



I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Community Oversight Advisory Committee (COAC)

Meeting Summary

MEETING DATE: July 15, 2021
MEETING TIME: 4:00 - 6:00PM
LOCATION: Zoom online meeting

This document is a summary of the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Community Oversight Advisory Committee meeting. The meeting [presentation](#) and recordings of the [Main Room](#), [Breakout Room 1](#), and [Breakout Room 2](#) provide additional documentation of this meeting.

Community Oversight Advisory Committee Members in Attendance

Michael Burch, NW Carpenters

Bob Carroll, IBEW Local-48

Christine Chin-Ryan, Prosper Portland's
Equity Advisory Board

Katrina Cloud, Northwest College of
Construction

Art Cortez, LatinoBuilt

Lee Fleming, Multnomah County
(Purchasing)

Pastor Matt Hennessee, Ministerial Alliance

Joe McFerrin, Portland Opportunities
Industrialization Center, Inc. (POIC)

Kenechi Onyeagusi, Professional Business
Development Group (PBDG)

James Posey, Coalition of Black Men

Felicia Tripp Folsom, Community
Member

Staff Members

Johnell Bell, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Community Oversight Advisory
Committee Facilitator

Dr. Steven Holt, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project

Megan Channell, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Director

Monica Blanchard, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Deputy Director

André Baugh, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Amber Ontiveros, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Mike Baker, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Natalie Warner, technical support, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

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

Ericka Warren, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Historic Albina Advisory Board Facilitator

Joseph Puente, technical support, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Katie Whittier, technical support, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Corinne Villavaso, notetaker, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Carolyn Heniges, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Team

Shelli Romero, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Team

Bill Bruce, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Belinda Mutoni, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Briana De Kalb, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Brad Sullivan, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Deb O'Dell, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Jeff Moreland, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Matt O'Connell, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Tayo Adesida, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Terrence Hayes, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Jennifer Erickson, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team

Agenda

- Welcome, Meeting Platform and Ground Rules
- Overview COAC June 17th Meeting Summary Notes
- Project Updates – Project Committee Updates

- Diversity Plan – Workforce & Apprenticeship (Subpart B)
- COAC Breakout Groups
- COAC Reports Out
- Public Comments
- Conclusion and Next Steps

Welcome, Meeting Platform and Ground Rules

Johnell Bell (Johnell), the Community Oversight Advisory Committee (Committee) facilitator, welcomed Committee members.

Amber Ontiveros, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner’s Representative Team, discussed meeting logistics, including live streaming and breakouts.

Johnell Bell provided an overview of the meeting agenda and reviewed the ground rules. He advised that the focus of the meeting was around the CM/GC Diversity Plan—Workforce & Apprenticeship (Subpart B).

Overview COAC June 17th Meeting Summary Notes

No comments from Committee were offered regarding the June 17, 2021, meeting summary notes.

Project Updates

Megan Channell, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Director, informed the committee that Independent Cover Assessment team completed its work at the end of June and has presented their findings to the Executive Steering Committee and the Historic Albina Advisory Board. She further explained that they have prepared their draft final reports and are working on submitting the final report next week. The ICA team’s findings will serve as the foundation for the joint committee meetings. The final ICA report will include more details related to transit, highway width, traffic projections, and other key areas that we can use to more thoroughly consider both opportunities and tradeoffs during the joint meetings. Joint meetings were intended to commence on July 20; however, following communications with Governor Kate Brown, that joint meeting has been canceled. Governor Brown is engaging on the project to better understand the community questions and concerns that have arisen, with the goal of facilitating a path forward that addresses those community interests. Project updates can be viewed and heard at minute [5:06](#).

Project Committee Updates

- Dr. Steven Holt provided a brief overview of the last Executive Steering Committee meeting.
- Ericka Warren provided a brief overview of the last Historic Albina Advisory Board meeting.

Diversity Plan— Overview of Workforce and Apprenticeship (Subpart B)

The I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project CM/GC Team provided an overview of their Workforce and Apprenticeship (Subpart B). The presentation can be viewed and heard at minute [12:13](#).

- A Committee member asked Bill Bruce if the Workforce Advocacy role had been filled, and if so, who filled the role.
 - Bill Bruce responded that the role has been filled by Terrance Hayes, however,

there may be more than one Workforce Advocate position available in the future.

- Committee members asked how many projects are anticipated to be \$100,000 or less, and where they can avoid that 20% registered apprenticeship. They also asked what positions would fit in that category.
 - Bill Bruce responded that it is actually scopes of work. There would be a subcontractor that has a subcontract value of less than \$100,000, which would exempt them. It would not automatically mean that they don't use licensed apprenticeships, but we often get specialty subcontractors that perform small scopes on that order scale, and they aren't in accredited apprenticeship programs. He thinks they are the exception on such a large project and anticipates that there would be very few that are less than \$100,000.
- A Committee member expressed concern to the CM/GC about ensuring that emphasis is placed on strategies to attract enough people of color within various crafts that will build capacity into the future, and that there will be some equity or parity with regard to how people color fit into the whole realm of construction. The Committee member asked if the CM/GC is getting any support from ODOT to do that type of work, and asked who is going to give the CM/GC the platform and support to bridge historical gaps in the employment rates among people of color within the industry.
 - Terrance Hayes responded that they are very conscious that trades like plumbing, electrical operating, and similar fields are where they need to focus. He highlighted that over the past month the team has already brought in two black engineering students, a young black lady as an operator, and are currently working on getting a young brother into a metal fabrication company. He also expressed that it is his personal goal as a licensed electrician to make sure that many people of color walk away as excellent craftsmen, not just laborers. He stated that he is highly focused on making sure that black people emerge as craftsmen and craftswomen with good paying craft jobs.

Breakout Groups

Breakout Group Introductions

Breakout rooms were arranged in Zoom to facilitate discussion. Members were asked the following question:

What suggestions can you offer for pipeline building and marketing around the 15 Rose Quarter workforce opportunities to best serve the Historic Albina and BIPOC community?

Community Oversight Advisory Committee Reports Out and Discussion

Group 1 Breakout Recording

Group 1 emphasized giving the community enough time to respond to our workforce needs using a professional advertising person that specializes in getting the word out to a specific demographic, to make sure that the people who need to hear about the opportunities receive the information. There was an emphasis on cultural competency and making sure that CM/GC do not lose high

levels of apprenticeship, especially in the black community.

A committee member stated there are skills being built for the younger people. Further suggestions included pre-skill building that includes learning how to run crews and how to distribute the work with volunteering opportunities in the community. They also noted that a pipeline should include efforts to identify those individuals in the community who have aptitude and want to be in construction.

Group 2 Breakout Recording

Group 2 recommended ODOT partner with local job readiness programs and workforce providers now to gain some paid experience on the job site rather than later. This could help get the target population interested now as an early way to begin introducing opportunities in the construction trades on the project. Through job shadowing, people could spend time on the job explaining components, seeing the work in action, and walking around with the superintendent. This would let them learn that kind of stuff early rather than when they are boots on the ground and trying to earn an income. It was also recommended to compensate those who are entering into the pre-apprenticeship program, which will demonstrate the seriousness. It was stated that many black people no longer live in the Historic Albina community, that they live outside of PDX and rural areas of the Oregon.

Questions:

How do we get beyond traditional barriers that are in the trades right now?

Can ODOT be a part of facilitating this new strategy?

What is the plan to collaborate with other programs around the state to attract people outside of the PDX for labor on this project?

Following the report there was some dialogue regarding ODOT supportive services resources and concerns that the Civil Rights Department are not actively engaging with the COAC meetings and the overall process. The dialogue can be viewed at minute [59:31](#).

Public Comments

No Public Comments

Conclusion and Next Steps

Amber reminded members that should have received a copy of the workforce portion of the diversity plan in their emails. She also explained that the next meeting will also be on Workforce Subpart C.

Adjourn.

Johnell adjourned the meeting a 5:35pm