

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee

January 25, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes

Chair Burnett conducted and called the City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee, January 25, 2024, regular hybrid meeting to order at 1:03 PM, at City Hall in Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street, 97703. Watch the **COBAAC January 25, 2024, livestream recording**.

1. Roll Call: Committee Members

Members Present Virtually (7):

- Vice Chair John Heylin, He/Him
- Aaron Rivers, He/Him
- Kori Sparks, She/Her (1:30 p.m.)
- Liz Diether-Martin, She/Her
- Liz Woodfin, She/Her
- Stephanie Utzman, She/Her
- Whitney Bennett, She/Her

Members Present In-Person (3):

- Chair Burnett, He/Him
- Amanda Hamer, She/Her
- Derek Hofbauer, He/Him

Members Absence Excused (1):

- Nicholas Radon, He/Him/His

Leadership Bend Class of 2024 Cohort:

- Ben Berry, He/Him, Project Manager for the Leadership Bend Impact Project, Morrison Maierle
- TJ Murphy, He/Him, Hite Digital Bend

City Staff in Attendance:

- Cassandra Kehoe, She/Her/Ella, Accessibility & Equity Manager / COBAAC Staff Liaison (In-Person)
- Andrés Portela, He/Him, Equity, and Inclusion Director (In-Person)
- Barb Campbell, She/Her/Hers, Councilor, COBAAC Council Liaison (In-Person, 1:44 p.m.)
- Robin Lewis, She/Her/Hers, Transportation Engineer (In-Person)
- Katherina Barguil, She/They, Community Relations Manager (In-Person)
- Mellissa Kamanya, She/Her, Affordable Housing Coordinator (In-Person)
- Lisa Larsen, She/Her, Administrative Supports Specialist Accessibility and Equity (In-Person)

2. Land Acknowledgement: Read aloud by Member Hofbauer. **Timestamp 4:44**

3. Draft Minutes Approval: December 7, 2023, alt date, regular meeting minutes. **Timestamp 5:34**

Motion: Member Hamer motioned to approve the COBAAC December 7, 2023, Draft Minutes as read, with no corrections. Vice Chair Heylin seconded the motion. The motion to approve the December 7, 2023, unanimously passed by all voting members who attended today's meeting, in person (3) and virtually (7).

4. Public Comment:

No public comment in Council Chambers or virtually.

5. Leadership Bend 2024 Cohort - Accessibility Impact Project Update: Ben Berry. Timestamp 7:37

- Leadership Bend member Berry said their project is to raise awareness of accessibility issues related to small businesses in Central Oregon. They want to create a website that includes resources for small businesses with information about how they can operate their business with more inclusivity for apparent and nonapparent disabilities and mobility challenges. Leadership Bend member TJ and Accessibility and Equity Manager Kehoe will meet with the City of Bend's Web and Graphics Coordinator, later today, to talk about the website. There are three components to our project:

- I. Leadership Bend member TJ mentioned the theme is Building a Better Business for Accessibility in Central Oregon. The website project will contain a landing page on the City of Bend website. Some of the shared information they are exploring:
 - a. Different grants and financial opportunities for business owners as an incentive to make improvements to their businesses and their online accessibility.
 - b. Resources and guidance on hiring practices and benefits for hiring people with disabilities.
 - c. ADA education, legal guidance, technology and tools, community engagement and feedback.

The full project will be complete by the end of May 2024. The website component will be finished around March 2024. Giving us time for outreach and collaborating with other organizations.

- II. Crafting a story for businesses on why this should be important for them. Adding statistics about the number of people that benefit from some sort of accommodation. And adding testimonials or example stories from members of the Central Oregon community, describing their experiences in local small businesses.

COBAAC member Diether-Martin will send a list of information to add to this new website.

- III. Outreach: Leveraging Bend Chamber business contacts, meet with different groups to advertise this webpage resource, then meet with businesses to talk about ways physically change their place to make it more inclusive.

Leadership Bend asked COBAAC members to send them a list of people who would like to share their stories, good and bad experiences, or signed anonymously on the website. They will not publish the business names from these stories.

6. Neighborhood Street Safety Program: Robin Lewis, She/Her/Hers Transportation Engineer.

Slide 1: Neighborhood Street Safety Program Presentation for the City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Slide 2: Neighborhood Street Safety Program Projects.

Established in 2019 and Build SMALL projects that increase safety and connect people to places.

- 17 projects 2020 to 2023
 - Arterial Crosswalks
 - Neighborhood Traffic Safety
 - Sidewalk infill project

- Eight Projects in Design for Construction in 2024:
 - Sidewalk Infill
 - Local Street Crossing

Slide 3: Examples from 2020-2023 Neighborhood Street Safety Program.

- Marked crosswalks with a safety island in the middle of the street, where students cross, and school zone crosswalk signs are present.

Slide 4: Neighborhood Street Safety Program – Phase 1 Post Program Evaluation.

- Good geographic coverage:
 - Strict adherence to 2 projects per NA restricted ability to choose highest need projects (points) but did work to find lower income and atypical inputs from school families.
 - Round 2 will not be restricted by NA boundaries, points play a larger role.
 - Adding more points for equity.
- Shift focus to constructing planned walk/bike network.
 - Add more points for network connectivity, completion of route.

Slide 5: Neighborhood Street Safety Program 2025-2030. Phase 2 Criteria.

- Connections:
 - SRTS or SRTP.
 - Infill Pedestrian Master Plan sidewalk.
 - Connect Bend Bikeway Routes and Trails.
- Arterial Crosswalk Enhancement:
 - Difficult crossings of an arterial or collector that cause a barrier to walk or biking for an everyday transportation need, like school, park, or getting to work.
- Local Residential Streets:
 - That are on the Bend Bikeways Network, or have a street recognized by ND as having safety, speed, or volume issues.

Slide 6: 2025 to 2030 Budget.

- \$3,900,000:
 - Planning Level Construction Cost Estimate - \$2,437, 500.
 - Construction Contingency 30% - \$731,250.
 - Design Estimate 30% - \$731,250.

Slide 7: Potential to Increase Equity - Criteria.

- Equity - Transportation Disadvantage: (3 Points >1.6%), (2 Points >1.4%), (1 Point >1.2%), ODOT's Index (includes transit accessibility).
- Equity - 200% or less of FPL: (3 Points >45%), (2 Points 3.51 to 45%), (1 Point 24.7 to 35%), Population percentage living on 200% or less than the federal poverty level.
- Equity - Zero Car Ownership Households: (3 Points >15%), (2 Points >10%), (1 Point 5 to 10%), Population percentage living without a car.
- Equity - Disability: (3 Points >15%), (2 Points 9.9 to 15%), (1 Point 5 to 9.9%), Population percentage living with a disability.

Slide 8: More details on TDI.

This is a clip showing the ODOT formula for calculating Transportation Disadvantaged Index: $TDP \text{ Index} = \frac{Eld + Yth + NH + LEP + Pov + (HH * Veh * 2.5) + Dis}{Population}$.

- Eld = Number of residents over 65.
- Yth = Number of residents under 18.
- NH = Number of residents who identify as non-white or Hispanic.
- LEP = Number of residents that speak English “not well,” or “not at all.”
- Pov = Number of residents with income under 200% of poverty level.
- HH = Average Oregon household size.
- Veh = Number of residents with 0 vehicles.
- Dis = Number of residents with a disability.
- Pop = Total population

Poverty, zero vehicles, and disabilities are baked into the TDI. But using them as separate criteria is also important because they are washed out in the TDI because there are so many other factors. (see map examples).

Slide 9: DTI versus Disabilities, Zero Cars, and Poverty.

- Transportation Disadvantage Index: The areas in the city with the highest TDI are located just west and just east of Pilot Butte.
- Disabilities (the Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization's "Disabilities" mapping): There are more residents with disabilities and span in a SW to NE line concentrations near Reed Market and the Parkway, Colorado Interchange, and Pilot Butte and areas near St. Charles Hospital.
- Zero Car Ownership: Areas are concentrated all around Pilot Butte and extending significantly to the west to the Deschutes River.
- 200% Federal Poverty Level: The highest concentrations of poverty are to the south and southwest of Pilot Butte extending to the Deschutes River and running along Greenwood Avenue, as well as along Purcell Boulevard.

Slide 10: Potential to Reduce VMT / Build Network - Criteria.

- Network Importance:
 - 3 Points: Builds a portion of the LSN or Connects LSN routes.
 - 2 Points: Connects to or extends an LSN or trail route.
 - 1 Point: Closes a sidewalk or bikeway gap or adds a non-LSN crosswalk.
 - How to measure: City's TSP LSN Mapping.
- School or Park:
 - 3 Points: Less than ¼ mile.
 - 2 Points: Within ½ mile.
 - 1 Point: Within 1 mile.
 - How to measure: GIS Mapping.

Slide 11: Potential to Improve Safety - Criteria.

- Crash Reduction:
 - 3 points: Previous K or A Injury crashes.
 - 2 Points: Previous B or C injury crashes.
 - 1 Point: Previous PDO crashes.
 - How to Measure: ODOT Crash Data 2015-2020.

- Crash Reduction - Walk or Bike:
 - 3 Points: Previous K or A Injury crashes (walk or bike).
 - 2 Points: Previous B or C injury crashes (walk or bike).
 - 1 Point: Previous PDO crashes (walk or bike).
 - How to Measure: ODOT Crash Data 2015-2020.
- Speeds:
 - 3 Points: (Arterials: Posted speed >35), (Locals: field >30).
 - 2 Points: (Arterials: Posted speed 35 mph), (Locals: field >25).
 - 1 Point: (Arterials: Posted speed 30 mph), (Locals: field <25).
 - How to Measure: (Arterials: speed zone order - note: if posted 25 = 0 pts), (Locals: existing radar value or field measure by neighborhood).
- Volumes:
 - 3 Points: (Arterials: >9,000 ADT), (Locals: >1500).
 - 2 Points: (Arterials: 5k to 9k ADT), (Locals: 1000 to 1500).
 - 1 Point: (Arterials: <5,000 ADT), (Locals: 500 to 1000).
 - How to Measure: Reports or 15-minute field measures.

Slide 12: Potential to Maximize Projects - Cost Criteria.

- Cost Estimate:
 - 3 Points: Project less than \$100,000.
 - 2 Points: Projects between \$100,000 and \$200,000.
 - 1 Point: Project between \$200,000 and \$300,000.
 - How to Measure: Staff Cost Estimate based on recent bid analyses.

Slide 13: Project Development and Selection.

- Potential Initiated:
 - Pedestrian Master Plan.
 - Crashes (ODOT) database)
 - TSP Low Stress Network.
 - Existing CIP, GO Bond, and Private Development – gaps.
 - Concepts created and screened for constructability.
- Neighborhood District Initiated.
 - Speeding and safety issues within neighborhoods.
 - Concepts created and screened for constructability.
- Projects Evaluated using Evaluation Criteria and Points assigned.

Slide 14: 2025 to 2020 Program Schedule.

- Fall
 - Open House with NA Board Members.
 - Interactive Map.
 - Project Criteria.
 - Initial Project List Review.
- Winter
 - NA Board will review the Initial Project List with members.
 - Solicit approval or identify up to two additional projects that they want the community to consider for inclusion on Round 2 Nssp.
 - Staff create sketch level concepts and cost estimates for any added projects.
 - Internal staff review of concepts.

- Update Interactive Map.
- ND's review projects and community ranking of projects.
- Equity Outreach: Human Rights and Equity Commission and City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Transportation Engineer Lewis asked COBAAC members to send any input about today's presentation to her by April 15, 2024.

7. Group Check-In - COBAAC 2024 Strategic Plan: COBAAC Members. **Timestamp 45:56**

7.1. Improving Transportation and Infrastructure Group.

Due to the holidays this group was not able to meet.

7.2. Creating and Accessible Community Group.

This group is identifying locations and a date for the May Sidewalk Event. Member Bennett received an email from ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation), and COCA (Central Oregon Coalition for Access) representatives, informing her that they have participants ready to be involved in with the Sidewalk Event.

Member Hofbauer is continuing to do outreach for potential Transportation providers for ADA rides to and from Redmond Airport.

7.3. Creating a Culture of Accessibility Within the City of Bend Organization.

Due to the holidays this group was not able to meet.

Accessibility Manager Kehoe would like to meet with each of the subgroup captains, and the group individually, to see how we can support and make sure we stay on the set timeline for 2024. A virtual meeting can be set up.

8. Round Table: COBAAC Members. **Timestamp 50:03**

Chair Burnett: Winter snowfall presents mobility challenges for some of us. He noticed Coyner trail looked plowed. A few hundred yards down the trail, the plow left a huge berm of snow across the trail. The plow tracks led off the trail and onto the street. He believes Bend Parks and Recreation maintain this trail.

Chair Burnett disagrees with the new Bend Works app decision. Saying it is not a Barrier Removal Request issue, it was a code enforcement issue, where it is the responsibility of private citizens or a business. We are not usually talking about what the City of Bend or Bend Parks and Recreation responsibilities for snow removal. This left Chair Burnett frustrated and wondered if he was supposed to file a code enforcement complaint against the city.

Vice Chair Heylin: Had a similar experience and talked with Chief Innovation Officer // Assistant City Manager Betteridge. He mentioned that filing code enforcement issues is a nightmare and hopes there is a future where Code Enforcement and Barrier Removal Request issues paired in the Bend Works app.

Assistant City Manager Betteridge thanked Chair Burnett's feedback on the disappointing Barrier Removal Request response and has made a note to follow up and see what happened.

Snow removal is a code compliance issue. Property owners are responsible for their snow removal. In the case you experienced on the trail was potentially a Parks and Recreation issue.

The Bend Works app is still in the initial stages. They are working with departments to develop integration and co-compliance is a priority.

COBAAC members discussed different issues about snow removal.

Member Hofbauer mentioned a Cascade East Transit Neighborhood Planning Event at Stillwater Crossing Apartments in February. CET has leased land from ODOT to develop a Mobility Hub. And a potential partnership with the school district that will provide access for a safe pull-out for an unsafe bus stop.

Member Sparks: Discovered the **Seattle Airport Sensory Room** during her travel for overwhelmed travelers. There is a meditation and an all-faith prayer room right next to the Sensory Room.

9. Accessibility and Equity Manager Update: Cassandra Kehoe, She/Her/Ella. **Timestamp 1:104:19**

9.1. Set the COBAAC November and December 2024 Meeting Dates.

- Thursday, November 21, 2024, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., Council Chambers.
- Thursday, December 19, 2024, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., Council Chambers.

The dates are fine for now but may change later in the year, as members get closer to their holiday season schedules.

9.2. Accessibility and Equity Manager Kehoe: Accolades.

Manager Kehoe wants to extend a special thank you to Housing, Communications, Executive Leadership & Innovation Teams. Kathi Barguil, Community Relations Manager

- Stephanie Betteridge, Chief Innovation Officer // Assistant City Manager
- Mellissa Kamanya, Affordable Housing Coordinator

Reminding us how much they support accessibility and continually show up for us. Below is an example of Community Relations Manager Barguil, being able to see the overlap and inviting folks to the upcoming Black History Month Proclamation. Being aware of the overlap and the intersectionality of the work that we do with accessibility and all places in the city.

Thank you to those individuals who for always being present and part of this.

Black History Month Proclamation: COBAAC Invitation

Join City Council for the reading of this year's Black History Month proclamation, written with the guidance and feedback from Black community leaders including The Father's Group, Central Oregon Earthseeds and Africans and Friends of Central Oregon.

Date: February 7, 2024, at start of the City Council Meeting

Time: Start of the City Council Meeting (Time TBD)

9.3. Rooftop Bar Letter Update (Written by Member Radon).

At the September 2023, COBAAC meeting, Kayla Woputz gave her community member testimony about her and her family's experience and the impact that had on her and her family, after eating at the newly opened Cascade Lakes Pub and the rooftop deck.

This may be a great case example where we can show the way the city is currently working and then potentially working with businesses as a positive outcome.

Member Radon, who is an architect, drafted a letter regarding the rooftop deck and different recommendations. We are looking into potential feasible alterations with how the city can engage with Member Radon requests. Then how members of COBAAC can review the outcome.

9.4. A Controversial Census Bureau Proposal Could Shrink the U.S. Disability Rate by 40%.

Timestamp 1:11:11

Manager Kehoe played a little piece of audio about this subject.

10. COBAAC Council Liaison Update: Councilor Barb Campbell, She/Her/Hers. **Timestamp 1:19:11**

Information shared/expressed by COBAAC Council Liaison Campbell:

- Disability and counting the census correctly is important. That is how the Federal Government, or the State, decides how and where funding is allocated.
- The City has issues with berms when it snows.
- The City Council seen the plans for Hawthorne Station last week. And this can be transformational for that neighborhood and those mobility hubs moving forward.
- Glad to see the Neighborhood Street Safety Program is moving along. She believes this is one of the most successful and popular programs put together.

11. Agenda Setting: COBAAC Members. **Timestamp 1:27:30**

For a future agenda item, Chair Burnett and Accessibility Manager Kehoe will discuss adding Snow Removal Policy and who should be involved.

Members can also email Manager Kehoe their future agenda ideas.

12. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 22, 2024, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

13. Adjourned: With no further COBAAC business, Chair Burnett adjourned the January 25, 2024, City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee hybrid meeting at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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 Manager Cassandra Kehoe at ckehoe@bendoregon.gov or call 541-693-2141. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.

Para solicitar copias en español de los documentos en esta página web o en un formato alternativo como Braille, letra grande, formatos electrónicos, etc.:

Por favor contacte al Director de Equidad e Inclusión, Andrés Portela aportela@bendoregon.gov o llame al 541-323-8563. Los usuarios de retransmisión marquen el 7-1-1.