



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Meeting minutes

Meeting: CORE Meeting
Date: Thursday, May 21, 2020
Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Place: Zoom

Attendees

Co-Chairs: Tristan Penn, Martine Coblentz

CORE Members: Katie Sawicki, Tristan Penn, Mahmood Jawad, Maria Magallon, Quincy Brown, Saara Hirsi, Daniela Ortiz, Laura John, Duncan Hwang, Patricia Kepler, Dele Oyemaja, Nula Elmagbari, Karis J.A. Stoudamire-Phillips

MERC Commissioners: Dañel Malán

CORE Liaisons: Metro Council President Peterson, Metro Councilor Craddick, Metro Councilor Lewis

Metro staff: Raahi Reddy, Sebrina Owens-Wilson, Melissa Palavecino, Tiffany Thompson, Nathan Sykes, Andrew Bealer

Absent: Effie Bustamante, Karla Hernandez

Welcome and Overview of the day

Tristan welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda for the day. Melissa shared information about how to use Zoom.

Minutes

Minutes approval postponed to next meeting.

Supportive Housing Measure

Presenters: *Metro Council President Peterson, Andy Shaw Policy Advisor*

Tristan shared that this was originally scheduled to come to CORE in April but was delayed to May to accommodate COVID-19 response.

Tristan commented that this measure should be as equitable as possible and asked what the role for CORE will be during implementation and if they would be part of conversations about developing outcomes for the programs. President Peterson responded that they are working with DEI to create conversations about engagement. Sebrina shared that CORE members will be invited soon to participation in a series of engagements during June and September. CORE has been designated a key stakeholder. Andy shared that they will also be seating for an advisory committee over the summer. Individual counties are developing

plans to engage their own communities. Many opportunities for CORE and other stakeholders to engage at the local and Metro level.

Katie asked for more information about the role of the oversight committee. President Peterson responded that it will function like all oversight committees – providing a high level of oversight about how the money is being spent, how counties are meeting the metrics in the plans they developed, and weighing in on the county plans. The goals of the measure are to significantly decrease the population living on the streets and to help people who are on the verge of sliding into homelessness. A lot has changed due to COVID and the needs. Counties will need to provide performance outcome measures that can be tracked. Andy shared that the committee will ensure that the implementation of the measure is meeting what was promised to voters – financial, programmatic, and racial equity.

Quincy stated that it is important to ensure that the measure doesn't create a separate class of renters. Quincy asked how the measure is going to address people who are losing their homes but don't have access to generational wealth through homeownership. Quincy also asked if there will be an increase in the engagement of youth. President Peterson responded that the measure did not intend to get at the issue of homelessness from a home ownership perspective and has a focus on rent. In the previous housing bond, a portion of money was for Habitat for Humanity. Some partners are building units. Outreach to youth are a part of every county's plan both in community engagement and receipt of assistance.

Nura asked what programming is planned regarding financial literacy because it is a critical piece of this work and it was not listed in the top five programming. President Peterson shared that there were two documents with the referral and that included a list of services that was prioritized by the Here Together Coalition. Andy shared that financial literacy is on that list and that list is not exhaustive.

Nura asked a follow up question about what percentage of the funding would go to programming and what percentage to oversight and administration. President Peterson responded that the administrative cost cap is only applicable for Metro and not for counties or providers. Part of the work of the oversight committee will be to hold recipients accountable to a standard to ensure that the majority goes toward programming. Metro went over the cap on Affordable Housing and had to use the general fund to cover that cost. Metro will also need to work with the three counties to standardize data collection and conduct analysis.

Tristan concluded this portion of the meeting. Remaining questions in the chat will be sent to President Peterson for response.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Committee Business & Updates

Quincy shared that Portland Public Schools are requesting that if you are in Multnomah County or near schools to open your WiFi for students to access. Quincy is also serving on the Neighborhood Association and they are working on a safe route to school planning – please contact with any advice.

Nura shared that they have been busy fulfilling a large number of requests for assistance with food, utilities, rent, etc. Families have shared concerns that they are getting negative attention from white folks about their access unemployment and other services. Many are not able to make rent and utilities on unemployment. There has been an increase in hate crimes against Asian Americans and immigrant and refugee communities. Is there a way that Metro or the DEI team can make an announcement? How to raise awareness? Tristan asked for additional follow up on this via e-mail.

Laura shared that she has been working to track what is happening in the Native communities in Portland and what the Tribes in the region are experiencing. They just recently received their CARES Act funding. Struggle to get PPE and are not getting approved for loans. Tribal Enterprises are a significant revenue generator for tribes because they do not have a tax base. Urban Native Communities are seeing a lot of folks fall through the cracks, particularly elders in need who hadn't been receiving services previously. They are being referred to 211 and there is no tracking to determine if they are actually receiving services. Potentially going to be using recovery.org to create a system to allow elders to track what their needs are, especially as they will be the group to shelter in place the longest.

Raahi shared that Metro passed their first proclamation for API Heritage month and that Metro Councilors committed to calling out racism and xenophobia in the region while also encouraging National Leaders to do the same. Council also offered support for the Oregon Workers Relief Fund which is similar direct cash payments to immigrants who were disqualified because of racism in our National Government and the CARES Act.

Duncan shared that this is almost live for applications to be accepted and they are in BETA testing now. 80% of MFI for up to \$430/week for up to 4 weeks. Press Release will be May 29. Khan Pham won the election for House District 46.

Martine shared that Multnomah County has a call on Thursday for culturally specific organizations to share resources and response to COVID-19.

Communities of Color COVID-19 Partner Call
Weekly on Thursday, 2:00 – 3:30pm

Join with Google Meet
meet.google.com/azb-nmre-hpv
Join by phone
+1 402-994-1135 PIN: 491 466 438#

Maria spoke about the emergency operations for Clackamas County food distribution through multiple events last week. They focused on rural areas and offered a drive through. In Molalla there are 2 large farm worker complexes and they problem solved to have food delivered directly to the complexes. Maria also shared about the conversation about masks being required in public and that implications that has for communities of color. There should be an awareness campaign around the requirements.

Tristan shared that the .org domain was going to be sold to a private firm but the International Committee of Assigned Names and Numbers disapproved the effort. Would have impacted every non-profit.

Get Moving 2020

Presenters: *Andy Shaw Policy Advisor, Craig Beebe Program Analyst, Brian Harper Senior Planner*

Tristan reminded everyone that there was an overview of this measure in February for CORE. Today will focus on anti-displacement and Community Stability.

Laura asked if economic growth include economic mobility for low and middle income individuals. Appreciate the comments about workforce development and would like to know how that is being measured.

Quincy asked about COVID-19 safety on TriMet to protect communities of color that will use it more during re-opening and also education to increase ridership. Andy responded that we don't have current updates from TriMet but that they have videos out about their cleaning process.

Quincy shared that it is important to consider how voters are feeling about funding a transportation measure at this time, especially when they won't be using it right away. Andy responded they are considering the challenges of talking to voters about longer term projects, some of which may take 7 years to complete.

Martine asked for additional details about the engagement plan for community members in each corridor including those who participated in previous town halls, culturally specific organizations, community based organizations, etc to ensure the representation of underserved communities on committees and focus groups. Martine shared the example that transportation conversations in Clackamas don't reflect the communities that are being talked about in regard to anti-displacement. Brian responded that the Southwest Corridor used Unite Oregon and the Community Alliance of Tenants for outreach. And that this has to be tailored to the uniqueness of each corridor which means talking to CBOs in each corridor to identify those who will be most impacted. Martine clarified that each jurisdiction would then be responsible. Andy responded that Metro would be running the engagement with intention investment in local teams to bring a broad range of voices.

General discussion question: Do you have ideas for more or different elements of this program that would support the outcomes that your communities need and want to see?

Patricia suggested reaching out to the identity center at PCC such as Students of Color, Queer Resource Center, etc.

Quincy shared that they could partner with the urban planning departments at PCC and PSU. It could be a pipeline for learning and for future employees.

Laura shared that they should connect with the Indian Education programs for the school districts to connect with parents. There are many organizations that are often not contacted. NARA, PiNeeWaus Elders, NW Protland Area India Health Board, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission, ONACC, ATNI, the BIA General Assistance Program coordinator in Portland, and the HUD Tribal Liaison for the region.

Danel shared that there should be more input from the members of the Coalition of Communities of Color, given the dramatic shifts in the past two months. Shared an example of how difficult it was for Milagro to survive the construction of trolley on Grand. There needs to be support for small businesses during construction.

Quincy shared that there are frameworks constantly shifting about how to improve practices and programming in the field of planning. Important to have language about how they will adapt over the course of this measure.

Laura shared that there also Native Student groups at PCC, PSU, University of Portland, and Lewis and Clark that could also provide insight. Connection with Multnomah County Future Generation Collaborative.

Tristan asked to know more about plans to ensure that committees remain active and continue to participate throughout – because communities change over time. Brian shared that they just got a non-governmental partner and that they are planning to focus on relationship building with a person at Metro managing relationships for each corridor. Andy shared that there will have to be a process for engagement over many years that involves both a region wide group and local focus.

Laura highlighted that outreach tends to only be to NAYA/NARA. Also include others like the NW Veterans Association. Also more information available from the Tribal Nations Summit.

Tristan asked if there are plans for the Metro staff to continue to learn and grow regarding DEI issues and their own professional development. Is there a plan in place? CORE cannot be the only place to provide education about race as it relates to transportation. Craig shared that they value the partnership with DEI and have been working closely together. The planning department has a plan for racial equity. Andy shared that they are using an equity lens on each measure now and including resources for community partnerships and committing to longer term partnerships rather than one-off transactions. Brian shared that there has been more learning about racial equity throughout Metro.

Tristan addressed that remaining questions could be answered via e-mail.

- Laura – Are there efforts to research strategies that have worked in other local governments, nationally and internationally? Particularly for BIPOC and accessibility communities?
- Quincy – Would like to hear more about the youth engagement related to the anti-displacement efforts for students transitioning out of school. How will you ensure these target elements will get to them?

Adjourn