

TAC Committee
November 28, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.
Meeting Notes

Attending

Keith Baich – Explore Washington Park (EWP)
Erin Bird – EWP
Danny Dunn – Portland Parks & Recreation (PPR)
Kathy Goeddel – Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association (AHNA)
Jennifer Kent – World Forestry Center (WFC)
Ivan Ratcliff – Oregon Zoo (OZ)
Becky Schreiber – Hoyt Arboretum (HA)
Jason Sipe – Portland Japanese Garden (PJG)

Guests

Hallie Wilkerson – EWP

Partner Updates

- Keith (EWP): Amid Zoo Lights parking operations which includes utilizing the Spur road and construction area of the South Entry to turn cars around, as well as loading/unloading off-site buses. The staff is made up of 15 field representatives, a lead, and Keith, Erin, and E. Many light plants and additional signage have been added to Lots A, B, and C. EWP recently on-boarded a marketing manager and digital specialist which allows for marketing opportunities through the Metro RTO grant and the TriMet Pass Program.
- Jennifer (WFC): Three candlelight concerts nights on December 13, 14 and 15. Expecting 400 guests each night and could cause some parking concerns in conjunction with Zoo Lights. There are two concerts each night that start around 6pm and 8pm.

South Entry and Peak Season Parking Data

South Entry is moving along with no major traffic updates. A floating walkway has been installed to serve as a sidewalk and they are finishing up masonry work, so rock walls should be completed soon.

The peak season parking data presented is preliminary as some components may be inaccurate. This is due to the Pay-by-Plate transition and the Zone switching, as well as the data coming from two different sources: Parking meters and Parking Kitty.

According to this parking data, numbers are still down 24% from 2019 with June having the highest number of parking purchases, and August having the lowest number of parking purchases. There will be more to come on parking data and the ultimate goal of the Parking

Management Toolkit is to have a discussion each October regarding recommendations for the following year. These recommendations will reflect the parking data tool that will continue to be developed.

Peak Season Shuttle Data

The Washington Park Free Shuttle completed over 52,000 rides, with 2,600 hours of service. Peak season ridership had a 38% increase from last season and the Shuttle should complete over 100,000 rides before the end of 2023.

Danny would be interested in a cost comparison for 2019 and 2023.

Ivan acknowledges that August attendance numbers at the Oregon Zoo were lower than June, which is in line with Danny's peak season parking data.

When the Free Shuttle data was broken down by month, there were around 18,000 riders in the months of June and July, with only 15,500 in August. This is also in line with the peak season parking data.

Transportation Access Plan (TAP) Deliverables

The following deliverables were pulled from the 5-Party Agreement and brought to the TAC Committee, as well as the EWP Board. The board approved the deliverables with a few changes or requests.

Keith shares his screen to review these changes:

1. Clarification that the 10-year attendance projections will reflect goals excluding parking and transportation related limitations.
2. Once a parkwide mode-split goal has been created to support the 10-year attendance projections with existing on-site parking, the goal will be brought to the EWP Board for approval and discussion.
3. The feasibility analysis of off-site or at-distance parking, including cost and funding for shuttle service will be completed at three different locations, presented as different scenarios.
4. A process will be created by which the capital improvement projects will be prioritized moving forward.

Danny calls out that the deliverable of public safety and emergency preparedness is in the 5-Party Agreement and that the EWP Board does not have authority to make changes. He requests that the removal of this deliverable is called out at the next EWP Board meeting.

Many of the deliverables presented in the TAP will be highly consultant driven. The deliverable of 120K for Lot B reconfiguration will need clarity before moving forward.

Ivan asks for clarity on the reviewal process for the TAC Committee.

Keith states that the changes will be presented to the EWP Board in hopes that there will be no more further adjustments. The next step will be to put the deliverables into action, starting with a capital project prioritization plan. The spreadsheet presented will likely become a formal report.

Danny wonders if a budget and timeline for completing the TAP will be brought to the EWP Board next time the plan is presented.

The goal is to have the plan completed by June 30, 2024.

Danny calls out that \$30,000 was designated for this plan in 2019 when brought to the EWP Board, which could be a stretch. The last time the 5-Party Agreement was updated, \$400,000 was allocated for the Transportation Management Plan in which a number of projects have been completed. A reviewal of funding, including what has been spent and what is left, could be beneficial for the next EWP Board discussion.

There is discussion behind how each organization should submit their thoughts on the TAP. Jennifer requests that Keith send out what exactly is needed, so all committee members can return the same information and there is no confusion.

Jason wonders if thoughts and opinions can be shared prior to EWP Board approval.

Keith will speak with Heather about the process and follow up.

Final Thoughts

Keith shares an update received from Cedar Nickels regarding the BES sewer project on SW Kingston. A 66-inch storm pipe along with two inlets, and a treatment vault, will be installed in 2024 along Kingston Ave and take 90 days to complete.

Jennifer asks Danny if there is any update for the Children's Museum building, as guests ask WFC staff about this very often.

Danny will reach out and follow up as no new information has been shared at this point.

Jennifer announces that Chuck Wiley is leaving WFC this upcoming Monday.

Keith thanks the committee members for their attendance and will follow up with notes on deliverables, as well as updates on Erin's presentation.