights Building, 2931 SE Harrison St, Portland

Committee members present

Shirley Craddick, Co-chair
Bob Stacey, Co-chair
John Bildsoe
Lori Boisen
Michael Calcagno
Heidi Guenin
Jason Howard
Jessica Howard
Kem Marks

Neil McFarlane
Diane McKeel
Vivian Satterfield
Lori Stegmann
Alan Snook (for Rian Windsheimer)
Leah Treat (for Steve Novick)
Kerry Rowand

Metro Council
Metro Council
Gresham Coalition of Neighborhood Associations
Division-Midway Alliance
Mt. Hood Community College
Upstream Public Health
Johnson Creek Watershed Council
Portland Community College, Southeast
East Portland Neighborhood Office and East
Portland Action Plan
TriMet
Multnomah County
OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon
City of Gresham
Oregon Department of Transportation
City of Portland
Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Coalition

Committee members excused

Trell Anderson
Devin Carr
Shemia Fagan
Melinda Merrill
Diane Noriega
Jessica Vega Pederson
Raahi Reddy

1.0 Welcome, introductions and agenda review

Co-chair Shirley Craddick called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and welcomed the committee members and public in attendance. She reminded the committee that no decisions would be made in today's meeting. Each committee member proceeded to introduce themselves and noted their jurisdictional or community affiliation.

Ms. Dana Lucero gave a brief overview of the meeting agenda which included presentation on the current state of the project, route update findings and preview of the station locations.

Co-chair Bob Stacey asked for any amendments to the March 28, 2016 Steering Committee meeting summary. With no amendments, the summary was approved unanimously.

2.0 Public comment

Mr. Stuart Lone, Southeast Portland resident, expressed concern and called for effective resolution to traffic conditions on Division Street.

Mr. Doug Klotz, expressed concerns about proposed stop spacing on Division Street. He suggested to take a closer look at zoning to determine more appropriate stop spacing and commented on challenging traffic conditions on intersection of Division Street and 11th Street.

Mr. Jim Howell and Mr. Doug Allen, members of Association of Oregon Rail and Transit Advocates (AORTA), proposed an alternative to the current Powell-Division Transit and Development Project. The alternative plan included Limited Stop Express and Local Service on both Powell and Division Streets. Power Point presentation was submitted and included as part of the meeting record.

Ms. Melissa Ryan, inquired about what organizations and community leaders participated in public outreach efforts. She also asked to clarify increase in average travel times and inquired if raw data was available for viewing. Ms. Ryan expressed concern about removal of un-signalized crosswalks between Cesar E Chavez Blvd. and Southeast 30th Street.

Mr. David Mihm, Southeast Portland resident, inquired why two lane streets are being studied when four lane streets are located nearby and suggested to use the funds for a bigger project in the future to tackle increasing traffic problems. Mr. Mihm also expressed his support for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT).

Mr. Bruce Halpevia, Southeast Portland resident, raised a question if the project going to improve the livability in the neighborhood or have a negative impact instead.

3.0 Where we are

Ms. Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro, presented on the current state of the project. She updated the committee on Local Action Plans and TriMet's Service Enhancement Plan. Ms. Mros-O'Hara continued presentation by going over the updates on Locally Preferred Alternative, which included:

Route – Decisions this summer

- Constraints make it difficult to provide speed and reliability on 82nd Avenue and Powell without major property impacts

- Findings for an inner Division Street route
- Other route decisions: Gresham, Downtown Portland
- Powell considerations

Station locations – Decision this fall

- Review community input; upcoming survey and open house(s)

She concluded presentation with a brief overview of the Locally Preferred Alternative draft.

Mr. Alan Lehto, TriMet, gave an overview of the future better transit as a part of the service enhancement plan. Some of the features of better transit included:

- More access to more opportunities
- Quicker, more reliable trips
 - Higher level of Transit Signal Priority
 - All-door boarding
 - Less stopping
 - Higher capacity vehicle
- Context sensitive approach
 - East Portland and east county also need more access and safer crossings
 - Inner Division needs more bus capacity

4.0 Route update

Ms. Lori Stegman, City of Gresham, updated the committee members on preferred route from Gresham Transit Center to Stark Street and connecting to Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC). She stated that results of the public outreach efforts showed that Hogan Drive was the preferred route.

Mr. Michael Calcagno, MHCC, updated the committee members on MHCC terminus. He stated that there is continued mutual interest to create a transit station on campus from both the transit project and the college, and that the process of creating it moving right along.

Ms. Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro, gave an overview of the Downtown Portland route. Proposed routes comparison included:

Columbia/Jefferson

- Fewer connections
- More design constraints

Portland Transit Mall is more promising

- Excellent connections to transit (bus, MAX, Amtrak)
- Connections to many destinations and jobs
- Existing transit way and high quality stations
- Fewer design constraints
- Portland, TriMet and business community concur

She continued with an update on inner Division technical findings, which included:

- Travel time analysis and ridership
- Ability to serve communities of concern

- Ability to fit community context, minimize impacts
- Potential cost

Ms. Dana Lucero, Metro, gave an overview of the public engagement findings, which included:

Portland route options

- Willingness to consider Division route
- People want improvements for Powell

Gresham route options

- More people prefer Hogan
- More people oppose Cleveland

Downtown Portland route options

- Support for Transit Mall

The committee members deliberated and expressed concern that with proposed preferred routes there would be no educational connection to Portland State University (PSU) and Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU). Questions were raised about being clear on the project’s main objective before making decisions on bus stops, routes, and connections. The committee members inquired if Powell and Division Streets should be looked at as separate projects, if more time or resources are needed to ensure effective connections, and noted that the focus of the project should be on the communities it serves.

5.0 Path to a Locally Preferred Alternative recommendation

Co-chair Shirley Craddick announced that next the committee members will be divided into three groups for a discussion to answer the following questions:

- **Route** – How ready do you feel you will be to make a route decision at the September Steering Committee meeting? What would improve your readiness?
- **General station locations** – How ready do you feel you will be to make a decision on general station locations at the fall committee meeting? What would improve your readiness?
- **Outcomes** – What are you most excited about this project bringing to communities and residents of the Powell-Division Corridor?

The committee members deliberated and presented on where they stood on the current state of the project concerning route, general station locations and outcomes of the project.

Route – the committee members commented on readiness to make a decision on Gresham and MHCC connection options. Additional information was requested on downtown Portland options, and concerns were expressed about Tilikum bridge crossing.

General station locations – the committee members emphasized the need to have more detailed information on station locations and also ridership and travel times data.

Outcomes – members of the steering committee expressed excitement about transportation improvements in the region, connecting Southeast Portland vulnerable populations to jobs and education, addressing equity, and potential infrastructure for pedestrians.

Additional comments included inquiries about funding, improvement opportunities on Southeast Powell Boulevard, looking into Hawthorne bridge as potential crossing option, and emphasizing

educational opportunities connection among Portland State University (PSU), Portland Community College (PCC), and MHCC. Concerns were raised about reliability of the new findings and displacement of vulnerable communities.

6.0 Next steps and adjourn

Co-chair Bob Stacey adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Meeting summary respectfully submitted by:

Yuliya Kharitonova

Attachments to the Record:

Item	Type	Document Date	Description	Document Number
1	Agenda	6/1/16	6/1/16 Steering Committee Agenda	060116PDSC-01
2	Document	6/1/16	6/1/16 Steering Committee Summary	060116PDSC-02
3	Document	3/28/16	Steering Committee Meeting Summary	060116PDSC-03
4	Report	6/1/16	Public Engagement Report	060116PDSC-04
5	Presentation	6/1/16	An Alternative to the Current Powell-Division BRT Project	060116PDSC-05