



HISTORIC ALBINA ADVISORY BOARD (HAAB)

MEETING #27 SUMMARY

Date: August 22, 2023

Time: 4 PM – 6 PM

Location: In-person and online Zoom meeting

This document is a summary of the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Historic Albina Advisory Board meeting. The meeting [presentation](#) and [recording](#) provide additional documentation.

Historic Albina Advisory Board Members in Attendance

- Dr. Ebony Amato-Blackmon
- Sprinavasa Brown
- Bryson Davis
- Cleo Davis
- Keith Edwards
- Leslie Goodlow
- Kevin Modica
- James Posey
- Dr. Carlos Richard
- John Washington III

Historic Albina Advisory Board Members Not in Attendance

- Andrew Campbell
- Tamara Kennedy
- Estelle Love-Lavespere

Staff and Presenters

- Dr. Steven Holt, Try Excellence, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Strategic Advisor
- Ericka Warren, Try Excellence, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Strategic Advisor & HAAB Facilitator
- Erika McCalpine, ODOT, Assistant Director for Social Equity
- Kerry Werner, ODOT, Resident Engineer
- Mike Baker, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team, Project Manager
- Mike Serritella, Portland Bureau of Transportation, Senior Transportation Planner
- Teresa Dunham and Natalie Warner, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team, Technical Support
- Kassie McKnight-Xi, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team, Notetaker

Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review
- Public Comments
- Project Updates
- Design Updates
- Reconnecting Communities & Neighborhoods Grant
- HAAB Revised Charter Adoption
- Next Steps

Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review

Dr. Holt, welcomed the board and participants to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda and the phone numbers for public comment and technical assistance.

Dr. Holt reminded committee members of the 7 Principles of Agreement to guide their participation in the meeting.

Public Comments

Three comments were submitted to the HAAB by email and voicemail prior to the meeting. These comments are included as an attachment to this document.

Sharon Nasset called on behalf of the organization Third Bridge Now. Sharon thanked HAAB members for their board participation, asked for people to review the Third Bridge Now proposed design solution and called for meetings to be in person.

One caller was unable to connect.

Project Updates

Dr. Holt welcomed Erika McCalpine, ODOT's Assistant Director for Social Equity, to share information. Erika M. gave updates on behalf of Project Director Megan Channell.

- Erika M. showed the new project timeline, explaining that based on current funding, ODOT's priorities will be to complete the environmental review process, advance Early Work Packages A, B and C to 100% design, and advance the Main Construction Package to 30% design.

Dr. Holt reviewed the updated HAAB Meeting Schedule, explaining that there are opportunities to engage every month.

- Dr. Holt asked whether HAAB members had a preference for meeting on the second or fourth Tuesday of the month.
 - » The general consensus was to meet on the second Tuesday.

Dr. Holt reviewed the Anticipated Meeting Topics for the coming months.

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- James Posey requested more information on these topics, including budgets and how they fit into ODOT's larger efforts with equity communities.
 - » Erika M. responded that this conversation will be a part of the next HAAB meeting agenda.
 - Keith Edwards asked if the list was in order of priority and requested that it be sorted, highlighting important milestones.
 - » Kerry Werner, an ODOT Resident Engineer, confirmed that it is a comprehensive list, but not in any specific order and many items will be worked on simultaneously.
 - » Kevin Modica requested a project management spreadsheet or Gantt chart be shared with HAAB members.

Erika M. provided an update on a recent project tour led by the Urban Mobility Office for Senator Lew Frederick and Senator Nancy Nathanson, the co-chairs of the recently formed special legislative subcommittee on transportation planning. The I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project team presented for 45 minutes about what the project includes and how community engagement and the Independent Highway Cover Assessment process supported the current design.

Dr. Holt followed up with an update about a project tour with the FHWA Administrator Shailen Bhatt, in partnership with Albina Vision Trust and the City of Portland.

Dr. Holt then shared an opportunity for the HAAB to submit a comment on Metro's 2023 Regional Transportation Plan, saying that information about the plan and the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project's role in it would be emailed after the meeting.

Dr. Holt asked for questions.

Design Updates

Dr. Holt invited Kerry Werner to present on Design Updates. Kerry presented the updated project improvements map, featuring changes based on several months of working with the community and HAAB.

- Kerry described the changes to the I-5 southbound exit ramp, now known as the "Flyover." Previously, all traffic exiting I-5 would have been routed up N. Wheeler Avenue. Now, eastbound traffic will take the Flyover to NE Weidler, and westbound traffic will either route up N. Wheeler Avenue or N. Ramsay Way. About 2/3 of drivers will be heading eastbound using the flyover.
 - » Current work includes deciding whether Wheeler Ave or Ramsay Way will be the final design option for westbound traffic.
- The other new feature is the Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge over I-5 south of the flyover.

Kerry explained how these changes were made in response to public comments during the Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA).

Kerry covered next steps, including updating the SEA, receiving a decision from the FHWA and advancing the Community Framework Agreement process in partnership with the City of Portland.

Kerry asked for questions.

- Kevin asked if there is a more detailed model of what the Flyover will look like.
 - » Kerry offered to provide a different image with a clearer 3D depiction at a future meeting.
- John Washington asked if the Flyover solution addresses concerns about traffic and pedestrians near the Moda Center intersection in the previous design.
 - » Kerry confirmed that it does.
- James Posey asked about the integration of this work with Metro and other city projects, specifically around homeless services. Others elaborated on the concern.
 - » Kerry offered to look into the intersectionality of citywide concerns with the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project design specifically.
- Dr. Holt reiterated that this concern and other human element topics could be included in future meetings.

Reconnecting Communities & Neighborhoods Grant

Dr. Holt asked Mike Baker, Project Manager with the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project's Owner Representative team, to present. Mike B. reminded everyone of what happened with last year's grant application and what to expect this year.

- Out of 435 applications, about 10% of all grant requests received an award. This project was one of the top applications. The project team received positive feedback and were highly encouraged to apply again.
- Last year there was \$145 million available, this year there's \$3.4 billion due to two different programs being combined.
- The deadline for submission is September 28, 2023.
- This project is located in two census tracts that meet a designation as either disadvantaged or underserved. As a result, the project is not required to come up with matching funding for the grant request and there is no maximum ask. There is no penalty for a maximum ask. The minimum award is \$5 million.
- Applications showing strong regional partnerships will do better. An important component is letters of support, which the project team will be asking for soon.

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- If awarded, the project would be considered a highly-rated project, meaning it would be easier to receive grant funding from other sources.
 - Overall, the project team thinks the strength and quality of last year's grant will carry forward.
 - Award announcements are expected in Spring 2024.

Kevin asked if HAAB members could see a draft copy of the grant application.

- Mike B. confirmed yes.

Mike B. reviewed the ODOT Application Options chart, pointing out the three different asks ODOT could make, noting that none of the asks cover the entire cost of the project. ODOT is willing to back any one of these options and is seeking the HAAB's input.

- Bryson Davis asked whether each component could be funded individually and whether certain components could be built independently of one another.
 - » Mike B. said it's common not to receive full funding and that the government most likely will not specify what components of the project the funds must be used for.
 - » Kerry confirmed that elements could be built independently, but that the highway cover will have the greatest impact on other elements.

Dr. Holt then turned the presentation over to Mike Serritella with the City of Portland. Mike S. stressed the unique nature of this grant opportunity and described a grant application the City will be submitting to complement the work of the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project. The city's project will be to improve Broadway as a nexus between several citywide projects, including Rose Quarter.

Dr. Holt asked for questions.

- Cleo Davis asked which of the three grant options included auxiliary lane and shoulder work on I-5.
 - » Option 1 was confirmed.
- A representative from the City of Portland asked for a further breakdown of the \$500 million highway cover cost.
 - » Kerry identified some of the things that would be covered under the budget, including the sub-structure, girders and more. Additionally, a fire suppression and evacuation system must be included. Kerry explained that work on the highway itself is separated out from the cover because there are other grant opportunities better suited for that work.
- James Posey expressed concern about ensuring that the grant will truly represent economic benefits for the Black community.

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- Dr. Carlos Richard added concern about the term “Reconnecting Communities” and which communities we’re referring to, as well as the distribution of funds if the grant is received to other community needs.
 - Keith Edwards emphasized the importance of differentiating between the needs of the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project and Albina Vision Trust.
 - Bryson reiterated concerns about asking for too much money and a desire to be clearer with realistic, but ambitious asks.

At 5:30 pm, the originally scheduled end time, Dr. Holt paused the meeting to confirm that everyone was okay with continuing the discussion so HAAB members could vote on the available package options.

- Kevin responded to Bryson, reiterating that any grant amount will lead to more opportunities and showed support for pursuing funding, including the long shots.

Dr. Holt captured committee members' votes:

- Option 1 – Keith Edwards, Kevin Modica, Dr. Carlos Richard
- Option 2 – Leslie Goodlow
- Option 3 – John Washington
- Abstaining – James Posey, Cleo Davis, Bryson Davis

Ericka Warren, HAAB Facilitator offered to reach out to members not in attendance and get their votes to add to the total.

Mike B. expanded on what would happen if the project didn’t receive any grant funding and what would happen if it received partial funding. He noted that if the project receives partial funding from this grant opportunity, it will be better positioned to receive more from the state budget. Mike B. also restated that the project does not need to have a full funding plan prepared to apply for the grant.

Kevin asked for consensus on option selection, while also requesting more detail from ODOT about how funding that is received would be used.

Next Steps

Dr. Holt thanked everyone for joining and said that the next meeting date would be announced soon.

Attachment: Public Comments

Date received	08/21/2023
Source	Project inbox
From	Joseph Cortright / No More Freeways
Subject	HAAB Public Comment

Please provide the following materials to tomorrow's meeting of the HAAB.

[ODOT's I-205 Bridge: 1/10th of 1 Percent for Black Contractors](#)

[Extend and Pretend: ODOT's Zombie Rose Quarter Project](#)

[Who sold out the HAAB?](#)

Date received	08/21/2023
Source	Project inbox
From	Sharon Nasset
Subject	For August HAAB citizen comment and steering committee

Vote Now Please!

Congratulations! Your entries have been qualified

The 2023 Create the Future Design Contest

Help build a better tomorrow

Your Invited!

Realignment of I-5 and I-84 at the Rose Quarter

We would like to invite you and interested parties to view and vote for our projects that have been accepted into an international contest to help build a better future.

The Realignment of I-5 and I-84 was accepted into the contest. This project was accepted in the I-5 Portland Vancouver Trade and Transportation Partnership in 2002. The realignment stays within the Right Of Way, removes tens of thousands of cars from our neighborhoods adjacent to the Rose Quarter and Lloyd Center area. With additional access to and from the I-5 freeway into the event center relieving congestion and lessening pollution.

Third Bridge Now a freeway corridor adjacent to the BNSF Rail line that connects to I-5 in Vancouver and I-5, I-405, and I-84 in Portland this bi-pass includes the ports of Portland and Vancouver, Rivergate, Swan Island, and HWY-30.

Third Bridge Now freeway corridor has two community awards in North Portland and the smaller earlier version was recommend for further study for merit from the I-5 Portland /

Vancouver Transportation and Trade Partnership 2002, The Bridge Influence Area 2002, the SW WA RTC Vision Corridor Study in 2008.

VoteNow the link is below!

Realignment of I-5 and I-84 at the Rose Quarter

(1)

Congratulations! Your entry "I-5 and I-84 freeway realignment and additional access " has been qualified by the review team as meeting the requirements for the Create the Future Design Contest.

View your submission here:

<https://contest.techbriefs.com/2023/entries/automotive-transportation/12433>

(2)

Congratulations! Your entry "Third Bridge Now " has been qualified by the review team as meeting the requirements for the Create the Future Design Contest.

View your submission here:

<https://contest.techbriefs.com/2023/entries/automotive-transportation/12571>

Voting

Voting on entries is now under way, so share this link with colleagues to build your page views and vote totals. The top ten entries receiving the most votes from site registrants will win valuable prizes.

Good luck in the contest! Winners will be announced in September.

(3)

Congratulations! Your entry "Water Wind Solar Power Plant" has been qualified by the review team as meeting the requirements for the Create the Future Design Contest.

View your submission here:

<https://contest.techbriefs.com/2023/entries/sustainable-technology/12423>

Voting will be open until September 8, 2023 (11:59 pm EDT).

Since Tech Briefs magazine launched the Create the Future Design contest in 2002 to recognize and reward engineering innovation, over 15,000 design ideas have been submitted by engineers, students, and entrepreneurs across six continents. You can also join the innovators who dared to dream big and build a better tomorrow by entering this year's contest.

The best design ideas will serve a public good by:

Improving quality of life

Preventing or reducing injuries

Saving lives
Improving public safety and security
Saving time and money
Improving productivity
Automating tedious tasks
Offering alternative energy solutions
Reducing consumption of natural resources
Reducing waste
Creating jobs
Bolstering the economy
Enabling other product improvements

The best entries clearly and concisely answer the following questions and are accompanied by an illustration that complements and illuminates the text:

Innovation -- Is the design novel? Does it represent an important advance over the current state of the art?

Feasibility / Manufacturability -- How easy would it be to implement? Could it be cost-effectively manufactured/produced? Has it been demonstrated to work?

Marketability -- Does the idea have practical applications? Is there a well-defined market for its use?

Sustainable Technology -- Products that reduce dependence on non-renewable energy resources, as well as products designed for other purposes using environmentally friendly materials or manufacturing processes.

Manufacturing & Materials -- Products and processes that speed or streamline manufacturing and production; advances in materials and materials processing.

Automotive/Transportation -- Products that enable and improve mobility on the ground, in the air, or on/under water.

What problem does your design idea solve?

What are the potential benefits?

How does your design work?

How is your idea novel or an improvement on what is currently available in the marketplace?

Where would this idea be applied?

What is the market potential?

How would your product be manufactured?

How would the production cost compare with products already in the marketplace?

The 2023 Create the Future Design Contest

<https://contest.techbriefs.com/>

Your Invited!

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***You may remember several bi-participation letters with elected official's signatures that our project was removed from the CRC, the NEPA Process was not followed.

The Realignment of I-5 and I-84 was also accepted in to the contest. This project was accepted in the I-5 Partnership in 2002 and Mayor Katz's removed the Rose Quarter area from the process the NEPA Process was not followed.

Date received	08/21/2023
Source	Voicemail
From	Sharon Nasset
Subject	HAAB public comment

Yes. Thank you very much for sitting on this committee. My name is Sharon Nasset. I'm with ThirdBridgeNow.org. Our re-alignment of the I-5 Rose Quarter area that was accepted into the partnership, the 2002 Rose Quarter I-5 partnership, was recently accepted into an international contest for a better future. The exact one at the Rose Quarter people have been making in inappropriate statements about and hiding from you. I'm also wondering why you are still being virtual, instead of coming into the community, one of the community that has the least amount of computers. I know it's not hubris and I know that you know that you shouldn't be making the decision yourself in a vacuum that you are, please boycott the process. Thank you again, this is Sharon Nasset 503-283-XXXX, and this is to be admitted as a citizen comment. Good day.