

**Concordia Neighborhood Association  
Land Use & Transportation Committee (LUTC) Meeting**

August 16, 2017, 7 to 9pm

McMenamins Kennedy School, Community Room

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Tyler Bullen (Vice Chair, CNA Board – E1), Steve Elder (CNA Board – E2), Jay Fesler

**Members Absent:** Ben Earle (Secretary), Sam Farber-Kaiser, Jeff Hilber, Ali Novak (CNA Board – AL4), Kirk Paulsen, Spencer Parsons (volunteer legal advisor), Garlynn Woodsong (Chair, CNA Board – SW1)

**Also Present:** Susan Millhauser (Contract Recording Secretary), James Mayer, Deah Partak, Kris Balliet

**Welcome & Introductions, Quorum Check, Member Attendance Check, Agenda Review**

Tyler welcomed everyone, opened the meeting, established quorum, and reviewed the agenda.

Tyler shared that Jeff Hilber had resigned, via email, from the LUTC. This means there is now an opening on the committee and he encouraged anyone interested to email him and Garlynn. Kris shared she is interested in being on the LUTC and Tyler suggested she attend again next month plus agreed to follow up with her by email.

**Public Comments**

Kris, James, and Deah shared that they are some of the neighbors who attended last month's LUTC meeting with concerns about speeding and safety on NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave. north of Ainsworth. Deah drafted a letter on the neighbors' behalf and sent it to Tyler. Tyler will share it with the rest of the LUTC and they may have some editorial suggestions. Deah provided an overview of the issues as well as some of the potential solutions brainstormed during the July meeting. The main issues are speeding on and safety crossing NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave., especially at Rosa Parks on the way to and from Faubion School. Tyler asked for any preferences in terms of the menu of options included in the letter, which would be sent to PBOT and perhaps Commissioner Saltzman. Discussion followed:

- A stop sign on NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave at Rosa Parks seems like it could be a low cost and effective solution.
- James recently did a lot of reading about speed bumps and wondered if they might make the situation worse in terms of noise and shaking as a lot of trucks use NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave.
- Deah wondered if the posted school zone signage could be changed to require lower speed limit during specific hours, such as 8am to 5pm rather than "when children are present" as the current signs read.
- Kris noted that visibility of the crosswalk at Rosa Parks is poor due to the hill when coming from the north. It needs to be overhauled and made more visible; NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave is really wide at this point.
- Perhaps a flashing "Your Speed is \_\_\_mph" sign would be a deterrent that could be implemented for not too much money. Sometimes people mistake these signs for radar, which can help to slow them down.
- Regarding bike lanes, since this is a designated emergency vehicle route it may not be safe to add bike lanes since people tend to not look when they pull over for an emergency vehicle to pass. However, bike lanes certainly would make it a safer connection to NE 33<sup>rd</sup> north of Lombard and Columbia Blvd. Big trucks also have a hard time seeing cyclists. Another issue with bike lanes is that some people could lose on-street parking,

Tyler summarized next steps:

- To go through final revisions of the letter and maybe rank some of the options listed. PBOT prefers easy and cheap fixes. Tyler agreed to share the draft letter with the rest of the LUTC so they could provide feedback by email and then he would coordinate with Deah.
- Jay wondered if PPS or the City might be able to provide a copy of the traffic study completed as part of the Faubion remodel to see if it addresses crossing NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

- The final draft letter would be presented to the CNA Board at the 9/6 meeting for review and approval.

**MOTION** (Steve/Jay) – To approve final edits to Deah’s letter to the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) regarding speeding on NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave north of Ainsworth St., subject to review by the Board.  
**APPROVED** (3 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain)

## **LUTC Operations**

Minutes – The draft July minutes were sent out via email prior to the meeting.

**MOTION** (Steve/Tyler) – To approve the agenda and July 19, 2017 minutes as drafted. **APPROVED** (3 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain)

## **Demolitions, Developments, & Land Use Notices**

Concordia Neighborhood Design Initiative Team Update (CNDI)

Jay gave an update. He has an article coming out in the September CNews, which would serve as a teaser for public comment on the CNDI. He gave an overview of how the LUTC got started on this project. Several committee members became interested in design guidelines after working to get the developer of the Bighouse project at NE 30<sup>th</sup> and Killingsworth to make changes to the proposed design. In particular there were concerns that plans for the ground floor had the minimal amount of commercial use required for a mixed-use zone. The LUTC wanted more active uses on the ground floor, such as retail, rather than blacked out windows and mechanical equipment facing NE 30<sup>th</sup>. They realized the design process was too far advanced to make a difference, so set out to develop neighborhood design guidelines inspired by work done for Division Street and in the Boise neighborhood. The CNDI guide would address commercial, multifamily, and single family residential development and would be voluntary guidelines.

Jay shared they hoped to get the draft guidelines document to the Board by the end of the year. They first want to get public input. A recent idea was to get people to post photos of development that they like to the CNA Facebook page. Tyler suggested also posting a link to this on NextDoor. Jay asked for additional ideas to get more public involvement. The final document would include color images, modeled after Boise Neighborhood Association’s (NA) guidelines, and recommendations. Developers are the target audience for the CNDI guide. When a property sale occurs the guide could be in a packet to the developer with notation that if you follow this guide your project is more likely to get NA support. Steve observed that some cities have mandatory neighborhood review. The CNDI team will meet again in September.

## **Land Use Oversight and Policies**

Homeless Villages: Further Discussion of Possibility of Concordia Hosting a Village

Tyler summarized the discussion from last month’s meeting, noting Garlynn brought the topic to the LUTC to explore and discuss. There is a two-acre parcel at NE Lombard and NE 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave. that is in public ownership. The LUTC further discussed:

- Jay observed the site at 42<sup>nd</sup> and Lombard is underutilized.
- Steve mentioned an article on the topic in yesterday’s (8/15) Portland Tribune. There are not a lot of neighbors near Dignity Village and Hazelnut Grove, two existing tiny home villages for houseless people.
- The site at Lombard and 42<sup>nd</sup> does have quite a few neighbors in the vicinity and new development planned across the street on the site that had the old motel.
- If the CNA supports without getting input from neighbors that could be an issue.
- How would we go about eliciting feedback from the community?

- If it were a village of tiny houses that were well designed and built, similar to the Kenton women’s village that could make sense; but if it’s a collection of tents and ramshackle structures that would be not so desirable.
- It was suggested it would have to be an officially sanctioned village, with communal bathroom, cooking facilities, etc.
- Tyler agreed to check out what NECN had proposed related to this topic.

**Transportation**

1. Street Safety: Highway 30 – CNA letter to Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

- Sam had drafted a letter to ODOT but it has not been sent yet.
- Improvements for cyclists have already been made.
- Tyler suggested he was not in favor of pushing an agenda that would not go through. For example, ODOT has no interest in a road diet for Highway 30.

2. Street Safety: NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave. – see discussion above under Public Comment.

3. Speed Limit Changes: Ainsworth, etc.

Folks agreed the change to 25mph on the stretch of Ainsworth between MLK Jr. Blvd and NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave. made sense. Now it is 25mph for its entire stretch.

4. Parking: Plan for September General Meeting

Tyler agreed to check in with Garlynn about the speakers.

**LUTC Operations**

CNews Land Use Articles – Review and update article schedule

No one present volunteered to write a feature article for the October CNews. They wondered if Ali was planning to write one? It is due on 9/10 for October’s edition.

Author	Issue	Due	Topic
	October	9/10	
	November	10/10	
	December	11/10	

**Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.