



## HAND GENERAL MEETING

### JULY 21, 2020 MEETING NOTES

CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM

Attendees:

Board members: Phil Cox, Chris Eykamp, Mark Linehan, Kim Nurmi, Sue Pearce, Jill Riebesehl, Michelle Sprague, Michael Wade, Charlene Zaharakis

Guests/Neighbors: Bruce Bikle (2228 Se Tamarack, 97214), Karen Girard (1508 SE Poplar, 97214), Linda Nettekoven (former board member), Barbara Stross (2939 SE 17<sup>th</sup> Ave, 97202) Rick Nunno (Rick Nunno not present at time of voting)

Visitors to address the HAND general meeting: State Rep. Rob Nosse, Tri-Met's Thomas Scharff, community affairs representative for Division Transit Project and Gideon Pedestrian Bridge.

Meeting called to order by Chair Chris Eykamp at 7:01 PM.

Introduction of attendees, including brief comments re: length of time on the board or what brought them to the meeting.

THOMAS SCHARFF, Community Affairs Representative from TriMet, who represents Inner Division segment of Division Transit Project ( [W] of 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave.) provided update on that project, and the Gideon Ped/Bike crossing over the Trimet and Union-Pacific RR tracks at SE 13 PL/14<sup>th</sup> Ave.

- Division Transit Project: Project covers 15 miles from Gresham Transit Center to City Center; is funded with \$175 million Small Starts grant.
- Includes 42 weather-protected stations and 82 platforms. In response to a question we learned that one station includes the platforms on either side of the street.
- There is approximately 1/3 mile between each of the stations. Stops have been consolidated by elimination of existing stops.
- There is an anticipated 15-20% improvement in travel time.
- The articulated buses will provide 3-door boarding (similar to lightrail) and a 60% increase in capacity for each bus.
- Traffic signals are upgraded
- Bus stops are consolidated

- Includes 20 new signalized cross-walks with improved lighting, and 81,000 sq ft of new sidewalks
- Work moving from Gresham Transit Center westward; is now midway. Major construction began Jan (?June), 2020 (will begin Jan /June 2021?), includes 3 stages: utilities, circuitries, shelters and amenities at each station. Work on Inner Division currently between SE76<sup>th</sup>–51<sup>st</sup>; is about to begin to move [W] from SE51st.
- Advance utility work includes a major water main under Division, which will be rerouted in some places; electrical conduits; storm water relocation; new traffic signals.
- Outreach to business and neighborhoods is in progress.
- Next steps in HAND (late 2021-2022)s:
  - Follow-up re Portland Bureau of Transportation re pending traffic patterns
  - Find new site for freight loading zone currently between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> on [S] side of Division

#### Gideon Crossing:

- TriMet building using contingency funds remaining from Orange Line construction
- PBOT will maintain
- Extends between SE 13<sup>th</sup> Pl on [S] and 14<sup>th</sup> Ave on [N].
- Will provide a safe alternative for peds and bikes connecting MAX Clinton stop with HAND and Brooklyn neighborhoods.
- Is ADA compliant with elevators large enough to accommodate bikes with trailers, each with 2 doors so bikes can enter and exit facing same direction (no need to turn around).
- Bilateral bike gutters on stairs, situated out from under hand rails (lesson learned from Lafayette crossing access.)
- Plan opening in Fall: mid September
- There has been conversation re: extending parking permit Zone L to include Gideon, along with removal of some parking near the stairs/elevator to allow greater turning radii for trucks. PBOT will be sharing info re: that plan; it will be put to vote by neighborhood.

#### Questions and comments included:

- Concerns re whether Michael Koerner's business remains on SE 14<sup>th</sup>: Mark thought his business sign had been removed; Michelle believes he is still in business, still on SE 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Effect of changes in traffic patterns at SE 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> and Division: TriMet has not yet talked with principal at Abernethy Elem School re: the drop-off zone. Thomas reports greatest concerns re: traffic on Orange Ave., *Michelle Dellinger re traffic on Elliot?* Thomas will follow up with Abernethy.
- Need to move loading zone between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> not yet discussed with businesses.
- Kim: concerned re ongoing need for social distancing on transit; clean, safe, and ready-to-work; removal of Portland Police Bureau from Transit Police; safety for people commuting during night-time hours; decrease in commuting to downtown businesses: will that trend continue; will there be a long-term need for this project? Need better long-term planning

- Thomas: project will continue. The Division Transit Project will connect Innovation and Learning Districts, including Mt Hood CC, Portland CC, Portland State University, Oregon Health and Sciences University, the Veterans Administration Hospital, OMSI.
- Charlene: Question re safety at 79<sup>th</sup> Ave crossing to PCC, Thomas: *(something about another project, PBOT, multi-modal...)* can check details re more crossings are planned for improved ped safety.
- Michelle: Reports large/long semis having to back the length of SE 14<sup>th</sup> from cul-de-sac to across Clinton because of insufficient room to turn around; this endangers bicyclist and peds on 14<sup>th</sup> and Clinton. Zone L covers Clinton at SE 14<sup>th</sup> to residential Gideon with 2H limits or (all day) by permit. Employees with Zone L can park anywhere in the zone and will be able to walk across the bridge to work. Is also concerned re the traffic pattern changes at 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> (loss of loading zone and loss of [L] turn from Division to SE 12<sup>th</sup>), which force/will force freight traffic onto narrow SE 13<sup>th</sup> and Ivon. Recommends that Thomas meet with Central Eastside Industrial Council Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee. Thomas: aware that small trucks use Ivon; larger trucks travel on Clinton. Study did not show large trucks making [L] from Division onto SE 12<sup>th</sup>.

ROB NOSSE, Representative to Oregon Legislature

- Legislature quiet since short session. Concerns had been climate change and Republican walk-out.
- Now in campaign mode. Is running unopposed; expects to be re-elected
- During recent emergency session: 28 bills passed in 3 days: \$1.3 billion funding allocated: +/- \$400mil (???)  
Funding targeted:
  - Rental assistance
  - Unemployment assistance
  - Covid-19 related needs/treatment
  - Nursing
  - Public Health
  - Business support
  - Climate change
  - \$50mil state-wide support for Arts and Culture: theater, music. Includes 18 venues in SE Portland (Rep Nosse especially pleased/proud re this.)

Other issue:

- housing,
- corona virus,
- Caregiver may be present in hospital for discharge instructions as patient leaving.
- Policing changes

Overall: \$86mil (*for what?*), including federal match.

There was no Republican walk-out.

Rep Nosse is on Budget Committee. Anticipate \$2.7 Bil shortfall as result of loss of revenue as result of Covid-19 changes in economy. Looking at ways to trim the budget without harming social services, digging into savings/reserves created after 2008. No plans to decrease education funds.

Hearings (*scheduled/planned?*) re Natural Resources Agencies; Oregon Health Plan.

A special session planned for August will occur/be delayed depending on whether Feds pass another funding bill.

Knows about unemployment problems. Each person is considered as a special case, considered individually. Process takes time. Oregon Unemployment Office one of best-funded in US. Currently having problems with distribution.

Questions/comments:

Chris: Is climate change still a priority? Rob N: it is unclear what the statewide priorities are; hard to read. Waiting to see effect of Governor's executive order.

Rob N: The state is very active re: police reform with bi-partisan support. May have bills soon.

Charlene: How is Legislature addressing people on welfare? Rob N: not cutting; not improving. Need Federal support as Clinton did in 1990's: not kicking people off food stamps. If leadership more progressive, can implement paid family leave; a sustainable system for long-term care so people can age in place. Not much has happened re these changes in 2020.

Re: Homeless: doubts state will cut back on programs. Waiting to see effect of Metro plan dollars, and plans for more housing.

Kim: will there be means-test for possible property tax deferral for people who have lost jobs?

Rob N: No. The revenue is needed. Property tax is the most stable system. There are some who would like to undo measures 5 and 47, making property tax assessment a local decision.

Rob N: re: Federal forces in city: It's a problem but at some level the President is within his right. We will get it sorted out.

Kim: hopes for Legislature to develop a plan so that this does not happen again.

BYLAWS CHANGE:

Introduced by Chris:

- Have been overdue.
- Bylaws committee: Chris, Kim, Phil, Susan, working for 2 years.
- Some of changes accepted during general meeting in May, 2019
- Now presenting rest of changes: mostly "housekeeping" changes in punctuation, grammar, clarification.
- One substantial change: codifies process for electing members to the board, putting recent practice into writing: As the bylaws were originally written there are 20 seats

available (one reserved for a student member per a bylaws change in the 1990s). Rarely are there more candidates than seats available. In that setting, whoever is interested in board membership will be included in a slate, to be voted upon as an entity. Should there be more candidates than available seats members will be elected by written ballots. Chris has mathematical formula re: how that will be done.

MOTION TO ACCEPT BYLAWS CHANGES: Phil moved, Bruce seconded. Passed unanimously.

Election of board members to two-year terms

Potential new members, Bruce Bikle and Karen Girard provided background information about themselves. Slate of those running for board seat created, including:

- Bruce Bikle (new to board)
- Phil Cox (incumbent)
- Karen Girard (new to board)
- Kim Nurmi (incumbent)
- Jill Riebesehl (incumbent)
- Michael Wade (incumbent)

MOTION TO ACCEPT SLATE: Jill, seconded by Kim. Passed unanimously.

[The following board members did not run re-election: Jon Adams, Paul Jaeger, Katie Morgensen, Susan Pearce.]

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of

- meeting notes for
  - February, 2020
  - April, 2020
  - May, 2020
  - June, 2020

treasurer's report for

- May, 2020
- June, 2020
- July 2020

Motion to accept: (?)Phil, Second: Kim; Passed unanimously

Discussion re August meeting:

Is typically a board retreat, but will need business meeting to elect board officers, and discuss use of communications funds as events have been curtailed by corona-virus related issues; board will be unable to meet as a group.

Suggestion: short business meeting for election of officers, vote, if necessary, re changes in plans for communications funds; followed by planning session to bring new members up to date.

Reminder: Jon Adams, previously board treasurer has left board. Other current officers may be ready for a change. Board members to consider interest in taking on new challenges of offices.

Discussion re: current ZOOM format: have been using Linda Nettekoven's Zoom account. Michael also has a Zoom account. Will continue to meet on Zoom. Chris will check in with board from time to time re: any desire to change.

NEXT MEETING: August 18 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.