

Minutes

Funding Work Group Meeting #6

Bend's Transportation Plan

September 17, 2019

Trinity Episcopal Church, Brooks Hall
469 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon



CITY OF BEND

Funding Work Group Members

Karna Gustafson, *Co-Chair*

Steve Hultberg, *Co-Chair*

Mike Riley, *Co-Chair*

Ruth Williamson, *Co-Chair (absent)*

Katy Brooks, *Member*

Nicole Mardell, *Member (absent)*

Suzanne Johannsen, *Member*

Richard Ross, *Member*

Dale Van Valkenburg, *Member (absent)*

City Staff

David Abbas, *Transportation Services Director*

Nick Arnis, *Growth Management Director*

Melissa Bradley, *Chief Budget & Financial Analyst*

Tyler Deke, *MPO Manager*

Deedee Fraley, *Project Engineer*

Susanna Julber, *Senior Policy Analyst*

Robin Lewis, *Transportation Engineer*

Elizabeth Oshel, *Associate City Attorney*

Ryan Oster, *City Engineer*

Allison Platt, *Senior Planner*

Joshua Romero, *Community Relations Manager*

Jon Skidmore, *Chief Operating Officer*

Matt Stuart, *Urban Renewal Project Manager*

Karen Swirsky, *Senior Planner*

Damian Syrnyk, *Senior Planner*

Jenny Umbarger, *Administrative Support Specialist*

Mary Winters, *City Attorney*

Sharon Wojda, *Chief Financial Officer*

Consultants

Joe Dills, *Angelo Planning Group*

Lorelei Juntunen, *ECONorthwest*

Matt Kittelson, *Kittelson & Associates*

1. Welcome, agenda overview, where we are in the process, opportunity for public comment

Mr. Dills called the meeting to order at 1:32pm.

Mr. Dills reviewed the transportation system plan (TSP) process, as outlined in the presentation.

Scott Nunns, resident, encouraged the committee to consider funding for safety in all projects.

Ken Atwell, Southeast Bend Neighborhood Association, spoke about the need for on and off ramps on Hwy 97, the Powers interchange with regard to Chase Road, and concern about costs to property owners in SE Bend.

Mr. Dills called for a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes. Motion made by Member Johannsen and seconded by Member Gustafson. Minutes approved unanimously.

Member Ross recommended the committee consider funding for high-capacity transit, such as projects in the Portland / Vancouver area.

Ms. Juntunen reviewed comments received in recent months by Steve and Michelle Porter.

2. Update from Funding Strategy Process

Ms. Julber reviewed the results of the September 7th focus group meeting, indicating there was general support for the project list and related costs. Attendees were generally willing to support a property tax increase, and expressed support for exploring diversified project funding. City Council will discuss focus group results and the project list on September 30th at Council Chambers from 3pm-5pm. There may be a phone survey in December to test the project list before moving forward with ballot measure in May.

Additionally, all neighborhood associations will be holding general membership meetings in October and November. City staff will be presenting updates on the TSP and the work the Citywide Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) has been doing.

3. Update on CTAC Recommendations

Mr. Kittelson provided an update on CTAC recommendations, as outlined in the presentation.

Member Ross recommended adjusting transit funding to instigate opportunities for leveraging federal funding.

4. BTP Funding Plan – Tools and Scenarios for Near-Term Priorities

Ms. Juntunen reviewed the Bend Transportation Funding Plan, as outlined in the presentation.

Member Riley recommended supplemental system development charges (SDCs) be identified separately from other forms of funding.

Member Ross recommended being specific about funding for Hwy 97 projects. The committee agreed to leave the existing language as-is.

Staff confirmed that a countywide vote is required to implement a vehicle registration fee (VRF).

Member Johannsen recommended staff look into a seasonal food and beverage tax. Ms. Julber will inquire with the City of Ashland to learn more about how they implemented their food and beverage tax.

The following members disclosed their conflicts of interest:

- Member Hultberg is a real estate developer attorney and represents clients within the City
- Member Brooks is employed by the Chamber of Commerce and represents business interests
- Member Gustafson is an attorney and is employed by Central Oregon Builders Association

The committee expressed consensus for the following action items regarding Table 2 in the meeting packet:

- Explore possibility of a seasonal food and beverage tax
- Insert individual line item for area-specific supplemental SDCs
- Identify urban renewal figures by districts

Member Riley recommended amounts for all three near-term funding scenarios be increased to \$225m - \$250m to account for implementation costs, programs and allowing for additional projects. Member Ross recommended increasing spending on transit projects.

The committee expressed consensus for the following:

- Increase the capital amount
 - If projects can be delivered
 - If total load on households seems reasonable based on research
- Identifying a funding strategy as described in the meeting memo, and getting to estimated amounts for revenue potential for each funding tool
- Core funding
 - VRF for regional projects
 - Transportation SDC increase beginning later
 - Seasonal tax
- Supplemental funding
 - Supplemental SDCs and local improvement districts (LID) for expansion areas
 - Urban renewal

The committee recommended forwarding to CTAC:

- Increase the capital amount
 - If projects can be delivered

- If total load on households seems reasonable based on research
- Scenarios A and B, both including a transportation utility fee (TUF) to cover program costs (estimates to be determined)
- Scenario B will include a small, delayed transportation SDC increase, a VRF, and a seasonal retail tax

Member Gustafson moved to approve the above recommendation, seconded by Member Johannsen. Motion approved unanimously.

The committee agreed by consensus to include the Recommended Addition to Conclusions paragraph in the next CTAC meeting packet. Member Hultberg recommended it be more specific, i.e. range of percentages. Member Ross requested additional transit number work be done by staff.

5. Public comment

Greg Bryant recommended inflation be considered in cost estimates.

Sid Snyder expressed concern about a lack of funding sources that alter people's mode choices.

6. Next steps and adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:29pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Umbarger
Growth Management Department

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