



Community Advisory Committee Kick-off Meeting Summary

Thursday, Nov. 5 2015, 6pm-8pm, PCC East

Attendees:

Remy Agudelo

Luci Longoria

Adam Stein

Elliot Akwai-Scott

Leticia Martinez

Chabre Vickers

Brian Balla

John Mulvey

Brian Wong

Kimberly Botter

Terry Parker

Members unable to attend:

Kathryn Doherty-Chapman

Cora Potter

Shayna Rehberg

Kevin Kaufman

Traci Price

Peter Schraner

Rachel Kimbrow

Diane Sparks

Staff:

Logan Gilles, Senator Dembrow's Office

Terra Lingley, ODOT Project Manager

Kirsten Green, Cogan Owens Greene

Mike Mason, ODOT

Kristin Hull, CH2M consultant Project Manager

Introductions

Mike Mason from ODOT started the meeting, reviewed the agenda, and started the round of introductions. Attendees shared their names, the organization(s) they represent, and a short sentence or two (in tweet format or an email subject line) on why 82nd Avenue is important. Responses are below.

Why is 82nd Important to you?

- Barrier
- Dining/shopping, gateway to home (2x)
- Last north-south road west of I-205
- Thoroughfare – opportunity for active transportation
- It should unite
- Walkable
- Livability
- Home/history/life
- Barrier to east Portland
- Between two worlds
- Cars/bicyclists/pedestrians

- Backyard/neighborhood
- Misunderstood
- Always changing
- Life/routine/Main Street
- Booming/growing
- Diversity/community
- Disappointment: doesn't address key issues including safety and livability

Background Information

Mike then walked through the project's background including how the project came about, and the early outreach to determine what should and could be addressed through this implementation plan. He shared the past investments that the City and ODOT have made on 82nd and what \$15 million in state transportation funds will implement over the next 5 years. He shared a graphic of those projects with committee members. This plan will address what happens after those projects are completed, and will create the next set of priority projects.

Project Process

Mike introduced Terra Lingley who will be taking over as the project manager to talk through the process and schedule. Terra shared an informational one-pager on the plan which included

Terra touched on the goals for the project which include creating a long-term vision for 82nd Avenue beyond the investments over the next 5 years, and creating an implementable set of projects to address community concerns in focus areas (to be determined through the process).

Terra also went through the elements that will and will not be included in the plan. Things the plan will address include: safety for all modes, pedestrian system gaps/deficiencies, and place-making related to the roadway right-of-way. Things not addressed by this plan include: Reconstructing the entire corridor, land use, security (specifically crime concerns such as prostitution and drug activity), affordable housing, biking and/or walking facilities off of 82nd Avenue, Greenway or trail planning, and economic development incentives.

One CAC member asked that the project also consider impacts off of the corridor including traffic, vehicle congestion, and air quality impacts.

Terra explained that the role of CAC members is a two-way informational exchange; CAC members provide "on the ground" knowledge to the Project Management team and Technical Advisory Committee on issues and concerns as the project progresses, and act as project ambassadors to share information with the group(s) they represent. ODOT's goal for this project is to include diverse viewpoints and community members throughout the plan. Terra then asked for suggested strategies to reach out to groups or individuals that are less likely to be involved in a planning process.

CAC members suggested the following strategies:

- Go to where the people are (talk to people visiting Wal-Mart, Fubonn, busy TriMet stops)
- Provide childcare, food, stipends, translation services
- Make meetings interactive
- Tie planning to real world affects – who will it impact people's everyday lives?

- Get CAC members and other involved citizens to talk to their neighbors
- Reach out to PTA, parent groups, and school networks
- Partner with existing meetings
- LISTEN
- Clarify what the decisions are, how input is going to be used
- Target the presentation and information to the specific locations
- Be sensitive to people's limited time; be strategic for when you schedule meetings, the length of meetings. This may mean having more, shorter meetings
- Create simple surveys and go to people to collect information
- Variety of data collection (phone/internet/email, etc.)
- Map exercises are engaging
- There is no such thing as "too much" outreach
- Use EPAP as a model
- Engage the elderly through housing and centers
- Work with the Multicultural Collective
- Combine meetings/have other agencies or bureaus attend – be efficient with addressing a wide range of issues.

Terra also asked for recommendations on where to hold future CAC meetings (need a capacity of around 25 people), and where to hold Open Houses (potential capacity of around 100 people or so). Members suggested holding meetings at various businesses along 82nd Avenue (will also help engage business owners and other populations), and schools.

In addition to meeting locations, Terra also asked what languages are likely to be spoken and where along the corridor. Members suggested Arabic (Ethiopian immigrants towards the south and also in Cully), Spanish, Thai, Korean, Vietnamese, Russian, Ukrainian, and Cantonese. Members also suggested reaching out to APANO to gather additional language data.

Terra then distributed a graphic and walked through the decision-making structure. The consultant team and ODOT comprise the Project Management Team. The Project Management team, along with a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will advise the CAC and provide technical expertise to the committee. The CAC will then make recommendations to the Steering Committee, made up of decision-makers for affected agencies (the City of Portland, ODOT, TriMet, etc). Public input will be considered throughout the project, and will be shared with the Project Management Team, the TAC, the CAC, and the Steering Committee. The CAC will present recommendations to the Steering Committee by sending a member (or two) to Steering Committee Meetings.

A member asked how decisions will be made in the CAC, and Terra responded that at the next meeting in spring 2016, the group will review and provide comments on charters and protocols to determine details such as decisions, alternates, etc.

Schedule

Terra then distributed a general schedule, and mentioned that she is due to have baby #2 in early January. While she is on maternity leave, the consultant team will be gathering information on a variety of topics including Jurisdictional Transfer, funding realities, and looking at a range of cross-section (or road layout) options. The CAC will not meet during that time or hear much from the Project Management Team, but work will be ongoing. The CAC will have the opportunity to review the work products and weigh in at the next meeting in spring 2016.

Terra also talked about the three key decision points of the project, which are indicated on the schedule; selecting focus areas, developing project sets, and creating the implementation plan. The CAC will have the opportunity to present their recommendations to the steering committee at each of these points, and there are also Open Houses scheduled prior to these points so the broader community can review the information and weigh in.

Terra then asked which days of the week to try and avoid, and if the 6-8 pm timeframe worked for most members. Most members agreed that 6-8 pm was optimal. Members noted a long list of days to avoid, but the general consensus was that if CAC meetings were scheduled far enough in advance, most members could shift their schedules to be able to attend.

Transportation Planning 101

Terra provided a brief overview of how ODOT creates transportation plans that include the following steps:

- Determine goals and objectives: what you want to accomplish
- Define the problem that is keeping you from achieving goals and objectives
- Gather information on existing conditions/plans already done
- Project out likely future conditions (population and employment growth, traffic growth, freight needs, future funds available to achieve goals)
- Create a list of projects to address problems
- Evaluate projects according to your goals and objectives and available funding (determine what is implementable)
- Select projects and create a plan to achieve your goals and objectives
- Monitor to ensure you're making progress

Terra also noted that having an adopted plan is how projects get funded, because a plan lays out community priorities and provides a clear hierarchy of what to do next, as funding becomes available.

Terra took additional questions from CAC members, and the meeting ended 10 minutes early.

Meeting Evaluation Results

CAC members also filled out a meeting evaluation, below are the results.

I was given enough information to be prepared for this meeting

Strongly agree (6) Somewhat agree (3)

The information presented was clear and understandable

Strongly agree (8) Somewhat agree (1)

Meeting was efficient and made good use of my time

Strongly agree (6) Somewhat agree (2) Neutral (1)

I feel my input will influence decision-making

Strongly agree (5) Somewhat agree (4)

What was your favorite/most useful part of the meeting?

- The Q & A at the end about what is actually possible/feasible
- I also liked how you addressed what this project won't address
- Willingness to engage with CAC members
- Elements of the plan
- Overall introduction to project, scope, schedule (the important kickoff stuff!)
- The deliberate, measured approach and timeframe (length) of the project will help make it accessible

What would make this meeting better?

- Not sugary food, but thanks for having food!
- Gluten free snack option please
- Have a PBOT person in attendance to answer questions – possibly for related infrastructure needs
- Also possibly add who people represent on their name cards
- Email documents to be shared at meeting in advance
- Facilitation to moderate the loudest voices and raise the quietest
- Healthy snacks, if any at all. Vegetables, nuts, water
- Create space for all to promote input – help people create that space for each other

Additional Comments?

- Good job maintaining the schedule
- Hoping we have some group agreements going into our next meetings – mostly as a way to ensure that some voices don't dominate the meeting while others go unheard
- Thanks for flexing agenda to end early – or create space for more questions
- Thanks!
- The “what's in, what's out” information was very helpful and is important to ground participants in regularly (It's also a good idea to share that through CAC recruitment)