



# Minutes

## City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee CITY OF BEND July 25, 2024

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

### 1. Roll Call: Committee Members.

#### Members through Zoom (6):

- Aaron Rivers, He/Him
- Derek Hofbauer, He/Him (1:30 p.m.)
- Kori Sparks, She/Her
- Liz Diether-Matin, She/Her
- Liz Woodfin, She/Her
- Whitney Bennett, She/Her

#### Members in Chambers (3):

- Chair, Carl Burnett
- Vice-Chair John Heylin, He/Him
- Amanda Hamer, She/Her

#### Members Absences Excused (2):

- Nicholas Radon, He/Him/His
- Stephanie Utzman, She/Her

#### City Staff:

- Cassandra Kehoe, She/Her/Ella, Accessibility & Equity Manager / COBAAC Staff Liaison (*Chambers*)
- Andrés Portela, He/Him/El, Equity & Inclusion Director (*Chambers*)
- Eric King, He/Him, City Manager. COBAAC is a **City Manager Advisory Group. City Code 1.20.015(I)**
- Barb Campbell, She/Her/Hers, Councilor / COBAAC Council Liaison (*Chambers*)
- Mellissa Kamanya, She, Her, Affordable Housing Coordinator (*Zoom*)
- Katherina Barguil, She/They, Community Relations Manager (*Zoom*)
- Susanna Julber, Transportation Planner (*Zoom Attendee*)
- Lisa Larsen, She/Her, Administrative Support Staff (*Chambers*)

### 2. Land Acknowledgement: Read by COBAAC Vice Chair Heylin. **Timestamp 5:04**

#### *City of Bend Land Acknowledgement:*

We would like to acknowledge that the beautiful land, known as Bend, Oregon, north to 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. Minutes: Approve June 27, 2024, Draft Minutes. **Timestamp 5:48**

The June 27, 2024, Draft Minutes are table until September 26, 2024, City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee (COBAAC) meeting.

### 4. Snow Removal and Community Education: **Timestamp 6:02**

Accessibility and Equity Manager // COBAAC Staff Liaison Kehoe explained the snow removal process.

**Slide:** Addressing Snow Removal.

- I. COBAAC Visioning: Input.
- II. City Staff + Communications Team: Distribute brochures or one pager(s).
- III. Fall 2024: Awareness Campaign. Based on four previous snow removal one pagers.

**Slide:** First one pager: Snow Removal Guidelines for Residential Neighbors.

**Slide:** Second one pager: Snow Removal Guidelines for Business Corridors.

**Slide:** Third one pager: Snow Removal Guidelines for Business - Shopping Complexes.

**Slide:** Fourth one pager: Snow Removal Guidelines for Apartment / Hotels / Motels.

The one pager(s) need updated to the City guidelines with Communications, streamlined, making them clear, easy, and accessible.

#### **COBAAC Input:**

- **Chair Burnett: Addresses the business.**
  - The sidewalk, part A, next to the street, does not normally get fixed. How do we educate businesses on this being their responsibility?
  - Talks about sidewalks inside and outside of their immediate development.
- **Vice Chair Haylin:**
  - City snowplow color coding.
  - How do we create and follow best practices, specifically when readability is a concern.
- **Member Hamer:**
  - How is this information shared? Currently, this sits on our website and is often shared however on social media, and people must come to us. We are not proactive about this.
  - How do we get proactive?
- **Vice Chair Heylin:**
  - Could we share this with business registrations?
- **Member Rivers:**
  - The City of Bend Priority map for plowing needs to be included in this snow removal map.
  - Snowplows get snow on sidewalks, and it dissuades the community.
- **City Manager King:**
  - There is a **Winter Operations map** showing roads serviced in the last 24 hours. Connectors and for arterials.

- **Vice Chair Heylin:**
  - **Can that be put on the Bend Works App.**
- **Liz Diether-Martin:**
  - Simplifying shopping and complexes.
    - Take off tiny text & remove the duplicated lettered information.
  - **Whitney Bennet:**
    - Where are the on pagers online? Reply: **Winter Street Operations** webpage, under ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: *Winter Tips* > under SHOVELING DRIVEWAYS & SIDEWALKS: *Snow removal guides and helpful tips* > (on the Sidewalk and Ice Removal webpage), under SNOW REMOVAL GUIDELINES.
      - Make it easier to find?
    - How do make them easier to access?
- **Vice Chair Heylin:**
  - Think about storm drain adoption idea, retooling business aware program to have a venue to have folks who cannot clear their sidewalk to have a volunteer.
  - Recognizing community members who help, now maybe we can retool the award.
- **Chair Burnett:**
  - We can recognize individuals and businesses.
  - There is no formal program for submitting a request for help from someone. That would be nice, and a city vehicle could be dispatched to neighborhoods.
- **Member Bennett:**
  - The whole idea: Snow Angel Program – Help out – Was a part of Safe Routes to Schools. Does this still exist?
  - How do we disseminate this information?
- **City Manager King:**
  - There was a good Samaritan program. It was a pandemic partnership. Neighborhood associations were supposed to continue that work, but they haven't.
- **Vice Chair Heylin:**
  - Wants to have this laminated and shared and asks businesses to display it for the community.
  - It also has posting and responsibility.
- **Member Hamer:**
  - How do we bring City of Bend Business Advocate, Cyrus Mooney, on board?
    - Starting In fall throughout winter.
  - PSA in the source – Recognizing your neighbors/ and snow removal.
- **Chair Burnett:** Likes the idea of advertising and social media.
- **Member Bennett:**
  - There are a lot of channels to get to business.
  - How do we get to renters/homeowners?

- Facebook/Instagram will not hit everyone/ individuals.
  - Radio, Print Advertisements & Mailers.
- Neighborhood association welcoming packet.
- **Member Hamer:**
  - Relationship with **Backyard Bend** and **Nextdoor**
- **City Manager King:**
  - Potentially working with the Communication team.
  - Encouraging the Good Samaritan program.
- **Chair Heylin:**
  - Wants to give out golden shovels.
- **COBAAC Council Liaison Campbell:**
  - She talked about a block party.
  - Thoughts on if there are any materials that we can add to the trailer.
  - Talked about blowing it up.
  - We talked about helpful information being shared in the trailers so that anyone who has an idea could be shared.
- **Member Woodfin:**
  - 211 info – service that supports Oregon and Washington.
  - Database of support and resources.

## 5. COBAAC Strategic Plan Subgroup Updates: **Timestamp 35:34**

### a. **Improving Transportation and Infrastructure Group.**

- Met and the discuss around next steps.
- Agreed that one of the prongs around Accessibility compliance.

Licensing Division: City to do their due diligence around licensed taxicab operators. Taxicab operators must comply with the ADA.

- Use the existing CET (Central East Transit) Dial-A-Ride platform of current eligible participants and mimic its reservation model. to give trips to the airport.
  - If there were ADA accessible shuttles available.
  - Use CET connection with all the shuttle companies. Broker trips to the airport on behalf of CET.
  - Pilot program using CET call centers to make reservations.
  - Simple for currently registered riders because CET already has their information of file.
- Other transportation services connection.
  - Potential connection to Redmond airport.
- Code Enforcement appearance in COBAAC – Accessible OnDemand transportation.
  - Want to know about they are vehicle operating.

Other Ideas for this group:

- Connecting directly with other transportation services.
- Connecting with the Redmond airport.
- Inviting Code Enforcement to discuss accessible on demand transportation.

**b. Creating an Accessibility Community Group.**

- Leadership Bend Accessibility Website (ADA and Accessibility Resources For Central Oregon Business) - Making it printable/downloadable.
- BBQ.
  - Plans are up in the air: Possibly September 19<sup>th</sup>, 4 to 7 PM. (Will not work, it interferes with Welcoming Week.
  - Potential connection with Welcoming Week.

**c. Creating a Culture of Accessibility within the City of Bend.**

- I evaluated the relationship with Trauma Informed Oregon – There wasn't anything nailed down, but there will be a connection to the Right to Be.
- Equity Department will work with COBAAC, Trauma Informed Oregon, and Right to Be for a potential lunch and learn.

**6. COBAAC Roundtable. Timestamp 55:46**

- Member Hofbauer:
  - CET (Central East Transit) free transit ride day to trails tomorrow, Mount Bachelor shuttle.
  - 09/12/2024, Joint Transportation stops in Bend. Public testimony 5-7 p.m.
- Member Woodfin:
  - Attended an orientation for WeX.
    - POC (Person of Color) led and focused on voter outreach.
    - Potential connection to DEI commitment with the City.
- Member Diether-Martin: Creating a Snow removal for ADA Accessibility social media account?
  - Social Media presence.
  - Community social media account.
  - Hope to create community partners in that space.
- Member Hamer (Snow Removal):
  - Diversability Network – Connecting people to resources for snow removal.
- Member Hofbauer (Snow Removal):
  - Central Oregon Disability Network (CODSN) could be a starting point.
  - Posting things through other networks.
  - How ca a subcommittee sure up this project?
- Chair Burnett:
  - London was the most accessible fleet of taxi cabs in the world. All taxi cabs are accessible and have ramps. Nothing electrical that break down. Drivers are well trained with mobility devices and required to purchase the same vehicle.

7. **Accessibility Manager Update:** Cassandra Kehoe, She/Her/Ella. **Timestamp 1:07:05**

a. **Bend Chambers Leadership Bend Class of 2024 Projects:**

With the help of the City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee (COBAAC) and thank you to Jacob Riggle, User and Experience Designer, in the Communications Department, they were able to create the City of Bend **ADA and Accessibility Resources For Central Oregon Business** webpage.

b. Happy Disability Pride Month (Flag meaning):

**Five diagonal stripes of distinct colors rest on a black background:**



The charcoal gray background commemorates and mourns disabled people who have died due to ableism, violence, negligence, suicide, rebellion, illness and eugenics. The gray background also represents rage and protest against the mistreatment of the disabled community.

The diagonal band is for "cutting across" the walls and barriers that separate disabled people from society. It also represents the light and creativity of the disability community that cuts through the darkness of ableism.

- Red represents physical disabilities.
- Yellow represents neurodivergence.
- White represents invisible and undiagnosed disabilities.
- Blue represents emotional and psychiatric disabilities.
- Green represents sensory disabilities.

c. **Statement from the National Disability Rights Network about The Economist's Ableist Cover.**

Manager Kehoe shared a statement from the National Disability Rights Network:

Ablism:

"A legacy media institution as respected as The Economist should not be normalizing ableism. By equating mobility aids with inability, they are sending the message that people with disabilities aren't capable of holding public office.

It is time to recognize that a truly inclusive society values and supports the contributions of all its members. It is time to discard outdated stereotypes and celebrate the strength and resilience that people with disabilities bring to our communities and our country. Only then can we ensure that no potential leader is ever held back by prejudice and ignorance."

d. Gratitude for COBAAC Members and the work ahead.

Thank you COBAAC for the work you do, the accessibility you ensure within our community. Manager Kehoe shared her gratitude for the members and the work they do as we are in an important month for accessibility.

**8. Agenda Setting: Timestamp 1:21:09**

- Vice-Chair Heylin: Schedule a meeting with Manager Kehoe about the BBQ event.
- Suggestion for end of meeting: Summarize the meeting.
  - List of action items.
- 5 minutes to review action items.

**9. Council Liaison Update: Councilor Barb Campbell, She/Her/Hers. Timestamp 1:24:10**

Council Liaison appreciates Cascades East Transit (CET) being involved with transportation to the Redmond airport, but it is entirely separate from our cab companies obeying the law.

**10. Stipend Update: Lisa Larsen (She/Her), Administrative Support Staff, Accessibility & Equity.**

Members must serve as volunteers and are not employees of the City. Payments will be made at a flat rate of \$40 per meeting, not to exceed \$500 per calendar year. Advisory body members who opt in to this program have three options to receive payment, via visa debit card, mailed check, or direct deposit/Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT). Members may opt out of receiving a stipend payment.

Two new forms of Stipend payments:

- Existing form of payment: Visa debit cards. You do not need to fill out or renew any forms.
- New form of payment: Participants wishing to receive a check by mail must fill out a **W-9 form**.
- New form of payment: Participants wishing to receive direct deposit must complete a **W-9 form**, an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) form and submit a **voided check** or **counter check**.

**11. Our next COBAAC meeting will be Thursday, September 26, 2024, from 1:00 to 2:30 PM**

**12. Adjournment:** With no further Business, Chair Burnett adjourned the July 25, 2024, City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee hybrid meeting at 2:30 p.m. Which Unanimously passed by all voting members who attended today's meeting, in person (3) and through Zoom (6).

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Larsen, she/her,  
Administration Support Specialist, Accessibility & Equity Program



**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](mailto:ckehoe@bendoregon.gov) or call 541-693-2141. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.