



CITY OF BEND

Minutes

Bend Economic Development Advisory Board (BEDAB)

Monday, January 9, 2023

Hybrid Meeting: Council Chambers or via Zoom

Noon **BEDAB Meeting**

Roll Call: Travis Davis- Chair, Keith Dodge-Vice Chair, Briana Manfrass, Jeremy Agraz, Kevin Cole, Kelly Kearsley, Tierney Booker

Heather Ficht Sara Odendahl, Ken Betschart, Kevney Dugan, Don Myll- Ex Officio

Councilor Perkins-Council Liaison

1. **Public Input**

Sara Odendahl with the Bend Chamber of Commerce, she will be sharing the ex officio role along with Katy Brooks. Sara is happy to answer any questions about the Chamber.

2. **Review December 5 & 7 Meeting Minutes**

Kevin Cole moved to approve December 5,2022 minutes and December 7,2022, minutes; Travis Davis seconded. Unanimously approved.

3. **New Member Introductions | Group**

Gary North-Regional VP of RH construction- Will join BEDAB at next month's meeting.

Jeremy Agraz-Has lived in Bend for the past 2+ years. Jeremy was educated on the east coast, with most of his professional experience on the west coast. His primary experience has been in architecture, engineering, and general contracting. He has done alot of building across different sectors, everything from convention centers, airports to multi-family housing and single housing. His role is as a business strategist, helping organizations grow and diversify.

4. **Chair/Vice-Chair Openings | Travis Davis**

Committee members asked as to whether there is an interest in serving as Chair or Vice-Chair, please send an email of interest or any questions you may have to Ben Hemson at bhemson@bendoregon.gov.

Two things to note about the role as Chair:

- City staff is extremely helpful in getting meetings set up, it does not fall on Chair and Vice-Chair.
- Throughout the year various BEDAB members will go before Council, it does not again all fall on the Chair or Vice-Chair to do.

5. Climate Friendly & Equitable Community Rules Updates | Russ Grayson & Damian Syrnyk

Parking minimum discussion was presented by Pauline Hardie in December 2022.

Legal Update-Two appeals submitted to the Oregon Court of Appeals:

- Appeal one from a group of 14 local governments that were engaged in the rule making and had a number of concerns that were not addressed with the work, and so they filed their own appeal.
- The other appeal came from four Statewide Industry Associations that included Oregon Home Builders Association, Oregon Business and Industry Association, Oregon Realtors and Oregon Trucking Association. The appeal of the local Governments group had a request to stay the rules, essentially putting them on hold until the Courts review could be conducted. On December 28,2022, the Court denied that stay.

The Court provided for expedited review for both petitions from each group.

Second portion of the update is with the work that Growth Management Division (GMD) has proposed to do. By the end of this month, we are submitting a proposal to Oregon Department of Land Conservation development to request additional time to get certain tasks done with the rules, particularly around designating Climate friendly areas. We are also going to include in that proposal sequential work program related to the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).

Two key pieces, Parking code changes which are going to Council January 18,2023 with a second reading adoption on February 1,2023 and then we need to complete a study of potential areas that would be considered climate friendly areas within the UGB.

Committee Q&A ensued.

Parking options going before Council January 18,2023.

6. East Cascades Works Update | Heather Ficht

Funding:

This organization is a 501C3 non-profit and is designated by the Governor to serve the 10 counties East of the Cascades.

There are two boards of directors, one that approves the budget and appoints Board members and a private sector led Board of directors, which determines what our strategic plan is, where our priorities are, where we make investments and is intended to be private sector led.

We are charged with doing a State of the workforce report, which is done every 2 or 5 years. Work is being done on updating the state of the workforce report in January and February and then utilizing that data and revisiting our strategic plan in March and April.

Strategic plan also included identifying and ensuring we have four target industries: Tech, Health care, Manufacturing and Construction. The other has to do with priority population, such as people experiencing disabilities, low income, emergent workforce,

returning citizens or those impacted by the criminal justice system and English language learners.

The Strategic Plan will be ready by May or June and ready to move forward.

Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act, which is an act of Congress and gets funding appropriates to it has been reduced over the last dozen years in the state of Oregon by 50% and will continue to be a declining funding stream.

Legislature passed a bill called Future Ready Oregon, under which there is \$2M and \$100M of that is allocated to support work ready grants.

Committee discussion ensued.

The question asked by the committee was, “What can BEDAB do to support Cascade Works?”

Heather requested BEDAB’s legislative agenda and to figure out how to partner better around strategic planning and strategic thinking.

7. Council Priority Feedback for January 19 | Group

Council is using a new tool called “round table process” which will allow for the Councilors to have a conversation and be able to ask questions during this process. It was also decided to have a few main goals, broken down into topics.

There will be two 45-minute segments:

- Morning session segments will be Housing and Economic Development, and then Houselessness and Affordable Housing.
- Evening session segments will be Transportation, and then Equity, access, and engagement.

Council to send out focus questions.

Committee discussion ensued.

Motion- Keith Dodge, BEDAB Member, “I move that Ben Hemson and Travis Davis work on three basic bullet points for our recommendations and priorities to council being permitting, land supply, and work force support.” Kelly Kearsley seconded.

Ayes-Travis Davis, Keith Dodge, Brianna Manfrass, Kevin Cole, Tierney Booker, Jeremy Argas and Kelly Kearsley.

8. Economic Development Strategy Update | Ben Hemson

Council priorities:

- Economic Development Strategy, Ben Hemson will send out an email this week to schedule a kickoff meeting.
- SWAT survey draft feedback, what sort of feedback can we get from the business community. What are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats?

By next week, Growth Management Division Manager Brian Rankin will get back to this

committee about potential sector targeting consulting in regard to potential UGB expansion.

9. Adjourn-2:00p

10. To View Live Recording follow link below:

[January 9, 2023](#)

Upcoming Meetings:

January 18: City Council | Council Chambers, 5 p.m., Community Survey Results

January 19: City Council | Council Chambers, 11 am, Council Priorities Listening Session