

## **Portland Streetcar Eastside Steering Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 10, 2004, 825 NE Multnomah, Second Floor Conference Room, 2:00pm**

***Members in Attendance: Hank Ashforth, Mike Bolliger, Dick Cooley, Wayne Kingsley, Susan Lindsay, Tom Markgraf, Rick Parker, Michael Powell, Susan Pearce***

***Others: Chris Smith, Joe Angel, Lee Perlman***

***Staff Attendance: Kay Dannen, Vicky Diede, Peter Finley Fry, Rick Gustafson, Alan Lehto, Denyse McGriff, Ross Roberts, Dave Unsworth,***

### **1. Meeting called to order:**

Hank Ashforth called the meeting to order. The minutes were approved as presented. Vicky Diede presented a power point presentation:

The Portland Experience – Value Capture and Development Oriented Streetcars “connecting Portland neighborhoods”

Slide show was presented with an opportunity for the Eastside Streetcar Steering group members to offer suggestions on how the Streetcar presentation could be improved and/or new portions added. This is the first showing with the intent to take to neighborhood/business groups and others who might have an interest in the Eastside Streetcar Project. The theme would be to demonstrate how Streetcar revives a tradition of when the entire City was connected by Streetcars. Also a demonstration of how fixed rail encourages development, which in turn provides a revenue base to the City. Current redevelopment that has occurred since 1997 along Phase I/II and the RiverPlace Extension within the Local Improvement District (LID) is \$1,448,630,000, with 3,678,800 square feet of non-residential space and 5,295 residential units. Michael indicated it would be important to note that almost all residential development is pre-sold and to determine the retail and commercial vacancy rate. Other suggestions and comments were recorded by Vicky and will be used to update and refine the presentation. Everyone agreed it is a beneficial tool to be used for presentations to businesses, neighborhood groups, etc. Joe Angel indicated there was an excellent article in USA Today, 11/9/04 and asked that all members of the committee receive a copy. The 38 acre South Waterfront Development is projecting a 10-year build out with 250,000 square feet of retail, 3 commercial OHSU medical buildings, 5,000 jobs, 2,800 residential units and 4 acres of park & greenway for a total estimated \$1.9 billion of value.

### **2. Alternatives Analysis:**

Ross Roberts reviewed the workscope, schedule and draft purpose and need for the Eastside Streetcar Alternatives Analysis Phase I. The schedule for Metro has commenced with completion of phase I in February 2005. Ross indicated the three main points to get through the federal process consist of Streetcar supporting transportation access and circulation, economic development and the support of future light rail and other transit investments. Hank asked that the steering committee members review the purpose, needs, goals and objectives for content so that it can be reviewed at the next steering committee meeting and that this work is very important to the Eastside Streetcar project, in order to make as good a case as possible to FTA to fund Eastside Streetcar. It is important to shape the Streetcar analysis to stand apart from other light rail projects across the country.

**3. MTIP Funding Request:**

The Eastside Streetcar received considerable support during the Metro listening posts. The City of Portland has requested \$1 million to support construction of the Eastside Streetcar. Members of the Steering Committee testified on behalf of the project. The public comment period is open until December 6, 2004 and there are continued opportunities for committee members to phone, fax, mail or email in their support to Metro.

Telephone: 503-787-1900 option 3

Fax: 503-797-1911

E-mail: [trans@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:trans@metro.dst.or.us)

Mail: Metro Planning Department, 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232

A public hearing on the draft final project list before Metro is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 17, 2005 with JPACT and Metro Council adopting the final project list February/March 2005.

**4. Conceptual Planning Consultant:**

Portland Streetcar, Inc., received one proposal for conceptual planning services for the Eastside Streetcar. URS Engineering has proposed. They have provided services to PSI for existing lines and are qualified to provide these services. PSI has authorized negotiations with URS to finalize a contract for services. Work will include determining construction issues for the proposed alignment, evaluating options, bridge engineering and cost estimate for the project. This work will commence immediately and be completed mid-summer 2005.

**5. RiverPlace Opening:**

The opening of the RiverPlace Extension is scheduled for Friday, March 11, 2005, one week earlier than projected. Service is set to commence at noon that day with a public event at the Residence Inn by Marriott. A community event will occur on Saturday at RiverPlace from 11am – 5pm. Streetcar service will be free all weekend in celebration of the opening.

**6. Other Business:**

Rick is working with Richard Brandman at Metro to combine the Eastside efforts for federal funding with the Lake Oswego Streetcar project. There is more efficiency for both processes to be running together. Rick announced that Little Rock, Arkansas opened their new 2-mile streetcar line with overwhelming ridership. In conjunction with this opening, a 300 unit condominium has been approved for construction. Little Rock is using vintage cars.

**7. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Steering Committee is to be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2004, at 2:00p.m. at Lloyd Center Tower, 825 NE Multnomah, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor conference room.