



Equity Advisory Group

September 20, 2021

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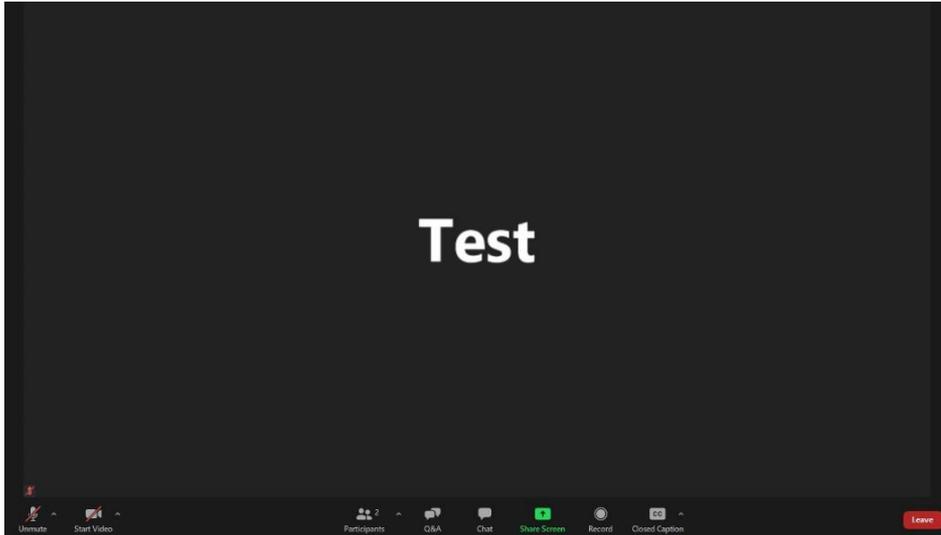
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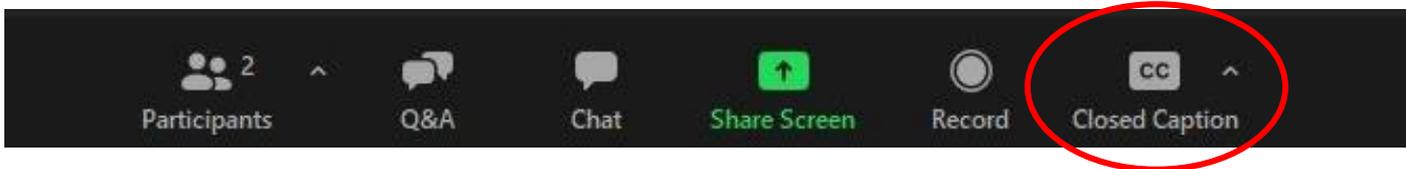
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Webinar Participation Tips

- ▶ Thank you for joining us today!
- ▶ We encourage EAG members to turn on your video.
- ▶ Please say your name when you begin to speak.
- ▶ If you experience technical difficulties, please contact program staff at: **(360) 329-6744**

Public Input Instructions

- ▶ There will be an opportunity to provide brief public input later in the meeting today.
- ▶ To submit input after the meeting:
 - Email comments to info@interstatebridge.org with “EAG Public Comment” in the subject line
 - Call 888-503-6735 and state “EAG Public Comment” in your message



Today's agenda

- ▶ Program Administrator Update
- ▶ Elevating Equity Listening Sessions summary
- ▶ Equity-focused Screening Criteria for Design Options
- ▶ 1st draft Equity Framework
- ▶ Public comment
- ▶ Close out



Program Update

Johnell Bell, Principal Equity Officer

Executive Steering Group Update

Last Meeting: September 15

- ▶ Shared and confirmed ESG understanding of the solutions that do not meet the Purpose and Need for an I-5 bridge replacement
- ▶ Discussed progress on IBR technical work towards an IBR solution including desired outcomes, screening criteria, and preliminary design options

Next Meeting: October 21

- ▶ Seek alignment and an Agreement in Principle (AIP) on desired outcomes, screening criteria, and the screening process

Community Advisory Group September 2nd

- ▶ CAG members were introduced to the IBR Equity Framework
- ▶ Received a historical perspective of transit options from previous planning efforts and the IBR process going forward in transit decisions.
- ▶ The Community Working Groups have been started and nine members of CAG are serving across the four different working groups.
- ▶ Next meeting is October 7th.



Mini-Grants and Elevating Equity Listening Sessions

Salomé Chimuku, Equity/Community Engagement Teams

Mini-Grants Applications

Applicant Organization Breakdown:

- 14 Applicants
- 4 Washington, 6 Oregon, 4 serve both

Organizations Applied:

- Activate Inclusion
- Brown Hope
- Coalition of Communities of Color
- Latino Built Association for Contractors (Latino Built)
- NW Association for Blind Athletes
- National Association of Minority Contractors Oregon (NAMCO)
- Next Up!
- Outside In
- Partners in Careers
- Slavic Community Center of the Northwest
- Somali American Council Of Oregon
- The Street Trust
- Unite Oregon
- Washington Advocacy for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Elevating Equity Listening Sessions

Total of 9 sessions:

- August 4th | People with Disabilities
- August 9th & 11th | BIPOC
- August 17th | Houseless individuals and families
- August 19th | Older Adults
- August 23rd | Vietnamese Language
- August 24th | Chinese Language
- August 26th | Somali Community
- August 30th | Russian Language

Elevating Equity Listening Sessions

High level Notes:

- 89 participants, 64 live and 25 via email/call.
- 9 out of 10 were first time participants.
- Most found out through social media (Facebook) and word of mouth.
- 8 out of 10 participants said they would participate in something like this again.
- Media presence at both BIPOC sessions.
- Many mentions and contact information for organizations serving the community.

People Living with A Disability Listening Session

High level Notes:

- Almost all submitted feedback via email and phone call. Some attended other sessions.
- Many from Washington were professionals from organizations but Oregon participants were more community members.
- Most found out through EAG members Matt Hines and Matt Serres
 - Matt Serres observed the session
- Better advertisement of accessibility is sorely needed.
- Collected contact information for organizations serving the community.
- Called for more affinity sessions to maximize participation

BIPOC Listening Sessions

High level Notes:

- Majority Black participants
- Many left Monday's meeting to join Wednesday's due to media presence.
- Most were from Oregon.
- Called for more **protected** affinity sessions.
- More direct outreach and less mass outreach.
- Many represented various social media groups and spoke about that outreach being necessary due to displacement and gentrification.
- Suggested always providing updates before asking for feedback

Houseless and Lower Income Listening Session

High level Notes:

- Many could not participate unless they had a smartphone, so participants shared devices.
- Wanting in-person options or maybe physically printed surveys
- Deep concern about those who camp in program area
- Valued transit options to common camping areas and places of resources
- Work with organizations and resource centers to reach community.
- The gift cards help with “invisible” costs of houselessness.

Older Adults Listening Session

High level Notes:

- Very happy to receive program update first
- Some from Hayden Island
- About half rent or on fixed income
 - Want the program to understand that many older adults live on fixed income
- Deep concern about outreach during construction
- Lots of support for strengthening public transit

Vietnamese Listening Session

High level Notes:

- Lots of questions regarding construction and tolling
 - How can we do tolling equitably?
- Grateful we have sessions in multiple languages and focusing on equity
- Many travel beyond just Portland and Vancouver but work in program area
- Support investing in transit if we want people to use it
- Want more sessions like this and appreciate gift cards for their time

Chinese Listening Session

High level Notes:

- Lots of questions regarding construction and tolling
 - How can we do tolling equitably?
- Grateful we have this session in Mandarin and Cantonese
- Wished the slides had been translated
- Support rapid transit
- Want more sessions like this and appreciate gift cards for their time
- Frequent shopping areas and Hayden Island/Jantzen beach

Somali Listening Session

High level Notes:

- Lots of questions regarding construction and tolling
 - Very concerned about how tolling would impact drivers
- Suggests speaking to Uber, Lyft, and Yellow Cab drivers. They have their own groups as Somali drivers
- Thinks that for the future we should advertise in more Somali spaces and radio
- Appreciated the gift cards and incentivized participation because the community is struggling
- Frequent shopping areas around Jantzen beach
- Many use the bridge to reach mosques and family
- Want more sessions like this

Russian Listening Session

High level Notes:

- Lots of questions regarding tolling
 - Very concerned on how tolling would impact families or people commuting for non-work-related things
- Some business owners wondering what would happen to their goods and services
- Wants to hear more advertisements on Russian radio and social media groups
- Want expansion of the Mini-grants program
- Want more sessions like this in Russian

Equity-focused Screening Criteria

Jake Warr, Equity Lead

Screening Criteria & Design Options Refresher

- ▶ What are “design options”?
 - Core elements of the physical build out of the IBR solution
 - **High Capacity Transit** option, including mode, alignment, and station locations
 - Through-**lanes** and auxiliary lanes
 - Highway **interchange** improvements
 - **Active transportation** (bicycle and pedestrian) improvements
- ▶ The purpose of Screening Criteria is to assess trade-offs or potential impacts among the different physical design options



Screening Criteria Subcommittee

Summary of process/feedback

- ▶ Tied screening criteria to our Equity Objectives
- ▶ Community engagement should inform key origins/destinations for measuring changes in access
- ▶ Importance of east-west connectivity
- ▶ Several draft criteria were shown as equity-related, but aren't necessarily so
 - Ex: compatibility with local land use plans

Screening Criteria Subcommittee

See Word document



Equity Framework

First draft overview & discussion

Chris Lepe, IBR Equity Panel

First Draft Equity Framework

See Word document

Breakout Groups

Questions:

1. Does the document capture your aspirations for a guiding framework?
2. Are there elements that could be improved to make them more clear or actionable?
3. What challenges do you anticipate the program having in implementation? How might we prepare to address those challenges?



Small Group Discussion

The EAG members are in breakout rooms. They will return to this webinar momentarily.

Public comment

Comment Instructions

To make a verbal comment:

- ▶ To make a live comment via phone, dial: 253-215-8782
- ▶ Meeting ID: 986 0940 5983
 - ▶ Passcode: 701376
- ▶ Dial *9 to raise your hand
- ▶ The facilitator will call on participants to provide comment
- ▶ Dial *6 to unmute yourself
- ▶ Please provide your name and affiliation.
- ▶ Commenters will be given 2 minutes to speak.

If we run out of time and you have not had a chance to speak, you can still provide comments after the meeting.



Comment Instructions

To submit comment after the meeting:



- ▶ Fill out the comment form on the program website or email your comments to info@interstatebridge.org with “EAG Public Comment” in the subject line.



- ▶ Call **888-503-6735** and state “EAG Public Comment” in your message.
- ▶ Written comments need to explicitly say “**EAG Public Comment**” in the subject line or in the body of the message for them to be identified and distributed to EAG members.
- ▶ All written comments must be received prior to 48 hours in advance of each upcoming meeting in order to be distributed to advisory group members. Comments received after that point will be distributed to members in advance of their next meeting.

Wrap up

- Takeaways
- Meeting evaluation
- Next meeting: Monday October 18, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.



Thank you!