Portland Streetcar
Citizen Advisory Committee
April 11, 2001 Streetcar Maintenance Facility

Members in attendance: Bob Amundson; John Carroll; Mike Dale; Rich Davidson; Mary Kennedy; Stan Lewis; Jon Putman; Vern Rifer; Steve Shain; Chris Smith

Others in attendance: Art Lewellan; Richard Gross; Neil Kerr

Staff attendance: Rick Gustafson; Kay Dannen

The meeting was called to order and the minutes were approved.

1. Introduction of Operations Staff

Rick Gustafson introduced Mike Carroll, Manager of Operations, Gary Cooper, Manager of Maintenance, Dick Prather, Superintendent and Neil Kerr, event coordinator for the grand opening weekend, July 20-22, 2001. Rick discussed future employees from Tri-Met which will be 2 additional superintendents, 2 maintenance technicians and 13 operators. Jack Goetz, superintendent, will start May 7 and Dee Grice, superintendent, to start May 14. The two maintenance technicians, Ludwig Pachas and Joe Ruffin will start on May 7. The operators will start on June 4.

2. Construction Update, System Testing and Vehicle Arrival Schedule

Construction is complete except for TWC switching and sub-station hook-ups and testing. Testing of the vintage trolley on the entire loop was done on Sunday, April 8. During that testing, the vintage trolley was blocked at Southpark Square at 10th and Market for about an hour because of a u-haul truck blocking the tracks. Three runs under power were made to PSU and the entire alignment. Testing of the MAX track crossing will be done with the Vintage Trolley on Monday and Tuesday, 4/9 & 4/10. More testing will start on Thursday, April 19 with the Skoda vehicle and will continue thereon until the opening on July 20.

3. Car Delivery Highlights and Schedule

Our first car (blue/teal) arrived on Friday, April 6 and was off-loaded and taken to Willheim Trucking for the weekend. On Monday, April 9, the car was transported and loaded unto the tracks at the maintenance facility. During both movements, the streetcar had heavy press coverage. Protective shipping wax has not yet been removed. Car is in possession of Skoda-Inekon and we anticipate about a two-week acceptance procedure. 3 additional cars will arrive on May 12 and the remaining car will arrive the first of June.

4. Lovejoy Schedule / Temporary Marshall Closure

Signals are in place on NW Lovejoy and NW Marshall and these two streets have been converted to two-way operations as of Tuesday, April 10. Street parking signage is currently being altered. NW Marshall between 15th and 16th has been temporarily closed for the summer to assist with Streetcar
operations; however, the north sidewalk will remain open for pedestrian and bike travel.
Lovejoy is closed between 15th and 14th until paving, which is scheduled for fall 2001.

5. Schedule for NW parking

On April 30, phase I permit parking will be enacted in Northwest Portland between Glisan/Burnside and 405 and 24th. Permits will be issued at no cost to all residents and employees of businesses within the program boundaries for Phase I. The hours of the program are 6PM to 11PM, Monday through Friday, and 1PM to 11PM Saturday and Sunday. Visitors without permits may park up to 2-3 hours. Parking regulations will be enforced and a $40 fine will be issued to vehicles in violation.

6. PSI Involvement with Sponsorships

Response has been good with sponsorships of cars and stations with 5 cars sponsored and 10 stations. Car sponsorship is $20,000 the first year and $15,000 each year thereafter. The car sponsorship includes the car name on each side of the car and audible announcement of sponsorship during the run and interior sponsorship opportunities. Stop sponsorship is $400 per month or $600 per month for two. Includes name on the shelter in 3 different locations, identification on the neighborhood map and audible announcement on the car at the stop location. All sponsors will have a one-year agreement with an option to extend up to five years. Car is not equipped to handle the channel cards as yet, and will need to be retrofitted to accommodate them.

7. Grand Opening Report

Kay handed out a draft of the planned activities for the grand opening weekend. Grand opening weekend consists of a ribbon-cutting event and speeches at PSU on Friday, July 20 with neighborhood event parties on Saturday, July 21. We have a total of 5 neighborhood districts participating in events that include, PSU, Cultural District, West End, Pearl District and Northwest District. It is anticipated that the weekend will draw up to 100,000 people. Headliners have been confirmed for each district and stage sponsors are being solicited to help support these headliners.

8. Other Business

Discussion was held on type of buses to be used at the shared Streetcar/bus platform stops. The CAC was in agreement that only Tri-Met low-floor buses should be used in order to eliminate any possibility of breakdowns by the other lift vehicles that would negatively impact Streetcar headways. John Carroll suggested that Streetcar staff be strident about what is expected from Tri-Met and that we will only accept low floor buses. Rick will draft motion to present to the Tri-Met board with the primary objective that Tri-Met does not impede Streetcar operations.
There was a consensus that all forms of outreach be utilized to inform parkers to stay within the white fog line so Streetcar operations are not impacted. The City of Portland has been ticketing violators.

It was agreed that Streetcar should plan for success and be prepared to handle increases in ridership. Currently are fixed budget is $2.4 million which will give us 21,000 hours of service. Rick indicated that 21,000 hours of service is inadequate, especially current operating service for Saturdays. It would take $300,000-400,000 to add appropriate service (more than likely would increase hours on Saturdays). PDOT is investigating an access fee arrangement to generate more funding.

Correction to the minutes in the last paragraph should read "and the Nob Hill Business Association to reinstate CarSharing". Some discussion was held on the appropriateness of including CarSharing on the frame maps. It was recommended that the committee take no position on CarSharing and defer to PDOT for that decision. It was recommended and passed that we initiate a formal review of policy of what signifies alternative transportation and what is to be included on the frame maps.

The next CAC meeting will be held at the Portland Streetcar Construction Office, 115 NW First Avenue, Suite #201, on Wednesday, May 9, at 3PM. The public is invited to the Citizen Advisory Committee meetings.

The meeting was adjourned.