

TAC Committee  
February 28, 2024, 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.  
Meeting Notes

**Attending:**

Keith Baich – Explore Washington Park (EWP)  
Rachel Burlington – International Rose Test Garden (IRTG)  
Danny Dunn – Portland Parks & Recreation (PPR)  
Kathy Goeddel – Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association (AHNA)  
Ivan Ratcliff – Oregon Zoo (OZ)  
Becky Schreiber – Hoyt Arboretum Friends (HAF)  
Jason Sipe – Portland Japanese Garden (PJG)  
Hallie Wilkerson - EWP

Keith begins the meeting with introductions and an overview of agenda items.

Partner updates:

- Ivan (OZ): Hours are extending starting March 9<sup>th</sup> until Memorial Day weekend. Planning for Zoo Nights beginning in June, as well as brew festivals and other summer events. Over 9,500 people this last weekend during the nice weather and discount days.
- Becky (HAF): Thank you to everyone for strong communications and operations during the January storm. Hoyt did not have power for a week and lost about 30 trees. Field trip season has started and will be every Tuesday and Friday through June. The buses will stop at the Washington Park Free Shuttle location.

Keith notes that this will be discussed at the upcoming training for the shuttle bus drivers. He will also mention that the bus drivers need to stop at the shuttle stop and wait for guests rather than driving by if no visitors are present.

- Rachel (IRTG): The Rose Garden Store will open on March 22, which is run by the Rose Festival Foundation in a PPR building. There has been ongoing construction for the Queens Walk below the amphitheater and has caused some traffic disruptions.
- Jason (PJG): The Garden is transitioning into extended spring hours. There was a bit of scramble last week during the Kingston construction with inefficient detour signs. EWP was helpful during this process by providing improved signage. Once BES took over the construction, detour signs increased, and it seems like the paving may take a little longer than the initial timeline.

- Jennifer (WFC): WFC got hit very hard by the storm, some trees were just cleared last week. There was damage to Cheatham Hall and the Museum, including the fire sprinkler systems. There is a new art exhibit on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Museum called “State of the Forest” as well as the upcoming Wildfire Awareness weekend on April 27 and 28.
- Danny (PPR): Lights in Lots B and C were not on two nights ago and some electricians have been called to fix the issue.

### **Park Maintenance Updates**

These are maintenance projects that the TAC Committee and EWP Board identified last year including the Rose Garden Way repave, speed bump installation, Vietnam Veterans Memorial sidewalk install, maple trail curb cut.

Becky asked PPR to note the large event that occurs at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Memorial Day.

Rachel asked PPR to note that there is high volume during the Rose Festival which typically occurs after Memorial Day.

There are no set dates for when these projects will begin but the timeline is for the projects to be completed prior to Memorial Day weekend. Danny will do his best to provide dates for these projects at least two weeks in advance and goals include keeping the Washington Park Free Shuttle route open, as well as providing detour signage when necessary. As a future recommendation, prepared detour plans from EWP would be very beneficial to have available during these types of projects.

Rose Garden Way will be closed for 12 days maximum, with 10 weekdays and 2 weekend days. There will be detour signage for guests entering the Park and no parking will be available on Rose Garden Way. The Washington Park Free Shuttle will run an alternate route.

The Portland Water Bureau has reached out and requested another closure of Sherwood Blvd, which would likely be a two-month closure. There is more conversation to come on this topic and impacts will be discussed further.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial pathway improvement will take about five days. There will likely be traffic flaggers rather than a detour. but it will affect the Washington Park Free Shuttle stop.

The speed bump installation has come from many vehicles driving too fast down the hill on Kingston Dr, as well as Knights Blvd near the TriMet Plaza stop sign. There will be some road

closures and detours during this time near Lot C. Five out of the six speed bumps are PBOT standard, 25 mph speedbumps and the remaining bump will be a raised pedestrian crosswalk.

The curb from the Maple Trail, which crosses Knights Blvd will be removed to street level in order to make the trail more accessible and stroller/wheelchair friendly. Half of the roadway would be closed with traffic assistance.

As for the South Entry project, no extensions in timelines have been provided but there has been a challenge with permitting for the new signage from Bureau of Development services.

Keith asks if there are any updates on the PPR/BES Project near the Gardens.

Danny can't speak for BES, but their goal is to complete it before Spring Break. However, for PPR, the contractors were trying to get asphalt in but the weather is not working to their favor.

### **Transportation Access Plan (TAP) Update**

Keith transitions to an update on the TAP, which is a plan mandated in EWP's documentation and is an amendment to the Master Plan completed in 2018. This committee, as well as the EWP Board, has looked at the deliverables and have provided feedback.

The next step was to write up a Request for Proposal (RFP), which has been posted to the EWP website. A few proposals have been received and will be evaluated within the next month to choose a consultant. Keith invites any of the committee members to be a part of the review process if they are interested. The goal is to have this work completed by the end of the calendar year. Any questions on the process and RFP are welcomed.

One of the deliverables that was left out of the RFP was 10-year attendance projects from each of the partners. Keith still needs this projection from a few of the partners. The goal of this is to provide the chosen consultant with these numbers to plan for overall traffic in the Park.

If there are any questions regarding 10-year projections, feel free to reach out.

EWP has finished the Service Delivery Plan for FY25, as well as the Annual Transportation Report. Keith will be sending those out with notes tomorrow, two weeks prior to it being shown to the EWP Board. It was an interesting year overall with modest growth since the pandemic.

Danny mentions that the TAC Committee typically provides feedback regarding the PPR Major Maintenance List. If anyone currently has any concerns or suggestions, feel free to reach out and let him know. Along these lines, the Portland Water Bureau Reservoir project is ending, and part of the agreement is a rehabilitation of the Park. He is interested in having a list of projects

that could potentially be done in the area on their dime, with their contacts. Any thoughts and ideas for this are appreciated.

Keith thanks everyone for their time and will be sending out notes, as well as the reports and packet items for this meeting.