

Meeting Minutes

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee

May 25, 2023

Chair Heylin conducted and called the City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee May 25, 2023, hybrid meeting to order at 1:00 PM, in City Hall Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street 97703. Watch the [COBAAC May 25, 2023 YouTube Livestream](#).

1. Roll Call (Timestamp 0:26)

Members Attended In-Person:

- John Heylin (He/Him) Chair
- Derek Hofbauer (He/Him)
- Lizabeth Diether-Martin (She/Her)

Members Attended Virtually:

- Carl Burnett (He, Him) Vice-Chair
- Aaron Rivers (He, Him)
- Amanda Hamer (She/Her)
- Kelly Crowley (She/Her)
- Nicholas Radon (He/Him)
- Stephanie Utzman (She/Her)
- Whitney Bennett (She/Her)
- Alternate: Liz Woodfin (She/her)

Member Absent - Excused:

- Kori Sparks (She/Her)

City Staff Attended:

- Cassandra Kehoe (She/Her), Accessibility and Equity Manager and COBAAC Liaison
- Stephanie Betteridge, (She/Her), Chief Innovation Officer, Assistant City Manager
- Barbara Campbell (She/Her) City Councilperson and COBAAC Council Liaison
- Mellissa Kamanya (She/Her), Affordable Housing Coordinator, Affordable Housing
- Lisa Larsen (She/Her), Administrative Support Specialist, Accessibility and Equity

City Staff Presenters:

- Ian Leitheiser (He/Him, Assistant City Attorney
- Brian Rankin (He/Him), Long Range Planning Manager, Growth Management Division
- Damian Syrnyk (He/Him) Senior Planner, Growth Management Division
- Elyse Vukelich (He/Him), Associate Planner, Growth Management Division
- Jennifer Knapp (She/Her), Senior Planner, Growth Management Division

2. Land Acknowledgement (Timestamp 3:14)

John Heylin, Chair

City of Bend Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that the beautiful land, known as Bend, Oregon north of the Columbia River is the original homeland of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The Confederated Tribes ceded this land in the Treaty of 1855 while retaining regular and customary hunting, fishing, and gathering rights. The Wana łama (**Warm Springs**), Wasq'ú (Wasco), and Northern Paiute people inhabited this area in certain seasonal times that clearly established their presence. It is also important to note that the Klamath Trail ran north through this region to the great Celilo Falls trading grounds. This trade route expanded the impact of commerce between Tribal nations. We acknowledge and thank the original stewards of this land. It is our hope that guests continue to honor and care for this land.

3. Approval of April 27, 2023, Draft Meeting Minutes: (Timestamp 4:03)

Motion: Chair Heylin motioned to approve the COBAAC April 27, 2023, Draft Minutes as read, with not corrections. Member Diether-Martin seconded the motion. The motion to approve the April 27, 2023, draft minutes to final unanimously passed by all who attended the May 2023 meeting, in person and virtual.

4. Public Comment: (Timestamped 4:36) No in person or Zoom attendees.

Chair Heylin read aloud an email he received from a community member who wanted to stay anonymous. The community member, who has a seizer disorder, his service animal, and friend went to a local bar/ restaurant. A staff member told the restaurant customers, a restaurant staff member has allergies to dogs, and only served at the outside seating area.

The community member tried to explain two times, that the service dog was working, and the establishment was violating Federal ADA regulations.

Chair Heylin called the Department of Justice and confirmed, refusing a service animal due to employee having allergies to dogs is not a valid excuse to refuse access.

5. New Member Introduction: (Timestamp 6:48)

Kelly Crowley She, Her

New member Kelly Crowley shared that she excited to be a COBAAC member and her personal story, interests, and passions. Member Crowley mentions she was born with what she calls a funny little (right) arm, where her elbow does not exist, and that hand has three fingers.

While growing up member Crowley never talked about disability until she was around 20 years old, and accidentally discovered the Paralympics while watching TV. And now involved in the Paralympics movement for two decades. It's opened her eyes to how barriers prevent people from participating, lived experiences, and living independently.

Accessibility and Equity Manager & COBAAC Liaison Kehoe noted a gold medal pictured on the agenda PowerPoint slide. Mentioning that member Crowley does not readily admit to her two gold medals, from the Athens 2004 Paralympics.

6. **Public Meetings Law: (Timestamp 10:00)**

Ian Leitheiser He, Him, Assistant City Attorney

City Attorney Leitheiser mentioned, public meetings law, adopted in the 1970's, is to benefit both, the government, and the public. Government business, conducted in a way that the public can see it, have access to it, and understand the discussion, deliberations and the thinking that goes into the decisions that affect people.

Attorney Leitheiser talked about basic public meetings law and answered questions about Oregon's public meetings law and the requirements on holding public subcommittee meetings.

7. **Climate Friendly Areas Update: Growth Management Division (Timestamp 35:15)**

Brian Rankin He, Him, Long Range Planning Manager | Damian Syrnyk He, Him, Senior Planner | Elyse Vukelich He, Him, Associate Planner | Jennifer Knapp She, Her, Senior Planner.

The Growth Management Division is here to update, discuss, and answer questions about accessibility in climate friendly areas.

➤ Slide One: Climate Friendly Areas Update:

Growth Management Division, Community and Economic Development Department, May 25, 2023

➤ Slide Two: What is a Climate Friendly Area?

- A Climate Friendly Area (CFA) is an area where community members can live, work meet most of their needs without having to drive a vehicle.
- CFA's must be served by high-quality pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure.
- CFA's will allow a mix of uses, including multi-unit residential development.
- Designing neighborhoods this way can reduce carbon emissions and gives people the choice to not rely on a car.
- Underserved communities will be at the center of informing where and how CFA's are chosen.

➤ Slide Three: Equity Based Engagement

- Equity based engagement will take place through CFA designation and adoption.
- One-on one interviews.
- COCC Latinx student outreach.
- Equity focus group – thank you for participating.
- Upcoming community pop-ups, surveys, and open houses.

- Slide Four: CFA Sizing Based on CFEC Rules
 - Thirty percent of current and future needed housing is 15,366 units.
 - Will need approximately 275 to 350 acres of designated Climate Friend Areas.
 - Sizing will be dependent on policy choice related to maximum building height, use of land, and other factors.
 - Option 1: Allow higher buildings in CFA Areas:
 - Thirty percent higher than Current Code
 - 85' Maximum Height (Height bonus of ten feet for Affordable Housing)
 - Acreage to Accommodate 12,366 units as Required by State Rules
 - Option 2: Retain current code for maximum height and use more land:
 - 65' Maximum Height (Height bonus of ten feet for Affordable Housing).
 - Approximately thirty percent Additional Acres to Accommodate 15,366 units.
- Slide 5: CFA Sizing and Location Examples
 - Centralized: Larger area near highest concentration of amenities
 - Varied: Multiple areas of varied size near key destinations and corridors
 - Dispersed: Many smaller area or neighborhood scale areas
- Slide 6: Where should a CFA go?
 - Identify examples of CFAs based on land use, size, and existing plans:
 - Land use designations – commercial and mixed used areas of low density.
 - Existing employment centers.
 - Developed bike, pedestrian, and transit networks.
 - Developing a mapping tool to spatially analyze the city based on the following categories:
 - Connectivity
 - Opportunity
 - Equity
- Slide 7: Climate Friendly Areas (CFA) Timeline
 - Climate Friendly Areas Project Phasing
 - Phase 1, 2023: Study, Map and Potential CFA Areas, Refine Areas based on input, and Community Outreach.
 - Complete and Submit Study Based on State Requirements.

- Phase 2, 2024: Designation, Select Preferred Areas, Finalize Capacity Sizing, and Community Outreach.
 - Recommendation
- Phase 2, 2025: Adoption, Prepare Code Amendments, Adoption Process, Community Outreach, Public Hearing.

➤ Slide 8: Next Steps

- Ongoing engagement
- Ongoing analysis
- Visit **Climate Friendly Areas** website for more information
- For information on the CFA Study contact Elyse Vukelich at **evukelich@bendoregon.gov**
- For information on the CFA Study Engagement, contact Jennifer Knapp at **jknapp@bendoregon.gov**

➤ Slide 9: Questions – How do you want to be involved int the CFA Study Process?

The Growth Development Division discussed, answered questions about the Climate Friendly Areas (CFA) presentation, and asked COBAAC members how they want to be involved int the Climate Friendly Areas study process.

The Growth Development Division presented four more slide to let COBAAC members know about the Stevens Road Tract project update:

➤ Slide10: Stevens Road Tract

- July 2021: Legislatures passes HB 3318.
- August 2022: State approves, Concept Plan for Stevens Road Tract.
- Spring/ Summer 2023: UGB amendment to include tract in process.
- Summer/ Fall 2023: Staff begin public process for adoption of Planning Amendments.
- For questions and more information, please contact: Senior Planner Damian Syrnyk at **dsyrnyk@bendoregon.gov**

8. COBAAC 2022 -2023 Strategic Plan: (Timestamp 1:07:13)

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee (COBAAC) Members

Prior to days meeting, the Accessibility and Equity and COBAAC Staff Liaison Kehoe asked COBAAC members to review the COBAAC Strategic Plan and be prepared to share 1 to 2 projects from Appendix A to accomplish in 2023.

COBAAC member – Projects chosen:

- Member Hofbauer: Improving transportation and improving an accessible community. Promoting accessible recreation shuttles.
- Member Bennett: Accessible on-demand transportation, accessible bus stops, paths of travel, and seating/mobility for people.

- Member Diether-Martin: Creating an Accessible Community - Oregon Adaptive Sport to expand offerings for inclusivity and networking with disability advocacy group.
- Vice-Chair Burnett: Creating an Accessible Community - partnering with the Chamber to provide education for businesses about accessibility. And Transportation and Infrastructure - On-demand transportation overlapping with partnering with Bend MPO to provide feedback on the use of ARPA funds to incentivize local transportation providers to provide more accessible vehicles available.
- Member Radon: He would be happy to continue to work on Transportation and Infrastructure, anywhere he could use his architecture background or anywhere needed.
- Members Crowley: Building Collaborations with Bend Parks and Rec around accessible sport/ education for coaches and instructors. And networking with the community, specifically around the Climate Friendly Areas (CFA) to ensure that we are reaching the community we want input from.
- Member Utzman: Creating a Culture of Accessibility Within the City of Bend Organization/ provide training to engineers and planners about accessibility, Improving Transportation and Infrastructure and improving accessible on-demand transportation and requirements and how to increase options.
- Chair Heylin: Creating an Accessible Community/ outreach about COBAAC being a resource for the community.
- Member Hamer: Creating a culture of Accessibility within the City of Bend Organization/ involvement with the Affordable Housing Committee and partnership with the Chamber.
- Member Rivers: Had to leave the meeting early.

Accessibility and Equity Manager and COBAAC Staff Liaison Kehoe will email the themes and project groups and move on from there to decide if they want to have formal subcommittees or project groups by June. And set a goal to work on the projects from July to December.

9. COBAAC Business // COBAAC Round Table: (Timestamp 1:17:49)
City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee (COBAAC) Members

Member Utzman: Received an email from Deschutes County Facilities about the Deschutes County Courthouse getting remodeled with expansions/ improvements. They have a full-scale mock-up of a courtroom and offering tours, for the community, at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds, to determine accessibility.

Vice-Chair Burnett: Wanted to discuss the negative experience with their service animal in restaurant that Chair Heylin read aloud, during agenda item 4. Public Comment section. Vice-Chair Burnett was seeking input from COBAAC members on whether COBAAC has a role in responding or addressing these kinds of issues.

Chair Heylin suggested having a place with information on how to file a complaint about this and other ADA /complaints/issues.

Accessibility and Equity Manager & COBAAC Staff Liaison Kehoe: Sharing this kind of information with the public, in terms of educating the community, fits in well with the 2022 – 2023 COBAAC Strategic Plan; under “Creating an Accessible Community” and education about accessibility initiatives and sharing with the local businesses.

Member Radon / Update from the Climate Friendly Areas (CFA) meeting he attended:
Member Radon’s comments during the work session:

- How to best serve those experiencing houselessness in CFA Areas due to the sixty to seventy percent of the houseless have some sort of disability; and how do we integrate those people into the CFA.
- Concern about providing the necessary services, such as medical facilities, or hospitals and how that could work in those Climate Friendly Areas.

Member Bennett: Reminder for the Walk and Roll About Event at Trinity Lutheran’s School at 12:30 PM, on May 30, 2023.

10. Accessibility and Equity Manager: (Timestamp 1:27:28)

Cassandra Kehoe She, Her, Accessibility and Equity Manager and COBAAC Liaison

Due to time constraints from the previous agenda items running over, the Accessibility and Equity Manager Kehoe gave a high-level explanation of the following subjects:

- Section 504 at 50 – Partners: An email will be sent with a partner list.
 - Members: Rivers and Utzman
 - Members: Vice-Chair Burnett and Crowley
 - Members: Sparks and Woodfin
 - Members: Diether-Martin and Chair Heylin
 - Members: Hofbauer and Hamer
 - Members: Radon and Bennett
- Juneteenth on the 17th & 18th: Seeking 1 to 2 COBAAC volunteer(s) to staff the City of Bend Tent.
- Late Summer/Early Fall 2023: Co-Host Event with COBAAC/HREC and community partners. Seeking 1 to 2 COBAAC volunteer(s) to help plan the event.
- Seeking 1 to 2 COBAAC volunteer(s) to join an HREC Subcommittee: Develop a process to connect community members who have experienced acts of discrimination with reporting option and resources.

COBAAC members: Please email the Accessibility and Equity Manager // COBAAC Staff Liaison Kehoe at: ckehoe@bendoregon.gov to volunteer for the three items listed above.

- Informational Session: HREC and COBAAC joint optional meeting. An email will be sent with details to follow for the June session.

11. COBAAC Council Liaison Update:

Barbara Campbell She, Her, Hers; City Council Member

COBAAC Councilmember Liaison left early due to a schedule conflict.

12. The Next City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting is Thursday, June 22, 2023, from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM.

13. Adjourned: With no further COBAAC business, chair Heylin adjourned the City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee, May 25, 2023 meeting, at 2:29 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Larsen
Administrative Support Specialist



Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc.; please contact the Accessibility and Equity Program Manager Cassandra Kehoe at ckehoe@bendoregon.gov or call 541-693-2141; Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.