

## EQUITY ADVISORY GROUP (EAG) MEETING #24

Date and Time: Monday, March 20, 2023, 5:30pm to 7:30pm

Location: Zoom Webinar and YouTube Livestream

Number of concurrent YouTube viewers: 15

### WELCOME

Dr. Roberta Hunte, EAG Facilitator, welcomed EAG members to the meeting, explained how to view closed captions, gave instructions for public input, and previewed the meeting agenda.

### PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Greg Johnson, IBR Program Administrator, shared updates to the program schedule. He explained that bridge tours are in process, including recent tours provided for Congresswoman Marie Gluesenkamp Perez and staff; Congressman Rick Larsen; and members of the Oregon Legislature. Greg also shared that he traveled to Washington DC with both the Secretary of WSDOT and Director of ODOT to meet with the Federal Transit Administration and United States DOT, which is the umbrella agency for the Federal Highway Administration. They met with the deputy director of USDOT and updated them on the project.

Several agencies have received briefings about the IBR program:

- Westside Economic Alliance: The presentation was very well received, and they asked great questions. They expressed their support for what we are doing.
- Columbia River Economic Development Council: They were supportive of the program and had questions regarding what the impacts would be during construction and what type of economic opportunities the program may provide. The overall economic impact study was shown to them, and they were impressed with the numbers of jobs that will come from this investment.
- Greater Portland Inc. had the same level of support.
- Identity Clark County: They were very supportive and want to see this project completed.
- Just Crossing Alliance: Further conversations are needed so everyone understands what the project is and what it's not.
- Northwest Minority Business Alliance in Washington: They are looking for opportunities to be involved in construction or future design of this project.

There are meetings happening in Salem to talk more to the legislators about the program. IBR has started hosting internal monthly transit workshops. The program is working on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), with the Final expected to be complete by the end of 2024.

## URBAN DESIGN PROCESS

Nolan Lienhart & Lilly Djanians from the IBR Urban Design Team shared that Urban design brings together a variety of disciplines at different scales and overlays them on top of each other, synthesizing a unique product that is rooted in its context and shaped by objectives established by its communities and stakeholders.

The presentation included a review of some next steps for how the program would like to bucket Urban Design discussions with the EAG in the coming year. EAG members then asked questions and had a discussion with the presenters.

- EAG member question: What are some examples of urban design opportunities related to equity? Staff response:
  - Creating spaces that are safe and secure
  - Evaluating transit station access through an equity lens
  - Understanding cultural/community context when developing designs by listening and uplifting voices of underrepresented communities. But there is no checklist to determine whether a design is equitable – process is key.
- EAG member comment: There’s a lot of momentum to recognize Expo Center as location where Japanese Americans were interned.
- EAG member question: Might there be opportunities to support fishing access near the bridge? Would like to see this explored.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CHECK-IN

Bryan Stebbins from the IBR Community Engagement Team presented about upcoming engagement.

Potential engagement options prior to release of the Draft SEIS include:

- Briefings to community-based organizations (CBOs and Neighborhoods)
- Mini-Grant Partnerships with CBOs
- Affinity Listening Sessions
- Equity Roundtables
- Community Briefings
- Neighborhood Forums
- Youth Press Conferences
- Tabling at Fairs & Festivals
- IBR Staff Office Hours

EAG members went into breakout rooms to brainstorm events and stakeholders for the program to engage during this process, as well as potential media outlets:

### **Events**

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- Good in the Hood
- Sunday Parkways (Parkdays?)
- Vancouver Farmers Market
- Kenton Farmers Market
- Portland Pride
- Jazz Festival in Cathedral Park
- April 29 Cambodian
- Delta Park – Interstate Soccer Tournaments, Pow Wow, Battle of the Border
- Community colleges
- Hood to Coast
- Cinco de Mayo
- Juneteenth
- Rose Festival
- Deaf Expo
- Jantzen Beach shopping areas – food stand, etc.
- Expo Center calendar
- Movies in the Park
- Vancouver Waterfront
- Fort Vancouver
- PSU Graduation
- WSUV Graduation
- Clark College graduation
- Vanport Jazz Fest (August)
- NW Equity Summit (September)
- Oregon Tradeswomen Fair
- Partners in Diversity professional development events

### **Community stakeholders**

- High Schools close to alignment
- Churches, temples, and mosques outside and near program area
- Worksource/WSW – How many employers have people traveling through the corridor? What channels do they have?
- Travel Portland / Travel Vancouver
- Heathman, Hilton Vancouver
- SEI/places engaging youth over the summer
- Poder Latino

**Media**

- Community Newspapers

Bryan shared that the next Equity Roundtable will be March 23, 2023, from 6:00-7:30pm. The topic will be Women Paving the Way in celebration of Woman’s History Month.

The program will hold a neighborhood forum to meet residents of neighborhoods adjacent to the program corridor this spring to inform them about the program. Participants will receive information on the Draft SEIS process including:

- What to expect and when public input will be invited
- The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, including how public input influences program outcomes

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comment

**MEETING EVALUATION POLL**

**EAG Survey**

Poll ended | 1 question | 7 of 15 (46%) participated

1. How would you rate tonight's meeting, on a scale of 1-5 (Single Choice) \*

7/7 (100%) answered



## ADJOURN

- Next EAG meeting: April 17, 2023, 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Following EAG meeting: May 15, 2023, 5:30pm-7:30pm

## ATTENDEES

Attendees	Organization/Affiliation
<b>EAG Members</b>	
John Gardner	TriMet
Miriam Halliday	Workforce SW Washington
Shane Valle	Portland Bureau of Transportation
Erika McCalpine	ODOT
Jennifer Campos	RTC
Vicki Nakashima	Community member
Sebrina Owens-Wilson	Metro
Aidan Gronauer	WSDOT
Barbi Alexander	Port of Portland
Tanya Adams	WSP
Sokho Eath	IRCO
<b>IBR Staff</b>	
Greg Johnson	Program Administrator
Jake Warr	Equity Lead
Dr. Roberta Hunte	Facilitator

Attendees	Organization/Affiliation
Johnell Bell	Principal Equity Officer
Emilee Thomas Peralta	Equity Team
Nolan Lienhart	Urban Design Team
Lilly Djanians	Urban Design Team
Bryan Stebbins	Community Engagement
Brent Hamlin	Tech support
Millicent Williams	Communications Team

## MEETING RECORDING AND MATERIALS

### Meeting Recording

A recording of the meeting is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MUN1ki2Tii0>

### Meeting Materials

The meeting materials are available here: <https://www.interstatebridge.org/get-involved-folder/calendar/eag-march-20-2023-meeting/>