



**Multnomah  
County**

**Transportation Division**

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**Multnomah County Bicycle and Pedestrian Citizen Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes – Sept 9, 2020**

Remote/Webinar Meeting  
6:30-8:30pm

<b>Members Attending</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Guests</b>	<b>Staff and Presenters</b>
Sarah Erlund Joel Huffman Andrew Holtz AJ Zelada John Russell Dean Derek Art Graves Clint Culpepper	Greg Olson - excused Gary Purvine – excused Michael Rubenstein – excused Tim Roth – excused Susan Watt - excused Ken Lanteigne - unexcused Carolyn Briggs - unexcused Caroline Crisp - unexcused		MaryJo Andersen Oscar Rincones Andrew Campbell Mary Lee Turner Dani Bernstein

**Welcome & Introductions**

MaryJo reviewed the instructions on muting calls and advised participants on how to use the mute function.

Members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

**Approve July 2020 Meeting Minutes**

The June 10, 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed. Andrew Holtz had corrections. AJ Zelada moved, Dean Derek seconded. Minutes, with corrections, approved.

**Public Comment**

No public comment

### **Chair Report – Andrew Holtz**

Andrew shared a video clip with everyone that showed the new courthouse path that recently opened. He shared that the sidewalk is not quite open yet, that it is a raised, sharp curb and called attention to future location for the new signal.

Andrew also mentioned the Black Transportation Academy, about which Andrew Campbell will discuss later in his presentation.

### **Staff Report – MaryJo Andersen, Multnomah County**

- Arata Road project is almost completed
- Wood Village and Fairview collaboration will have a Latino Car Parade scheduled for Saturday (since then rescheduled)
- MaryJo mentioned the budget reviews occurring due to the decrease in revenues
- Safe Routes to School installed another traffic playground on 189<sup>th</sup> and Burnside
- MaryJo mentioned meetings with the school district superintendents on how Safe Routes to School can support school openings
- Due to holiday in November, there will not be a meeting scheduled for November

### **White Cane Safety Day, Mary Lee Turner, American Council of the Blind**

Mary Lee Turner, Chair of the Portland Pedestrian Advisory Coalition, provided the group with a short history on White Cane Safety Day and the reason it is needed is to bring attention to pedestrian safety issues, especially for those using a white cane or a guide dog to cross a street.

The Pedestrian Action Coalition have done presentations on White Cane Safety Day and Mary Lee encouraged the group to pay attention as drivers of motor vehicles, cyclists and scooters. Please be mindful of hazards to folks with vision impairments.

Comments and questions explored were:

Floating bus islands and the hazards they present. Mary Lee expressed that these are not considered safe and explored with the group the various challenges (such as the stop locations and inconsistent alerts for pedestrians).

Joel Huffman spoke about the signal that was in the design to let bike riders know they needed to stop to allow pedestrians to cross and board a bus. Mary Lee responded that if a vision impaired person needs to cross to get to the traffic island before a bus arrives, there is no signal to stop bikes and scooters.

AJ asked if new clients developing blindness still had access to services through vocational rehabilitation. Mary Lee explained that the Commission for the Blind is the

agency that handles this but that more and more people are experiencing sight loss, which impacts their ability to travel effectively.

AJ asked about the yellow bubbles at ADA crossings and if they help. Mary Lee mentioned that there is inconsistency in placement that negates what good it might do with this and other solutions such as scoring pavement.

Clint Culpepper mentioned the textured ground areas and asked if there are other solutions. Mary Lee expressed again the importance of consistency in construction, as well as how the changes are communicated to sight challenged community members.

Clint expressed how much this group is concerned about these situations and making sure that solutions are found that work well for everyone.

### **How Transportation Shapes Health Equity and Racial Justice, Andrew Campbell, REACH Program Specialist**

Andrew provided the group with a presentation and followed up with a question and answer period.

Andrew Holtz commented that it would be great to engage and work together with other groups in the community. The goal would be to affect county policies and funding, and to identify the work that needs to be done in detail.

He went on to say that some of the work this group needs to do is to let other groups know it exists and build connections.

Andrew encouraged the group to share information on the Black Transportation Academy and REACH with others.

AJ recommended we create an opportunity for a group ride to look at what these issues look like but still have fun getting our name out there as a resource.

### **County Committee Updates – Dani Bernstein, Multnomah County Office of Citizen Involvement**

Dani presented the group with a short review of newer policies put into place for county groups and committees for the purpose of standardization, public accessibility and communicate clearer expectations.

MaryJo will send out the information Dani reviewed at this meeting.

### **Columbia Gorge Update – AJ Zelada**

AJ shared the following items with the group:

- The ODOT advisory committee voted to have a non-car solution to congestion mitigation on the Historic Highway.
- ODOT opened the highway without including the Gorge Express. It may be helpful for this group to send a letter to encourage the Gorge Express as a part of the solution on whatever ODOT decides to do.
- Blumenauer's office may consider a Gorge-wide National Scenic Area transportation plan development.

**Open Share / Project Updates / Other Business (All)**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm**