



I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Historic Albina Advisory Board

Meeting #12 Summary

MEETING DATE: October 19, 2021

MEETING TIME: 4:00 – 6:20 PM

LOCATION: Zoom online meeting

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

Historic Albina Advisory Board Members in Attendance

- Andrew Campbell
- Bryson Davis
- Dr. Ebony Amato
- John Washington
- Keith Edwards
- Leslie Goodlow
- Sharon Gary-Smith

Historic Albina Advisory Board Members Not in Attendance

- Sprinavasa Brown
- Andrew Clarke
- Dr. Carlos Richard
- Estelle Love Lavespere
- Kevin Modica

Staff Members

- Ericka Warren, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Historic Albina Advisory Board Facilitator
- Dr. Steven Holt, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Advisor
- Johnell Bell, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Community Oversight Advisory Committee Facilitator
- Megan Channell, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Director
- James McGrath, Urban Design, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team
- William (Bill) Hart, Urban Design, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team
- Marianne Zarkin, Urban Design, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

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- Alex Cousins, advisory committee support, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team
- Natalie Warner, technical support, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team
- Aliza Whalen, notetaker, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Owner's Representative Team

Agenda

- Welcome, Introduction, Agenda Review
- Public Comment
- Project Updates
 - Director's Update
 - Recap: Board Input
- Highway Infrastructure Design Considerations
- Consider Restorative Justice Project Value and Updated Charter (Discussion)
- Next Steps/Adjourn

Welcome, Introduction, Agenda Review

Ericka Warren, Historic Albina Advisory Board (HAAB) Facilitator, welcomed participants and provided an overview of the meeting.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Project Updates

Megan Channell, Project Director, noted that the intergovernmental agreement codifying agreements and discussions with the Governor's office in the summer of 2021 is now under review. Many of the Oregon Transportation Commission's priorities reflect the Board's recommendations, including delivering tangible results to the community, creating a finance plan and maximizing opportunities, access and ease of travel. Additionally, the commission has requested a project finance plan by December 1, 2021. It will include initial funding, financing needs and potential funding sources and serve as a starting point for ongoing cost estimates. Lastly, Megan introduced the new equitable engagement compensation policy which Board members are eligible for. More information on the details of the policy and the required paperwork will be sent to the Board soon.

Ericka Warren, HAAB Facilitator, described how the project team is responding to and keeping track of the Board's concerns and recommendations. Ericka assured the Board that the project team is listening and will follow up with solutions to leverage existing efforts.

- Keith Edwards asked how the change in Governors in 2023 will impact the project and the Board's involvement. He was concerned whether ODOT would continue to advocate for the community beyond the project. He also wanted more emphasis on career paths that require college aptitude but not necessarily a college education.
 - Ericka responded that the Construction Manager/General Contractor has talked about career paths and investments in the trades and has hopes for the project supporting opportunities moving up from apprenticeship. The team will work with Community Oversight Advisory Committee and Construction Contractor to make sure we are addressing that concern.
 - Megan acknowledged ODOT's role in advocating for the community. The project requires partnership, which means advocating for the Board's priorities as well as coordinating with other components in the community. She asked the audience to continue to hold ODOT accountable.

Highway Infrastructure Design Update

Ericka introduced James McGrath from project team who gave an update on the highway cover design. The next step for the team is to examine how local streets will change with the adoption of Hybrid 3 and how to allocate space to support people walking, rolling (e.g., mobility devices, bicycles) and riding transit. James also talked about the opportunity to set up a Design Collaboration Forum for deeper discussions around these and other topics.

- Dr. Ebony Amato and Andrew Campbell expressed appreciation for the engagement and transparency. Both are interested in further discussion.
- Andrew commented in favor of incorporating both lighting and pop-up shops.

James introduced Bill Hart and Marianne Zarkin who talked about highway edges as a venue of expression. Bill provided examples of edge design features in the project. Marianne noted that her studio is one of several Disadvantaged Business Enterprise firms working on the project and suggested that the ceiling of the cover is an opportunity to create a portal or sense of entry into the area. Bill concluded that there are many opportunities in the project for creative and cultural expression on highway surfaces and invited the Board to be a partner in exploring these ideas.

- Leslie Goodlow commented that she loved the ideas about activating the space with art and plants. She asked if the design features are considered part of the highway project, and whether they are funded by the same funding sources.
 - Megan Channell, Project Director, confirmed that those elements are part of the project. ODOT is working on the finance plan to define the scope of the project, what will be funded, and how it will be funded.
- John Washington expressed enthusiasm for the Board's participation in the design process. He described the design elements as "beacons" of the project.

- Bryson Davis added that the project is not only a beacon for the broader community, but also for the local development opportunities following the project. The roadway advertises the development that can occur on top.
- James commented that the project is a beacon for wealth creation and a welcoming space to the community. It should reflect Albina's history, culture, music, natural landscape, and creativity in a coherent design.
- John added that community members need to see themselves and their culture and imagery in the structural aspects.
- Sharon Gary-Smith added that the Board only represents parts of the community. Additional voices should be heard and included in the decisions.
 - James responded that ODOT will engage with the wider public once ideas are more mature and approved by the Board.
 - Megan replied that ODOT is looking to the Board to know what the right ways, places, and spaces are to reach the community.
 - Ericka mentioned that Sprinavasa Brown is hoping to gather youth input.
- Bryson added that community input helps to generate as many creative ideas as possible. The project area is a continuous space, and the design should be coherent and attractive to make people want to come and stay.

Consider Restorative Justice Project Value and Updated Charter

Dr. Holt, former Executive Steering Committee (ESC) facilitator, wanted to revisit restorative justice as a value and agree on aims and outcomes. While the project values were established by the ESC, it is important that the Board provide their input.

- Dr. Amato said that the stated aim and words in general cannot fully encompass the catastrophic harm done to the community.
- Keith Edwards said that the project should aim for positive, tangible change, so that achievement is measurable and trackable.
 - Andrew Campbell asked if there are potential metrics of positive change.
 - Dr. Holt said not yet and asked members for ideas.
- Sharon Gary-Smith added it should mean healing and reclamation, and it should involve measurable changes, such as Black homeownership.
- John Washington said that his priority is the potential positive economic impact from the project. Restorative justice means having opportunities to be competitive in the marketplace. The statements presented take ownership of the issue but do not define how restoration would happen.
- Leslie Goodlow added that the project cannot fix everything, but it can at least help Black and Brown people make money from it.
- Keith said that John and Leslie's comments suggest economic equity, in addition to social and racial equity. He added that "rapid" change is not as important as the sustainability and quality of change. The Black community has historically been told to be patient, which means progress for it has not been at same pace

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as for other minority groups. Issues and concerns need to be addressed no matter the administration.

- Dr. Amato asked who the intended audience is.
 - Megan replied that it is the project team and ODOT leadership.
 - Dr. Amato added that this is just one project to address damages in generational wealth.
 - Dr. Holt replied that the project team fully acknowledges that, but the Board has an opportunity to steer this work, and members' words matter.
- Bryson Davis concluded that there are two key pieces of this project: to build wealth and belonging in the community so that community members feel welcome and at home, and to serve as a model for all agencies (not just ODOT) to incorporate these goals and values into their policies and projects.
 - Leslie added that everyone needs to commit to this project as a turning point so that future projects do not keep hurting the most impacted people.
 - Keith agreed that an equity lens is necessary in all actions.

Next, HAAB members discussed outcomes for restorative justice, as shown onscreen (see slide for Outcome #1).

- Bryson Davis commented that acknowledging impacts alone does not earn the community's trust.
 - Sharon agreed –more deliberate and long-term outcomes are needed.
- Keith Edwards commented that “jobs” are temporary and prefers “career opportunities.” He is more concerned about homeownership than rentals.
 - Dr. Amato added that there is a correlation between generational wealth and home ownership. Affordable rental housing is used as a pacifier for the Black community.
 - John Washington commented that some of the worst discrimination against Black people is around education about capitalism. Rental affordability and minimum wage jobs are only remedial.
- Dr. Holt asked if the group wants to remove “affordable rental housing.”
 - Leslie Goodlow disagreed. She understands the sentiment, but there has to be a bridge from rental to ownership.
 - John agreed saying that all options can be on the table, as long as the long-term goal is to create generational wealth.
 - Dr. Amato reiterated that she is not suggesting to remove affordable housing; it just should not be the default solution.
 - Sharon Gary-Smith added that developers get land benefits and subsidies – there should be benefits for the people who lost property and are losing out on the equity and interest that would have been accrued otherwise.
- Keith added that general education is not enough. Financial literacy has to be first and foremost if Black folks are to build businesses or buy homes.

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- Leslie agreed. Many people have never looked at their credit scores or know how to become a homeowner or business leader.

The group moved onto the next slide on outcomes for restorative justice.

- Andrew Campbell asked if nonprofits are included in public-private partnerships.
 - Megan Channell, Project Director, affirmed.
- John Washington asked what “forward-leaning” means.
 - Megan replied that it means doing business differently because the current way has not achieved the outcomes we want.
 - John responded that the phrase is too general and abstract.
- Andrew commented that there are no metrics to hold ODOT and other agencies accountable to this aim. It needs numbers.
 - Dr. Holt clarified that the Executive Steering Committee created these values, not ODOT. Ericka noted that this is an opportunity for the Board to determine what performance metrics can look like as they clarify the aim and outcomes.
 - Sharon commented that ODOT should establish quantitative standards that the Board can then challenge and work on with ODOT on.
 - Megan affirmed the idea and acknowledged that the conversation around performance measures will happen at the next meeting.

Dr. Holt thanked members for a great conversation. He added that there will be other opportunities to discuss these topics. The group will talk about the board charter and responsibilities and updates at a future meeting.

Next Steps/Adjourn

Ericka outlined next steps and reiterated the importance of the board’s commitment to this process. In upcoming meetings, the board will have the opportunity to shape the project’s performance measures and solutions on the highway and local streets. Ericka thanked the participants for their authenticity and noted that partners at ODOT will be proud to be stretched to advance institutional change. She looks forward to continuing the conversation with HAAB and identifying other key stakeholders who should be engaged in the design process.

Ericka adjourned the meeting at 6:37pm.

Adjourn

Note: The meeting was hosted as a Zoom Meeting format that enabled Historic Albina Advisory Board 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-sharing functions (attendees were able to view the presentation slide.