

**Portland Streetcar Eastside Steering Committee Meeting  
November 05, 2003, Lloyd 700 Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room, 700 NE Multnomah,  
2:00PM**

***Members in Attendance: Hank Ashforth, chair; Mike Bolliger, Susan Pearce, Tom Markgraf, Rod McDowell, Rick Parker, Jeff Blosser, Dee Walsh***

***Others: Chris Smith, Wayne Kingsley, Lee Perlman***

***Staff Attendance: Kay Dannen, Peter Finley Fry, Rick Gustafson, Steve Iwata, Owen Ronchelli, Matt Larson, Dave Unsworth, Phil Selinger***

**1. Meeting called to order.**

The meeting was called to order by Hank. Rick informed the group that Streetcar operations were closed down from mid-morning on Tuesday, January 6 through 3:00pm on January 9, 2004 due to inclement weather. A number of situations resulted because of the weather:

- Switches froze up – it took an employee continually at a switch to keep it thawed.
- Plowing was not done by the City on Northrup and Lovejoy. Snow built up and was packed down by car traffic, which resulted in a thick layer of ice.
- Plowing on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> was done incorrectly with the snow pushed on our tracks – this was later changed.
- The deicer used by Bureau of Maintenance would corrode the steel and was not used.
- Because the flanges of the track were completely iced, operations were not possible.
- On Thursday, Streetcar attempted to pull out a vehicle unto the tracks – it went about 200 feet and pulled out of the rail making it impossible to operate.
- Platforms piled high with snow were cleared by City crews.
- The overhead wire did not seem to be impacted by the snow.

As a result of the storm several recommendations have been made:

- Establish priority plowing for Streetcar alignment.
- Coordinate with PSU who clears the Urban Center and the non-street between Lincoln and Cramer Halls.
- Make sure plowing is directed away from the track and platforms.
- Obtain deicer that will not corrode the rails.
- Clear switches and apply flame to resist freezing of critical switches.
- Identify procedure for work crew to clear flanges.
- Assure availability of backhoe & sweeper for snow removal.
- Obtain equipment to assure ability to clear wires from ice buildup.
- Establish communication procedures for closures.

Meetings are to be scheduled to review our snow preparedness plans.

**2. Finance Options:**

**3. Financing Plan:**

**4. MLK/Grand Operations Study:**

Steve Iwata reported that he expects to have a contract with DEA by the end of February 2004 with to start this work. Several members of the Eastside Steering group have volunteered to participate on this transportation work group including: Dee Walsh, Susan

Lindsay, Mike Bolliger, Vern Rifer, Wayne Kingsley, Susan Pearce. Staff support include: Vicky Diede, Steve Iwata, Dave Unsworth, Phil Selinger and Denyse McGriff.

**5. Streetcar Consortium:**

The City of Portland and Lake Oswego have combined to seek the formation of a streetcar consortium of cities around the country that are interested in federal funds for streetcar development. A lobbyist is being retained to represent the consortium during the consideration of the transportation authorization that is before congress this spring. 10-15 cities are likely to be part of the consortium. So far, interest has been expressed by Charlotte, NC; Salem, OR; Seattle, WA; Champaign-Urbana, IL; Atlanta, GA; Dayton, OH; Little Rock, AK; Tucson, AZ; Corpus Christi, TX. The first meeting of this group is scheduled for Wednesday, January 21 in Washington, DC.

**6. Metro TSUB Ranking:**

**7. Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Steering Committee is to be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2004, at 2:00p.m. at the Lloyd Center Tower, 825 NE Multnomah, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (next to Café Today).