

Portland Streetcar Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 2017, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Portland State University

Members in Attendance: Owen Ronchelli, Chair; Lenny Anderson; Bill Bagnall; Kara Boden; David Brandt; Michael Cannarella; Reza Farhoodi; Sorin Garber; Susan Pearce; Cora Potter; Zoe Presson; Ian Stude; Debra Unverdruss; Erik Wilson

Staff Attendance: Julie Gustafson

Others in Attendance: Raymond Becich, Stephen Weber

1. Meeting Called to Order:

Ronchelli called the meeting to Order. The minutes from the March 16, 2017 were approved.

2. Public Comment

Becich asked about standard operating procedures about when operators should stop at the stations. Some operators follow the procedure laid out online and in audio announcements that people need to request the stop for operators to service a station. Other operators seem to stop at each station and this causes confusion. Gustafson responded that standard operating procedure for Portland Streetcar is that the streetcar will stop at a platform only when someone is waiting at that platform or someone has requested the stop.

Farhoodi asked if the run-time tests were completed for the Loops. Gustafson responded that the tests were completed and that the data has been beneficial. TriMet and Portland Streetcar are working on updates to schedules and more data will be brought to the committee in future meetings.

3. Art Museum Request

Ronchelli thanked Farhoodi for bringing this topic to the CAC. Farhoodi explained that the Art Museum is proposing to build an extension across the plaza that is a vacated stretch of Madison Street. The new plaza would include closing in the area with doors that would be open only during museum hours. Both the Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Bicycle Advisory Committee were concerned about the loss of access and Farhoodi wanted to bring it to the Streetcar CAC for discussion and a possible letter. The committee discussed proposal and expressed concerns about the loss of access for all modes, not just Streetcar riders. A motion was made by Potter to support the expansion of the Art Museum but with a design that maintains full access through the plaza. The motion passed unanimously with one abstention (Stude).

4. Nominations Committee Report

Pearce reported that the Nominations Committee has met to discuss the slate of officers that will be put forward at the May meeting. Conversations are occurring between members of the committee and members of the CAC. If a CAC member is interested in being Chair or Vice-Chair they should contact one of the members of the nominations committee: Michael Cannarella, Susan Pearce or Erik Wilson.

5. 10th & 11th Avenue Closure Materials

Gustafson shared the closure materials for the upcoming Streetcar and MAX shutdown through the downtown core. MAX construction on Yamhill & Morrison at 11th Avenue will shut down Streetcar service from April 30 to May 13, 2017. Gustafson reported that the Customer Service team has been on board throughout the day for the past week and will continue to do so leading up to the closure and then will staff as much as possible during the closure. The website is set and developers have been notified in order to have the arrival information predict the S-Line and NS Short.

6. Updates on Streetcar around the USA

Gustafson presented an update on the progression of the Streetcar movement around the USA including cities that have opened for operations, are under construction and some that are still planning.

7. Staff Updates

There were no additional updates.

8. Other Business

No additional business was discussed.

The next meeting for the Streetcar Citizens Advisory Committee will be Thursday, May 18, 2017, 3:30pm-5:00pm location TBD. Please call Julie Gustafson at (503) 222-4200 or email at julie.gustafson@portlandstreetcar.org if you have any questions regarding this committee. The CAC meetings are open to the public.