

Meeting minutes

Meeting: **82nd Avenue Steering Committee meeting**
Date/time: Monday, December 14, 2022 | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Place: Virtual webinar meeting held via Zoom

Members, Alternates Attending

Councilor Duncan Hwang, Co-chair
Councilor Christine Lewis, Co-chair
Commissioner Mark Shull
JC Vannatta
Chris Warner
Rian Windsheimer
Robin Ye
Zachary Lauritzen
Kaitlyn Dey
Leslie Lum

Affiliation

Metro
Metro
Clackamas County
TriMet
Portland Bureau of Transportation
Oregon Department of Transportation
State of Oregon, House District 46
Oregon Walks
Clackamas Service Center
Unite Oregon

Panelists Attending

Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara
Malu Wilkinson
Kelly Betteridge
Jessie Stemmler
Jonathan Plowman
Michael Kiser
Julia Reed
Stellan Roberts

Panelists Attending

Metro
Metro
Metro
TriMet
TriMet
TriMet
Portland Bureau of Transportation
Metro

Welcome and introductions (Councilors Duncan Hwang, Metro and Christine Lewis, Metro)
Co-chair Councilor Christine Lewis, Metro called meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed the attendees to the meeting. Councilor Lewis provided background on the importance of the 82nd Avenue corridor.

Committee members introduced themselves, noted their affiliation, and shared what they imagine a successful transit project on 82nd avenue would look like.

Co-chair Councilor Duncan Hwang, Metro walked through the agenda.

Updates on Project Efforts, Community Coalition Efforts, and Related Partner Work (Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro)

Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro, updated committee members on important milestones that have happened since the precious steering committee meeting in September. Elizabeth highlighted the opening of TriMet's FX-2 line, work being done to understand existing conditions in the corridor as well as travel times, transit infrastructure roadway constraints, and community in the area. Elizabeth explained that the project team is working to summarize past engagement plans, looking at land use and transportation plans, and fleshing out a preliminary purpose and need that will come to the steering committee for feedback early next year.

Zachary Lauritzen, Oregon Walks, provided an update on the 82nd Avenue Community Coalition and Equitable Development efforts. Zachary discussed the work being done by the larger committee as well as with subcommittees made up of community members in the region.

Julia Reed, Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT), provided updates on work being done by PBOT in the region. Julia highlighted a recently completed community survey and explained that results will be shared in January, focus groups that are being developed to reach additional community members, PBOT will begin meeting with school communities in January, and working to directly communicate with business owners. Julia highlighted that Building a Better 82nd Avenue community advisory committee has recently been assembled and will be meeting every two months.

Rian Windsheimer, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), highlighted that ODOT is continuing to work in partnership with the City of Portland on its Foster to Thompson project.

Michael Kiser, TriMet, explained that they have been working closely with Metro to create outreach and work plans to get to a locally preferred alternative (LPA) this summer.

Leslie Lum, Unite Oregon, highlighted work being done by Unite Oregon in partnership with Merci Corps Northwest on a small business training program and childcare training program along the 82nd avenue corridor.

Kaitlyn Dey, Clackamas Service Center, explained that the Clackamas Service Center is rearranging to re-open for indoor dining which could be used as an opportunity for more outreach to be done.

Presentation: Consider Adopting Steering Committee Charter (Elizabeth Mros-Ohara, Metro)

Elizabeth highlighted the Steering Committee members, the Committee structure, and the Committee's charges, which are, to represent the community, advance the project, and recommend transit LPA. Elizabeth summarized decision making protocols by discussing consensus decision making and discussed next steps.

Discussion

Commissioner Mark Shull, Clackamas County, expressed that himself and the Clackamas County planning staff has reviewed the steering committee charter and agree with it as written.

Seeing no further discussion Councilor Hwang asked steering committee members to vote on adopting the charter by displaying a green, yellow, or red object. Green meaning "I support this", yellow meaning "I have concerns that need to be addressed", or "I do not support this".

With unanimous agreement the charter was adopted.

Presentation: FTA New Starts/Small Starts Context (Kelly Betteridge, Metro)

Kelly discussed the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Capital Investment Grant Program, the region's success in garnering discretionary federal funding, Small Starts and New Starts funding request eligibility, Small Starts and New Starts project design eligibility, FTA funding criteria, walked through a Small Starts and New Starts project roadmap.

Discussion

Zachary Lauritzen asked for more information on what a New Start or Small Start project might look like on 82nd Avenue.

Kelly responded by explaining that for New Starts over 50% of the corridor would need a Business Access and Transit (BAT) lane or other dedicated transit specific space, for a Small Starts project the requirement is to improve transit speed and reliability.

JC Vannatta, TriMet, asked about the project timeline.

Kelly explained the major hurdle that in order to move into project development they need to have enough funding committed to complete the project.

Director Chris Warner, PBOT, asked when the decision will be made between going with a Small Starts or New Starts recommendation.

Kelly responded by describing that this decision would be made before a locally preferred alternative is decided.

Zachary Lauritzen asked where additional funding for this project will come from.

Kelly explained that they do not know where all the funding will come from yet and that the region will have to work together to find funding from several different sources. She stated that is how the region has typically funded these types of projects.

Malu Wilkinson, Metro, agreed with Kelly and explained where funding came from with the Division Transit Project.

Corridor Routing and Station Analysis and Process: (Jonathan Plowman & Jessie Stemmler, TriMet)

Jonathan Plowman, TriMet, discussed why this investment is moving forward now, investments that the City of Portland is making, investments that ODOT has begun to make, and coordination with PBOT. Jonathan explained where Line 72 takes people, what parts of Line 72 are used the most, the importance of investing in 82nd Avenue transit, discussed Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), and BRT investment along 82nd.

Jessie Stemmler, TriMet, provided an overview on station platforms, discussed station improvements and amenities, how stop spacing effects travel times, existing stop spacing, station criteria, and next steps.

Discussion

JC Vannatta asked about the block length in this corridor.

Councilor Hwang asked why line 72 is the busiest line in the system.

Jessie explained that it is a line with multiple stop destinations and number of connection opportunities.

Director Warner asked about lessons learned for the consolidation of stops during the Division Transit Project and noted the importance of the northern terminus of Line 72.

Jessie responded by explaining that it is often easy to see the essential bus stops, but the insight gained from steering committees and from the community is critical to get the stop consolidation process correct.

Leslie Lum expressed discomfort around consolidating stops.

Kaitlyn Dey asked for more information about potential sidewalk improvements between Clatsop and Lindy stops, expressed concern about consolidating stops on line 72 and cutting service off from Killingsworth.

Jessie responded to Kaitlyn's concerns around stop consolidation by explaining that TriMet will be doing a deeper dive into stop spacing.

Michael Kiser, TriMet, explained that the intent is to not cut off the northern portion of line 72 but investment will have to be made to maintain the connectivity between the areas.

Zachary Lauritzen asked where most people who board the bus on 82nd are getting off and stressed the

importance of increasing walkability along the route if stops will be consolidated. Zachary followed up by asking what outcomes are expected from stop consolidation.

Michael explained that they are looking to complete a study so that they can understand riders' trips as part of the stop spacing evaluation. Michael responded to Zachary's second question by explaining that along the FX-2 line travel time decreased substantially since 2019 along comparable routes and highlighted that stop consolidation along 82nd Avenue are expected to significantly reduce travel times.

Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara explained that more information about markets and where people are travelling in future steering committee meetings.

Public Comment

Jacob Lobe with the 82nd Avenue Business Association, Montavilla Business Association, and the Montavilla Neighborhood Association expressed their hope for the bus to be used as a tool to get from one business to another within the district rather than just a way to get through the district. Jacob also discussed the benefits of fare-less transit in order to promote ridership.

Next Steps

Councilor Lewis discussed the potential for a steering committee project tour in January.

There being no further business, co-chair Councilor Lewis adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stellan Roberts, 82nd Avenue Steering Committee Recorder

Attachments to the Public Record, 82nd Avenue Steering Committee meeting, December 14, 2022

Item	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1	Agenda	12/14/2022	12/14/2022 82 nd Avenue Steering Committee #2 meeting agenda	12142282ASC-01
2	Document	12/14/2022	82nd Avenue Transit Project Steering Committee – Factsheet	12142282ASC-02
3	Document	12/14/2022	Study Map Area	12142282ASC-03
4	Document	12/14/2022	82nd Avenue Transit Project Steering Committee – Draft Charter	12142282ASC-04
5	Document	12/14/2022	Meeting Protocols and Proposed Decision Making Procedures	12142282ASC-05
6	Document	12/14/2022	PBOT Building a Better 82 nd Ave.	12142282ASC-06