



MEETING MINUTES

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee

Location: City Hall – Council Chambers
710 NW Wall Street
Bend, OR 97703

Date: June 25, 2026

Start Time: 1:00 p.m.

Facilitator: John Heylin, Chair

COBAAC June Livestream Recording

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee (COBAAC)

1. **Call to order** at 1:02 p.m.
 - 1) John Heylin, Chair, Chambers
 - 2) Amanda Hamer, Vice Chair, Zoom
 - 3) Aaron Rivers, Zoom
 - 4) Andrew Caruana – Last meeting, Zoom
 - 5) Carl Burnett, Absent
 - 6) Ian Isaacson, Absent
 - 7) Liz Diether-Martin, Absent
 - 8) Liz Woodfin, Zoom
 - 9) Stephanie Utzman, Zoom
 - 10) Meg Doan, Zoom
 - 11) Jordan Ohlde, Chambers
 - 12) Robert Townsend (ex officio status pending)

City of Bend Staff in attendance:

- Cassandra Kehoe, She/Her/Ella, Accessibility & Equity Manager / COBAAC Staff Liaison. (Zoom)
- Ariel Méndez, He/Him, City Councilor & COBAAC Liaison (Chambers)
- Derek Hofbauer, He/Him, Mobility Programs Manager (Chambers)
- Susanna Julber, Transportation Planner (Chambers)
- Lisa Larsen, She/Her, Administrative Support Specialist (Chambers)



2. **Minutes**, Approval of May 28, 2026, Draft Minutes

Timestamp 4:21

May 28, 2026, meeting minutes approved unanimously with no corrections:
The vote passed 8-0.

3. **Public Comment:** No public comment.

4. **Welcome to New COBAAC Members**, Introductions

Timestamp 5:15

- **Jordan Ohlde** is a lifelong resident of Bend wanting to share his expertise as a person living in a wheelchair. Jordan is the current chair of the Central Oregon Coalition for Access and is also a member of High Desert Self Advocacy.
- **Meg Doan** is a physical therapist, living in Bend since 2020. She currently works in the world of mobility for a medical equipment supplier. Meg supports individuals in our community to find accessible solutions and mobility equipment that meets their physical limitations. Additionally, Meg is faculty at the Oregon State University Cascade Campus in Bend.

5. **Growth Plan Joint Committee Working Group**, Susanna Julber, Transportation Planner

Timestamp 8:29

Susanna Julber (Transportation Planner) is here to talk about possible COBAAC volunteers for the Bend Growth Plan, Joint Committee working group.

- Will advise city staff on policy related topics related to the Growth Plan (Bend's long range land use plan, to the year 2025)
- Working Group one piece of the Bend Growth Plan Engagement strategy
- Will meet roughly five times between August/September 2026 and June 2027
- Additional meeting in FY27-29
- City Manager will select Working Group members
- Looking for 2-3 COBAAC member to apply, 1-2 will be selected to Working Group

6. **COBAAC 2026 Walk and Roll Planning:** Whitney Bennett, Transportation Planner

Timestamp 15:25

Whitney Bennett (Transportation Planner) is here to discuss the 2026 COBAAC Walk + Roll Event.

After COBAAC's discussion, agreed upon that COBAAC will morph the regularly scheduled COBAAC meeting on September 24, 2026, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. to a shortened meeting from 3:00-3:30 p.m., with the Walk + Roll Event immediately following to encourage participation and public comment. Attendees will walk and roll from City Hall on a route to be announced, with a debriefing held at the end of the route. Contact



Accessibility Manager Kehoe (ckehoe@bendoregon.gov) with a list of community members and organizations that COBAAC would like to invite.

Townsend (ex officio) is happy to provide Ride + Walk +Roll event to save time and coordination. Townsend asks that we contact him three weeks in advance with the number of wheelchair riders, so he needs how many buses to reserve.

7. **COBAAC Charter Update**, COBAAC Members

Timestamp 41:07

Last opportunity to weigh in on the Charter update:

Highlighted mention: "51 percent of members be people experiencing disabilities." In the COBAAC 2026-2027 Workplan mentions the availability of the ID community being present and represented at COBAAC.

Discussion:

- Vice Chair Hamer: Mixed feelings, it is hard to include every disability, inclusivity including intellectual and mental health. Not sure if it needs to be specified, it may set us up to fail. It is hard to meet this goal as it stands.
- Liz Woodfin: Skeptical of how this looks on an application and requesting people to disclose their disability. (Manager Kehoe: This is not something we would require on an application.)
- Ohlde: A lot of people do not like to disclose their disability because of feeling less than.
- Caruana: Having robust language is important, not a requirement. Important as an aspirational goal for documentation awareness that it is a responsibility that committee and group take it seriously to assure efforts that balance if reflected.
- Chair Heylin: Adding definitions may alienate people.
- Manager Kehoe: Invisible vs visible disability?
 - "51 percent of members be people experiencing disabilities, both seen and unseen."
 - Manager Kehoe suggested further input for language

8. **COBAAC Draft Letter Review**, John Heylin

Timestamp 55:15

COBAAC discussed the following letters:

- Golden Shovel Award Letter
 - Golden Shovel Award Letter approved unanimously with no corrections: The vote passed 8-0.



- COBAAC August Draft Letter(s) review:
 - Veo E-Bikes: Talked about randomly parked e-bikes parked in paths: There were some COBAAC member edits that will be emailed to Manager Kehoe. Chair Heylin and be discussed at the August 27, COBAAC meeting.
 - CET: Is tabled to focus on the Veo-E-Bikes

9. **Round Table**, COBAAC Members

Timestamp 1:08:59 to 1:12:09

10. **Accessibility and Equity Manager Updates**, Cassandra Kehoe, She, Her, Ella

Timestamp 1:12:23

- TSAP: Transportation Safety Action Plan.
 - Existing Conditions Summary:
https://hdp-us-prod-app-za-zanengages-files.s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/1417/8362/3237/TSAP_TM3_Exec_Summary_FINAL.pdf
 - Public Engagement Summary:
https://hdp-us-prod-app-za-zanengages-files.s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/4217/8276/9670/Phase1EngagementSummary_BendTSAP_930_FINAL.pdf
- DOJ Memo Review
- Regional Surveys: **QR Code timestamp 1:18:17**
- 2026 City of Bend Lunch + Learn Review of Equity + The 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup. Accessibility concerns related to ticketing, access, transportation, and infrastructure during the World Cup.
- Thank you, Andrew Caruana! Gratitude for being part of the magnificent work of COBAAC at the City of Bend.

11. **City Council Update**, Ariel Méndez, He, Him, City Councilor

Timestamp 1:24:06

- Citations started being issued from automated speed cameras. In 18 days, there were nine hundred citations which were added to around fifty citations a day.
- Council approved the Supplemental Budget and other fiscal year requirements

12. **Adjourn**, with no further COBAAC business, the meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Larsen, she/her, Administrative Support Specialist, Equity, Inclusion + Accessibility Team

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