

MULTIMODAL COMMUTER COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP (CWG) MEETING #1

Subject: Multimodal Commuter Community Working Group Meeting #1 Summary

Dates and Times: October 14, 2021, 4:30 to 7:00 P.M.

Location: Zoom Webinar and YouTube Livestream

WELCOME REMARKS

Anita Yap, facilitator for the Multimodal Commuter Community Working Group (CWG), welcomed everyone to the meeting and began by providing an overview of accessible participation options including closed captions and ASL interpretation. Anita then introduced Greg Johnson, IBR Program Administrator, who provided opening remarks. Anita led the team in an introductory exercise where each Community Working Group participant shared one word that summarized their hopes for the meeting's activity. The results of this word exercise were shared in a word cloud. Anita introduced IBR staff presenters for the meeting, IBR technical leads, as well as IBR program partners C-TRAN, TriMet, City of Vancouver, City of Portland, RTC, Metro, Port of Portland, and Port of Vancouver.

OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP AGREEMENTS, ROLES AND COMMITMENTS TO EQUITY

Anita then provided an overview of the CWG framework, and shared that two Multimodal Commuter CWG participants, Victor Caesar and Mikaela Williams, are also Community Advisory Group (CAG) members who will provide direct linkage to the IBR CAG. This CWG will meet two times, with additional engagement opportunities throughout the process as needed. Feedback on specific transportation design concepts from these meetings will be presented to advisory groups and program partners and will inform stakeholders and decision makers to help them better understand public input. Anita shared the program timeline through the development of the IBR multimodal design solution in 2022, and then turned the conversation over to Ryan LeProwse to discuss previous planning efforts, what's changed and existing conditions.

PREVIOUS PLANNING, WHAT'S CHANGED AND EXISTING CONDITIONS

Ryan LeProwse, IBR Transportation Planning Lead, began by discussing what has changed in the region since the previous planning efforts closed in 2013. Changes include operation of bus rapid transit (The Vine) in

Vancouver, use of bus on I-5 shoulder in Vancouver, ramp meters on interchanges in Vancouver, and changes in existing development. He also described current design assumptions under evaluation by the program and highlighted some of the community values and priorities the program has heard through community engagement efforts.

Ryan then presented results from a survey completed by Multimodal Commuter CWG participants. Survey results told us most participants commute from Washington to Oregon by single-occupancy vehicle. Some participants use public transit or active transportation to cross the bridge, or a combination of two or more modes. Most participants start their trip between 6:00 – 8:00 a.m. and begin their return trip home between 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Ryan confirmed the CWG is representative of the average Interstate Bridge commuter, based on data gathered by the program. Ryan then provided a comprehensive overview of transportation data gathered by the program as it relates to the Interstate Bridge including daily traffic volumes, bottleneck locations, average speed and travel times, vehicles crashes, bridge lifts, transit routes and active transportation counts. The group took a 15-minute break.

BREAKOUT ROOMS: INTERACTIVE MAPPING EXERCISE

Anita welcomed the participants back to the working group and introduce them to the interactive mapping exercise to be completed in breakout rooms. Each participant was asked to identify locations along their commute path that worked well or needed improvement. The group split into two breakout rooms.

Breakout Room Report Out

High-level takeaway:

- Congestion across bridge is difficult
- Desire for enhanced transit options (including light rail)
- The current route for bicyclists is difficult to navigate
- Bridge lifts mostly an issue during personal travel, not necessarily during commute unless you commute during non-peak hours
- Insufficient bus frequency and reliability
- Appreciate great C-TRAN bus drivers
- Electric signage is helpful (for travel times and being notified of accidents)
- Sight distance on bridge is a safety issue
- Group interested in how police and other enforcement agencies are involved in this process
- Freight can cause congestion
- Need for separate merge lanes going southbound on I-5

- Construction workers may be commuting across bridge multiple times per day to travel to different sites
- Some participants have turned down jobs due to challenge of commuting across the bridge

WRAP UP

Anita shared additional engagement opportunities with the group including upcoming advisory group meetings, social media, and the program newsletter, as well as links to the recording of this meeting, meeting material presented, and the program information library. Anita reminded participants about the date and time of the next Multimodal Commuter meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 from 4:30-7:00 PM.

Anita thanked the participants for their time and adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Attendees	Role/Organization
Dale Manz	At-Large Community Participant
Marie Dodds	AAA Oregon
Cecelia Antonio	At-Large Community Participant
Roger Haslett	At-Large Community Participant
Peter Bryant	At-Large Community Participant
Dane Hobbs	At-Large Community Participant
Alejandro (Alex) Arellano	At-Large Community Participant
Jim Bennett	At-Large Community Participant
Soren Roth	At-Large Community Participant
Mikaela Williams	IBR CAG Member
Christine Petty	At-Large Community Participant

Attendees	Role/Organization
Victor Caesar	IBR CAG Member
Henry Miller	The Street Trust
Steven Koch	At-Large Community Participant
Susan Pitchford	At-Large Community Participant
Steven Goff	At-Large Community Participant
Katherine Kelly	City of Vancouver
Jennifer Koozer	TriMet
Mike Corrente	TriMet
Randy Parker	C-TRAN
Scott Patterson	C-TRAN

Facilitators and Presenters

Attendees	Role/Organization
Anita Yap	Facilitator
Ryan LeProwse	IBR Technical Lead/Presenter
Greg Johnson	IBR Program Administrator
Casey Liles	IBR Technical Lead
Vicky Smith	IBR Technical Lead

Attendees	Role/Organization
Katy Belokonny	IBR Communications

Additional Participants

Members of the public viewed the meeting via the YouTube livestream during the meeting.

MEETING RECORD AND MATERIALS

Meeting Recording

A recording of the meeting is available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wqBa-795_bs

Meeting Materials

The meeting materials are available here: <https://www.interstatebridge.org/get-involved-folder/calendar/multimodal-commuter-working-group-1/>