

Portland Streetcar Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 16, 2017, 3:30-5:00 p.m., City Hall, Pettygrove Room

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

Staff Attendance: Dan Bower, Julie Gustafson

Others in Attendance: Raymond Becich, Stephen Weber

1. Meeting Called to Order:

Ronchelli called the meeting to Order. The minutes from the September 21, 2017 were approved.

2. Public Comment

Becich invited the group to witness his presentation to the Portland Traffic & Transportation class on November 30th at the PSU Urban Center about how to improve the efficiency of Portland Streetcar. Presentations start at 6:40pm.

Weber brought up an issue with the new schedule on the NS Line. There is are two large gaps in service between 7:30pm and 8:30pm heading southbound towards the South Waterfront. Bower responded that he would look into the issue.

3. CAC Advocacy

Ronchelli recapped the October meetings with the guest speakers from Cincinnati and Kansas City. The topic of advocacy will be ongoing throughout the coming months. Committee members discussed their thoughts following the meetings and talked about how to grow their advocacy moving forward. Members suggested potential marketing ideas, data to highlight, and events that can help and then proceeded to request assistance in creating a list of speaking points committee members can have as they work to recruit more advocates in their communities.

4. Ridership Data and Trends

Gustafson presented the ridership data to the committee and pointed out some trends like changes in popular stops between seasons and the growth of the morning peak ridership. Committee members agreed to study the numbers and come back at a future meeting to discuss how ridership trends could impact talking points, marketing, and advocacy.

5. Staff Updates

Bower reported that the Willamette Week had an article the week prior about the BAT lane planned for NE Grand between Burnside and Davis. The plans are moving forward with planned installation in the spring.

Bower visited Seattle to inspect their used vehicles as part of the process of purchasing those vehicles in the coming years.

6. PSI Board Update

Bower reported that the PSI Board discussed both the vehicles and the expansion options to Montgomery Park. He stated that he should be able to bring back more information to the next CAC meeting for discussion.

7. Other Business

Committee members asked about the Art Museum expansion and if there is now a need to weigh in leading up to their next appearance at City Council. Bower responded that the current plan is within the existing easement and that he is not aware of what they are asking to have changed. The CAC agreed to continue to follow the project to ensure that Streetcar access is maintained.

The next meeting for the Streetcar Citizens Advisory Committee will be Thursday, January 18, 2018, 3:30pm-5:00pm at Portland City Hall, Pettygrove Room.