



MEETING MINUTES

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee

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

Date: August 27, 2026

Start Time: 1:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Vice Chair Amanda Hamer

COBAAC August Recording

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee (COBAAC)

1. **Meeting called to order at 1:05 p.m.,** Amanda Hamer, Vice Chair

- 1) John Heylin, Chair, Zoom
- 2) Amanda Hamer, Vice Chair, Chambers
- 3) Aaron Rivers, Zoom
- 4) Carl Burnett, Zoom
- 5) Ian Isaacson, Absent
- 6) Jordan Ohlde, Chambers
- 7) Liz Diether-Martin, Zoom
- 8) Liz Woodfin, Chambers
- 9) Meg Doan, Chambers
- 10) Stephanie Utzman, Zoom

City of Bend Staff in Attendance

- Cassandra Kehoe, She/Her/Ella, Equity & Inclusion Manager + ADA Coordinator, Staff Liaison. (Zoom)
- Ariel Méndez, He/Him, City Councilor & COBAAC Liaison (Absent)
- Janet Hruby, Assistant City Engineer (Chambers)
- BreAnne Gale Senior Planner (Chambers)
- Susanna Julber, Transportation Planner (Chambers)
- Cate Schneider, Executive Policy Officer (Chambers)
- Kerani Mitchell, Community Engagement Manager, (Chambers)



- Mellissa Kamanya, She/Her/Hers, Community Partnership Specialist + HREC Staff Liaison, (Chambers)
- Derek Hofbauer, He/Him, Transportation & Mobility Programs Manager (Chambers)
- Whitney Bennett, Transportation Planner, Transportation and Mobility (Chambers)
- Lisa Larsen, She/Her, Administrative Support Specialist, (Chambers)

2. **Minutes**, Approval of June 25, 2026, Draft Minutes

Timestamp 4:25

June 25, 2026, meeting minutes approved unanimously with no corrections:
The voice vote passed: 9-0.

3. **Public Comment**

Timestamp 5:11

Kim Curley is a consultant in Bend and is a volunteer caregiver for a person who is in a power wheelchair. They recently went on an outing and encountered an ADA parking issue in a private parking lot.

4. **Transportation Standards and Neighborhood Connections Project Input**

Opportunities, Janet Hruby, Assistant City Engineer, Transportation and Mobility

Timestamp 9:11

Hruby (Assistant City Engineer) is here to share two projects that they are working on.

- 2027 Engineering Standards Input: Want to connect with COBAAC to get additional input on how to develop city street standards. And looking to create different contexts that would create some requirements for building different traffic calming and different features for walking, biking, how streets are used, and driving features.

Public Open House, Thursday, September 17: In person: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Larkspur Community Center, Community Room, 1600 SE Reed Market Road. Can't make it in person: **Online Open House available from September 17 to October 1.**

General Standards Input: What streets work well, and what streets do not work well? What should we consider as we are doing this work?

Hruby is looking for two COBAAC members to volunteer on the Transportation Mobility Advisory Committee and two public members.

- Neighborhood Connections Project: Collective of city-wide smaller scale projects focused on: Better connections and slower, safer streets.

5. **Bend Made**, City of Bend Growth Management Division: BreAnne Gale Senior Planner, and Susanna Julber, Transportation Planner

**Timestamp 20:54 to 40:58**

Gale (Senior Planner) said they are here to talk about the Bend Made plan. It is an update to the City's comprehensive plan, looking at the next twenty years of growth for the City of Bend and updating our community vision. The last adoption product will end in 2029. The planning horizon will go from 2029 through 2049.

Part of their comprehensive plan they are doing an extensive public engagement process to ensure that the public is involved throughout the entire project, with a more formal kick off in September.

This will be an equity focused planning process and more integrated than in past years. In the past we looked at one topic at a time where look at Housing, Economic, and Transportation needs separately. This process will bring those all together.

6. City Recruitment Update, Cate Schneider, Executive Policy Officer**Timestamp 41:29**

New Leadership Hired:

- Cassandra Kehoe: Equity and Inclusion Manager will be in the City Manager's office, and her team will structurally be joining the policy team. Kehoe will continue to be the designated ADA Coordinator and be involved with COBAAC for the foreseeable future.
- Kerani Mitchell: Community Engagement Manager will be part of the Communication and Engagement Team.
- Mellissa Kamanya: Community Partnerships Specialist and HREC Liaison will be part of the Communication and Engagement Team.

7. COBAAC 2026 Walk and Roll Planning, Derek Hofbauer, Transportation and Mobility Manager and Whitney Bennett, Transportation Planner, Transportation and Mobility Department**Timestamp 48:20**

When: September 24, 2026, from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Where: Bend City Hall Council Chambers

Tentative Schedule:

3:00 to 3:30 p.m. COBAAC Listening Session

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. Walk + Roll Tour

4:45 to 5:30 p.m. Debrief at Sliver Moon

This is the tentative schedule; the tour will consist of two to three destinations and then meet at the Silver Moon food truck area to debrief.

The Mobility Team will create flyers and a map for COBAAC members to share. They will bring the 3D model at the beginning of the meeting and to each intersection of the route. No RSVP is needed. Please invite people, groups, and organizations.



8. **COBAAC Discussion: Dial-A-Ride Sunday Service**, Liz Woodfin, COBAAC
Timestamp 105:22

Woodfin (COBAAC Member) reported receiving a phone call from a support provider regarding Cascade East Transit (CET) discontinuing its Dial-A-Ride Sunday service, effective September 6, 2026.

Woodfin shared information from a support provider who works with many Dial-A-Ride users. Clients typically receive Medicaid-funded transportation resources, which must cover a variety of transportation expenses.

Woodfin noted that the service reduction was reportedly due to insufficient funding to support Sunday operations. Questions were raised regarding why Sunday service was selected for elimination receiving advance notice.

Hamer (Vice Chair) asked whether COBAAC could invite CET representatives to a future meeting to discuss the service reduction or consider drafting a letter expressing the committee's concerns.

Kehoe (Equity & Inclusion Manager) suggested that Hofbauer (Mobility Manager) may be able to provide additional context regarding communication between King (City Manager) and CET. Kehoe recommended providing the City Manager with committee questions in advance to allow sufficient time for gathering information and preparing responses. Kehoe also noted that, given the timing of the next meeting scheduled for August 31, 2026, there would not be adequate time for COBAAC to draft and publish a formal committee letter beforehand.

Questions to be submitted to City Manager Eric King ahead of scheduled CET check-in meeting.

9. **COBAAC Draft Letter Review Veo Bike Share**, John Heylin
Timestamp 1:19:29

Due to time constraints, COBAAC leadership advanced the agenda and the Veo draft letter timeline:

October COBAAC Meeting:

- Transportation Mobility Team will present on Veo statistics + response times
- Representatives for Veo will join COBAAC for questions/input
- Letter to be edited after presentation

10. **Round Table**, COBAAC Members

Nothing was shared, given time constraints.



11. **Accessibility and Equity Manager Update**, Cassandra Kehoe, She, Her, Ella.
Timestamp 1:21:25

- You're Invited: Welcoming Week: September 10-19, 2026, Mellissa Kamanya:
 - Opportunities to connect, learn, and celebrate the people and cultures that make Bend a great place to live! (Calendar of events on the City's website)
 - 2026-2026 COBAAC Elections: Accepting nominations and vote for Chair and Vice Chair – Nominations and Elections to take place during October meeting
 - *Olmstead* Memo: August Update
 - Deschutes County - Volunteer Opportunity: AFN (Access and Functional Needs) Call for volunteers.

12. **Adjourn**, with no further COBAAC business, the meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Larsen, she/her, Administrative Support Specialist, Accessibility Program



Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities & Language Assistance Services

You can obtain this information in alternate formats such as Braille, electronic format, etc. Free language assistance services are also available. Please email accessibility@bendoregon.gov or call **541-693-2198**. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1. All requests are subject to vendor processing times and should be submitted 48-72 hours in advance of events.

Servicios de asistencia lingüística e información sobre alojamiento para personas con discapacidad

Puede obtener esta información en formatos alternativos como Braille, formato electrónico, etc. También disponemos de servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Póngase en contacto en correo electrónico accessibility@bendoregon.gov o número de teléfono **541-693-2198**. Los usuarios del servicio de retransmisión deben marcar el 7-1-1. Por favor, envíe sus solicitudes con 48-72 horas de antelación al evento; todas las solicitudes están sujetas a los tiempos de procesamiento del proveedor.