

## **Portland Streetcar Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, August 6, 2014, 3:30-5:00 p.m., City Hall, Pettygrove Room**

**Members in Attendance: Vern Rifer, Vice-Chair; David Brandt; Carolyn Brock; Bill Danneman; Reza Farhoodi; Jon Joiner; Janet McGarrigle; Cora Potter; Zoe Presson; Brian Ruder; Ian Stude**  
**Staff Attendance: Dan Bower, Kay Dannen, Julie Gustafson**

### **1. Meeting to Order:**

Rifer called the meeting to Order. The minutes from the July 2, 2014 meeting were approved.

### **2. Public Comment**

Farhoodi commented on the recent negative comments from reputable bloggers who bring up the same detractions over and over. He requested that the CAC and the Portland Streetcar, Inc. Board be kept apprised of the comments and continue to work on and identify operational efficiency. Brandt reminded the CAC of the work a sub-committee did in 2013 to identify potential areas that could help improve travel times. Rifer requested that staff bring an update on that work to the September meeting. He asked staff if they monitor and record the comments made about Portland Streetcar. Gustafson responded that she monitors the comments but does not record all of them. Rifer asked for a report tracking the comments for the September meeting. Gustafson responded that she will track the comments and bring a report the next month. She added that she appreciates the comments and assistance from the CAC as they help to provide alternate viewpoints for the responses. Brock asked if there will be another Musicfest this fall. Gustafson responded that one is scheduled for October 10.

### **3. Update on Fare Change Discussion**

Gustafson reported that the Portland Streetcar, Inc. Board of Directors recommended that the Annual Pass price increase to \$250 proceed as planned for September 1, 2014. The PSI Board recommended that the increase in the 2-Hour Streetcar Only Fare from \$1 to \$2 be postponed until at least January 1, 2015 or as late as September 1, 2015 pending review of the fiscal year's budget and funding needs. Gustafson reported that the PSI Board was provided the letter from the CAC and took their advice when making the decision. A monthly pass will be made available at a cost of approximately \$23 with the increase in Annual Pass fare.

### **4. Plan to update Economic Development report**

Bower reported that staff are working on updates to several frequently used reports including the Economic Development report in the coming months and asked for feedback from the CAC on the narratives they would like to see in the updated report and welcomed input as we start the update process. Brandt responded that it is not just one answer but that things happen in a cycle and that recognizing that development spurs ridership which in turn can spur development. Bower hopes to have the report ready in October.

### **5. Operations/Staff Updates**

#### **a. Jasmine Block**

Gustafson reported that construction is scheduled to begin Monday, August 11, 2014. SW Montgomery will be closed between SW 4<sup>th</sup> and SW 5<sup>th</sup> beginning the 11<sup>th</sup> and will remain closed through Sunday, September 28, 2014. When it reopens on the 29<sup>th</sup> it will be a one-way street westbound, currently it is an eastbound street. Rifer asked for a reminder of the final configuration. Gustafson responded that the current track will be the southbound track towards the South Waterfront and that the new track will be immediately adjacent in the furthest left traffic lane on SW 4<sup>th</sup> and will be in the travel

lane on SW Montgomery before crossing over and heading into the Portland State University Urban Plaza.

Gustafson reported that the NS Line will be shutdown with a bus replacement service from SW Clay to SW Lowell & Bond September 15-21. A map of the bus shuttle will be provided on the website. The final weekend of that shutdown will also include a closure of SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Harrison to Mill to allow for work in the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> and Harrison. Access will be maintained to the building parking garage on SW 4<sup>th</sup>.

**b. Operations and Vehicles**

Bower reported that new ridership numbers are in for the period from April-June, 2014. There are 18,535 riders per day which is approximately 40% higher than the same period in 2013. Charts and maps were provided to the committee showing the reliability of service by month and by time points all pulled from the GPS data used by the NextBus arrival system. Farhoodi asked if it would be possible to see the data for Broadway and Weidler at 2<sup>nd</sup>. Gustafson responded that those stops are not a recorded time point and do not have the data history. Rifer asked if it is possible to encourage operators to watch for people exiting the tram before leaving the OHSU Commons stop platform. Bower responded that Rifer's request makes sense.

**6. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

The next meeting for the Streetcar Citizens Advisory Committee will be Wednesday, September 3, 2014, 3:30pm-5:00pm at City Hall, Pettygrove Room.

Please call Julie Gustafson at 503/222-4200 or email at [julie.gustafson@portlandstreetcar.org](mailto:julie.gustafson@portlandstreetcar.org) if you have any questions regarding this committee.

The CAC meetings are open to the public.