



I-5 ROSE QUARTER
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

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

Meeting Summary

MEETING DATE: December 16, 2021
MEETING TIME: 4:00 - 6:00 PM
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 dialogue in the Main Room, provides additional documentation of this meeting.

Community Oversight Advisory Committee Members in Attendance

Michael Burch, NW Carpenters
Bob Carroll, IBEW Local-48
Art Cortez, LatinoBuilt
Katrina Cloud, Northwest College of
Construction
Kenechi Onyeagusi, Professional
Business Development Group (PBDG)

Pastor Matt Hennessee, Ministerial Alliance
Joe McFerrin, Portland Opportunities
Industrialization Center, Inc. (POIC)
James Posey, Coalition of Black Men

Community Oversight Advisory Committee Members Not in Attendance

Lee Fleming, Multnomah County (Purchasing)

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

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

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

Corinne M. Villavaso, 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 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 A. Puente, Technical Support, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Owner's Representative Team

Amber L. Smith, Technical Support, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Owner's Representative Team

Carolyn Heniges, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Team

Shelli Romero, I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Team

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

Brad Sullivan, 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

Agenda

- Welcome, Meeting Platform and Ground Rules
- Overview COAC September 16th Meeting Summary Notes
- Project Updates – Project Committee Updates
- ODOT's Action on Social Equity
- Community Matrix Part 2 - COAC Recommendations on Diversity Plan
- COAC Breakout Sessions
- COAC Report Outs
- Public Comments
- Next Steps and Conclusion
- Adjournment

Welcome, Meeting Platform and Ground Rules

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

Johnell provided an overview of the meeting agenda and reviewed the ground rules. He advised that the focus of the meeting was around discussions relating to the Community Matrix Part 2- COAC Recommendations on Diversity Plan.

Overview Community Oversight Advisory (COAC) November 18th Meeting Summary Notes

No comments from Committee were offered regarding the November 18 meeting summary notes.

Project Updates [5:13](#)

Johnell welcomes and introduces Monica Blanchard for Project Update

- Monica announced that the project website was taken offline after the site's host server was compromised. Monica stated that there is an interim page while project staff is working diligently to find a solution. She stated that as always, ODOT is making sure that the COAC Committee and the public will have access to information about the project and can contact the department with any comments or questions about the project.
- **Monica provided the following updates:**
 - ODOT wants to continue to keep the community apprised on the Letter of Agreement being developed by the Governor's Office, and that this is currently with the City of Portland and partners for review. The letter is being tracked

- closely and has assured that members of the COAC will be informed on the outcomes.
- While the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act was signed on November 15, ODOT are still waiting on passage of the federal Reconciliation Bill which is a key piece of the puzzle.
 - This is one of the funding sources considered in the Finance Plan we have worked hard to develop at the Oregon Transportation Commission's request by December 1. The Plan includes refined cost estimates and the federal, state and local funding sources that will provide the financing needed to cover the full cost of the project.
 - Due to this shift in timing at the federal level, the Oregon Transportation Commission decided to delay delivery of the Finance Plan to January 13 in order to accommodate the timing of the Reconciliation Bill.
 - ODOT is on track to meet the revised deadline and will provide a brief status update to the Commission at their meeting on January 20.
 - As a reminder, the Finance Plan is something ODOT will bring back to the Board as an informational item and stated that ODOT plan to bring this item to the Committee in early 2022.
 - Related to ODOT's discussion around the Mobility Focus and Climate and Health performance measures, ODOT has heard the Committee's feedback about a desire to really focus on community health in ODOT's metrics. ODOT is also working to coordinate with TriMet to get more information around transit use in the area to inform about these metrics and our work.
 - ODOT has also delayed COAC's discussion about a letter to the federal delegation.
 - ODOT will provide COAC with an initial draft for consideration in January.
- **Monica provided additional updates relating to community outreach in 2022:**
 - **Monthly Lunch and Learns:** This week, we will be kicking off the first of a recurring series lunch and learns providing the opportunity for business and civic organizations to learn more about project progress. The Central Eastside Industrial Council and the Lloyd Community Association will be attending tomorrow, and we are inviting other organizations to participate each month.
 - **Community Briefings:** ODOT has been reaching out to a series of neighborhood and other interest groups to provide presentations to their membership about the project and our work in forwarding community benefits. Some of these have been project-specific and some are more broadly about the suite of projects that are part of the Urban Mobility Strategy. We just had a project-specific briefing with the Boise Neighborhood Association on Monday and plan to continue this work through next year.
 - **Community Engagement Compensation:** Last month, we held a roundtable for community-based organizations, and we are currently working on gearing up our CBO outreach program through the Equitable Engagement Compensation Policy so that we can engage in this work in a really intentional way. The direct appoint approach will allow us to build partnerships with CBOs so that they are meaningfully engaging with us. You will also be hearing about our efforts to expand our youth engagement in the project.

- **Sponsorships:** We've also been pursuing sponsorship opportunities supporting arts, culture and community. Most recently we sponsored the 2021 MLK Dream Run. We're looking ahead to other opportunities this next in 2022.
- **Tabling and events:** We've also been out in the community tabling at events, most recently for Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day in partnership with Kairos PDX and the Street Trust. We plan to continue this work at other virtual or in-person festivals and other community events throughout the next year.
- **Elected official briefings:** We have been presenting and advocating for the benefits of this project to local and state elected officials in a broad series of project-specific and Urban Mobility Strategy-focused briefings. We plan to continue this work through next year, particularly as new information is available at major milestones.
- **Monica concluded by stating that COAC will hear more in the coming months.**

A COAC Member expressed concerns about not moving the IGA forward in an a more expeditious manner. Member requested that AVT is invited to participate in COAC meetings, so that questions and concerns can be addressed. The Member asked if any members of the Rose Quarter Improvement Project Team recently been in direct conversation with any of the legislators regarding the project?

Monica stated that ODOT's Governmental relations team is actively engaging and briefing legislators. She added that Megan and Brendan are closely following the movement of the IGA with the governor's office.

A COAC member recommended that ODOT should collaborate all project community advisory groups together and utilize them in its purpose of creation as additional forces for movement on an executed IGA.

Project Committee Updates [15:41](#)

- Ericka Warren provided update on HAAB past meetings. Ericka agreed that community group should work more collaboratively together to make sure that there is maximum benefit for the black community.
- Ericka informed the COAC that have a small committee of HAAB members are meeting frequently with urban design team to talk about the potential for what could be included in some of the infrastructure design, exciting conversations around how the history of the Albina Community can really be represented. For instance, what will be displayed on walls during travel on the freeway side, as well as on the community side, the undersides underneath the proposed cover, as well as new pillars and construction.

ODOT's Action on Social Equity

Johnell welcomed and introduced Maria Ellis of the Office of Social Equity, and David Kim, of the Office of Statewide Project Delivery, to discuss some ongoing efforts (And challenges) at ODOT to look at equity at the agency overall, and beyond the Rose Quarter project.

Office of Social Equity (OSE) presentation [23:52](#)

Maria Ellis introduced the Office of Social Equity (OSE), as a new Office that was part of an organization redesign with our new Director who stood up the office. Nikotris Perkins was the first assistant director and started in March 2020. Maria stated that the Office of Civil Rights came under the OSE and continues to do its work related to federal programs, but in addition, the OSE created buckets of work that advance social equity on a much broader scale within the agency and outside of the OCR. She reminded the COAC that the entire OSE team is new, most of them being in place less than a year.

Maria emphasized the goal of OCR is to help ODOT achieve the vision you see here in the spectrum by 2030. That is a BIG task as this is something new for the agency. Topics include Interrupting bias, Pivoting long standing institutional patterns, informing resource allocation, Evaluating investments, Guiding decision and actions, and Shifting a culture Educating on the necessity and value of equity.

Maria highlighted some of the efforts that are being lead and worked on to support BIPOC firms and workforce development, including ODOT's 2022 Strategic Action Plan.

There was an insightful dialogue between the COAC members and OSE team, about the bottom line in changing ODOT's systems, processes, policies, procedures, and approaches in truly and effectively overcoming barriers, that will ultimately making major impacts in the BIPOC community. View and listen to Dialogue [34:52](#)

ODOT Statewide Project Delivery presentation [1:01:55](#)

David Kim introduced himself as the statewide project delivery manager for ODOT, a new role created to strengthen project delivery, to establish standards of practice and to be resource for the agency. The was created after the passage of House Bill 2017, the \$5.3 billion transportation funding package.

David provided high level overview of some of the work underway for how ODOT is integrating and implementing equity into their projects, specifically DBE and workforce development. David also discussed how data research, tools and analysis will be used for solution making in assisting and applying a social equity lens to our work and provide the information necessary for Oregonians to hold us accountable to prioritizing equity. This includes assistance in doing the work to increase the probability of equal outcomes regardless of social demographic or identity.

A dialogue between the COAC members and David. View and listen to Dialogue [1:10](#)

Public Comments [1:39:20](#)

One Public Comment from Diane Meisenhelter regarding air quality along I5 and I205, referencing the EPA National Air toxicity assessment was received.

Conclusion and Next Steps

- ODOT, COAC members, CMGC and Owner's Representative Team, have tabled the Community Matrix Part 2- COAC Recommendations on Diversity Plan agenda item until January 2022 meeting.
- The next COAC meeting will be held on January 20, 2022.
- Diversity Plan Celebration will be pushed back following the January 20th meeting.

Adjourn

Johnell Bell adjourned the meeting at 5:50 pm.