



I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Executive Steering Committee (ESC)

Meeting #2 Summary

MEETING DATE: June 22, 2020

MEETING TIME: 3:00-4:30PM

LOCATION: Zoom online meeting

This document is a summary of the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Executive Steering Committee meeting. The [meeting presentation](#) and [recording](#) provide additional documentation of this meeting.

CAC Members in Attendance

ESC Chair: Alando Simpson, Vice Chair,
Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC)

Michael Alexander- Albina Vision Trust

Ted Wheeler- City of Portland, Mayor

Chloe Eudaly- City of Portland,
Commissioner

Leah Horner- Governor's Office, Regional
Solutions Director and Jobs and Economy
Policy Advisor

Robert Camarillo-Oregon Building Trades,
Executive Secretary

Lynn Peterson- Metro, President

Jessica Vega Pederson- Multnomah
County, Commissioner

Marlon Holmes- N/NE Housing Strategy

Nate McCoy- National Association of
Minority Contractors, Executive Director

Brendan Finn- Oregon Department of
Transportation, Urban Mobility Office

Jana Jarvis- Oregon Trucking Association,
President

Julia Brim-Edwards- Portland Public
Schools, PPS Board Member

Doug Kelsey- TriMet, General Manager

Bryson Davis- Williams and Russell Project

CAC Members Not in Attendance

Dr. Ebony Amato- N/NE Community
Development Initiative

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Staff Members

Dr. Steven Holt, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Executive Steering Committee Facilitator

Megan Channell, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Director

April deLeon-Galloway, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Public Involvement and Communications Lead

Ericka Warren, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Executive Steering Committee Staff

Susan Hayman, facilitation team support, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Ray Outlaw, technical support, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Sofia Alvarez-Castro, notetaking, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Guest Presenters

William Miller, Native American Youth and Family Center Community Advocacy Manager, and Native American Discussion Group Facilitator

Dr. Roberta Hunte, Portland State University Professor, and African American Discussion Groups Facilitator

Grace Crunican, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Environmental Peer Review Facilitator

Meeting Objectives

- Community context for values, presentation of discussion group engagement
- Overview and discussion of values document and charter
- Presentation of Environmental Peer Review Process and Final Report

Welcome, Introduction, Principles of Agreement

Dr. Steven Holt and OTC Vice Chair Alando Simpson took a few minutes to welcome members to the second ESC meeting and proceeded to do roll call. Facilitators briefly reminded the group of the principles of agreement.

Public Comment

The following provided oral public comment:

- Aaron Brown, organizer with No More Freeways, expressed concern about the Project and posed questions to ESC members regarding their support of Project elements. Brown encouraged ESC members to speak up. See [I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project- ESC Meeting \(June 22, 2020\)](#). [Video], 17:16.

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- Anna Kemper, member of Sunrise PDX, expressed concern about climate change and the disproportionate effects on communities of color. See [I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project- ESC Meeting \(June 22, 2020\)](#), [Video], 18:38.
- Collin Herring, member of Sunrise PDX, expressed concern about the Project's impacts to climate change and lack of youth representation in the Executive Steering Committee. See [I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project- ESC Meeting \(June 22, 2020\)](#), [Video], 19:47.

Values Document: Community Context for Values: Presentation of Discussion Group Engagement (Discussion)

Dr. Holt provided context on how the Project's work with discussion groups informed the Project Values. Dr. Holt invited the facilitators to give some context on how the discussion groups findings affect Project work moving forward.

William Miller, the Community Advocacy Manager at the Native American Youth & Family Center (NAYA), introduced himself and his role on the Project. William recruited and facilitated the Native American Discussion group that ODOT hosted in February 2020. William provided a high-level overview of the Native American discussion group and shared some of the overarching concerns or issues, summarized below:

- Skepticism about the driving forces of the Project
- Recognition that the area is congested, and it is a safety concern
- Lack of transparency how Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) would benefit from the Project
- Lack of information regarding Project

The group's recommendations included:

- Lead with BIPOC by involving them in all aspects of the Project
- Provide real economic development opportunities for BIPOC
- Project can be an opportunity to help heal from past harm and injustices
- Continue to engage with our elders and us

Please see the full [Native American Discussion Group Summary Report](#) for more information.

Dr. Roberta Hunte, Professor at Portland State University, introduced herself and her role on the Project. Roberta and Johnell Bell, Community Oversight Advisory Committee facilitator, facilitated four discussion groups with the African American community hosted by ODOT in October 2019. Dr. Hunte provided a high-level overview of the African American discussion group, including the overarching concerns or issues, summarized below:

- Recognition that traffic congestion needs to be addressed
- Limited support for the Project elements
- Distrust in ODOT and government
- Government agencies and Project partners are not doing enough to address gentrification
- The "African American community" no longer exists as it used to

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The group's recommendations included:

- Opportunities to build generational wealth
- Housing that is affordable
- Prioritizing African American-owned businesses
- Prioritizing the health and education of young people
- Increased involvement and representation

Please see the full [African American Discussion Group Summary Report](#) for more information.

Values Document (Discussion)

Dr. Holt reviewed the following Project Values and asked members for their feedback:

- Restorative Justice
- Community Input and Transparent Decision-Making
- Mobility Focused
- Climate Action and Improved Public Health

ESC members provided the following feedback:

- Concern if the Project outcomes cannot deliver or do not reflect all these values
- Need to strengthen the language regarding restorative justice and make it more specific
- Add language about reconnecting the streets and neighborhoods to reflect mobility need, addressing climate change, and increasing the predictability of congestion
- Need to add performance-based outcomes to each value, as well as context about what the I-5 corridor means
- Recognize delivering on some of these commitments is in the hands of agencies other than ODOT. This is an opportunity for Metro, the County, the City, and other publicly funded institutions to invest back in the community and build a transformative community
- Add language regarding mobility that fits with the existing and new networks
- Consider how this Project fits in with other related projects--how can it support other projects (with similar values) and/or hinder them
- This Project can make transitional and pivotal change in our community and the expectations from the community have been heightened. Equally important that we do not focus only on process but consider other opportunities that could take us beyond what we have imagined

ESC Charter (Introduction)

Dr. Holt introduced the following components of the charter and asked members if they had questions or comments.

- Overview
- Charge
- Membership
- Decision-making
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Operational Agreements

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The following is a summary of the ESC members' feedback:

- Mirror the charge of the ESC in our values conversation-- revisit the value and the charge to ensure consistency
- Identify performance metrics with the values
- Include how data informs decisions
- Add language to clarify the power/authority of this committee
- Identify Project milestones where the ESC be making decisions

Dr. Holt asked for any additional ESC feedback on the charter by June 30th.

Presentation of Environmental Peer Review Process and Final Report (Informational)

Grace Crunican, the Environmental Peer Review Facilitator, provided a high-level overview of the Environmental Peer Review process, and panel conclusions and recommendations, as summarized below:

- The studies were conducted in accordance with State and Federal regulations
- The technical analysis was good, and incorporated appropriate and feasible mitigations
- The report could have better communicated, in a less technical way, the conclusions for the air and noise analyses
- Recommend that ODOT, the Partner Agencies, and local community partners focus on the design and construction phase to repair relations
- Create a Community Benefits Agreement that reflects the commitment of multiple parties to beneficial actions and keeps them accountable
- Do not recommend spending more time doing further environmental analysis (i.e., Environmental Impact Statement)

Please see full [Environmental Peer Review Report](#) for more information.

Next Steps

Dr. Holt thanked committee members for their participation and adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:30 pm.

Adjourn

Note: The meeting was hosted as a Zoom Webinar format that enabled ESC members to unmute their microphones and use web-cameras to participate in the meeting. Attendees, or public observers, remained in "listen-only" mode and without access to video functions.