



West Portland Crossroads



Agenda March 15, 2010

Brian Russell

Welcome from SWNI

Marianne Fitzgerald and John Gibbon

Why We Are Here

Bashir Warsame, Somali

Community Services Coalition
Livability

Mayor Sam Adams

Portland Plan and Transportation Plan

Councilor

Robert Liberty, Metro Council

District 6
Making the Greatest Place

Jason Tell, Manager, ODOT Region 1

Mobility Corridor, Barbur and I-5

Alan Lehto, TriMet

Transit

Commissioner

Amanda Fritz

Neighborhood Involvement

Community Discussion

Questions

Comments

Wrap Up

Next Steps

Background

West Portland Crossroads is a neighborhood business district located at the intersection of two major state highways (SW Barbur Blvd/99W and Interstate-5) and a nontraditional freeway interchange at SW Capitol, Huber and Taylors Ferry Road. SW Capitol Highway and SW Taylors Ferry Road also carry regional traffic from nearby Washington County, Tigard and Lake Oswego. While many residents enjoy the good transportation access, it is neither easy nor safe for people to walk and bike throughout the area. Planning has just begun to add high capacity transit service through this busy crossroads. Local land use, infrastructure capacity, mobility and watershed health need to be analyzed to accommodate growth through the next twenty or more years.

History

West Portland is one of five Town Centers in the City of Portland and one of 30 in the Metro region. Town Centers are conceived by Metro as areas intended to provide localized services to people in surrounding neighborhoods. West Portland's development has been and is significantly influenced by easy access to the freeways as well as frequent transit service between the Portland City Center and southwest suburbs along Barbur.

West Portland and the Barbur Corridor are dominated by auto-oriented commercial businesses with large parking lots and many deficiencies in the pedestrian and bike system. As of today there are no specific plans or policies to guide West Portland's future. A recent study concluded that the biggest barrier to creating a 20-minute neighborhood within West Portland is the lack of sidewalks and safe access to local services and transit stops.

Current Conditions

West Portland Crossroads is characterized by many low rise commercial buildings and the Barbur park-and-ride Transit Station. Several office buildings, one grocery store and many small shops and services are closely linked to the Barbur Blvd. commercial corridor. The Crossroads area has clusters of low-rise residential multi-family units surrounded by single-family residential homes. The Crossroads area includes two creeks that flow directly into the Tryon and Fanno Creek watersheds. Two public schools, one private school, two parks and a public library are nearby.

Plans and Projects Underway

The City of Portland, Metro, TriMet and the Oregon Department of Transportation are working on several planning projects that could affect the future of the West Portland Crossroads. These projects include:

- The Portland Plan
- High Capacity Transit Plan
- Mobility Corridor Refinement Study (Interstate-5/Barbur/99W)
- Regional Transportation Plan
- Portland Transportation System Plan Update
- Stormwater Capital Improvement Projects
- SW Capitol Highway; Sidewalks and Bike Paths between Taylors Ferry Road and Multnomah Blvd
- Portland Bicycle Plan
- Barbur Corridor Study Grant Application (not yet funded)
- Barbur Active Transportation Corridor Grant Application (not yet funded)
- Barbur Infill Sidewalk Projects

For More Information Contact

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By the Numbers

Median household size: 2.31
Median household income: \$57,440
Median age: 33
Home Ownership: 46%
People per acre: 22
Dwelling units per acre: 7
Businesses per acre: 1.6
Free and reduced lunch, Markham Elementary School: 59%
Free and reduced lunch, Jackson Middle School: 28%
Places of Worship: 2 mosques, 1 church
Full Service Restaurants: 6
Fast Food Restaurants: 2
Limited Service Restaurants: 2
Coffee Shops: 2
Grocery Stores: 2
Zoning: General Commercial (CG)
(West Portland Town Center, Metro data, PPS)

Neighborhood Needs

The West Portland Crossroads Advisory Group consists of the six neighborhood associations in or near the intersection of Barbur Blvd. and Capitol Highway. The group recently surveyed local residents and businesses to find out what improvements are needed.

What residents like about the Crossroads Area:

- Easy access to I-5, major thoroughfares and destinations
- Barbur Foods grocery and the variety of shops and services
- Diverse neighborhood, stable community, friendly businesses, caring neighbors
- Public Library and schools nearby
- Rural feel to residential areas, trees

What's Next

With so many planning efforts beginning to focus on the Barbur Blvd/Interstate-5 corridor, West Portland neighbors and local businesses need to be prepared for an intensive planning process that could last for many years. Through these efforts and appropriate public policies, West Portland could build on its assets and become a more pedestrian-friendly community with a strong neighborhood focus. SWNI's mission is to empower citizen action to improve and maintain the livability of Southwest neighborhoods. SWNI can foster communication between government agencies and citizens in our coalition area, and with the surrounding communities.



What residents don't like about the Crossroads Area:

- Lack of pedestrian and bike access
- Traffic flow and noise, particularly around the I-5 access points
- Adult shops in highly visible places
- Lack of improved streets and parks

What residents said are the most important changes that would improve the Crossroads area:

- Sidewalks from residential areas to shops and services
- Safer crosswalks
- Improved transit service
- Better traffic flow

*This event is hosted by the West Portland
Crossroads Advisory Group
and*

*made possible by a grant from City of Portland Office of Neighborhood
Involvement (ONI) and Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. (SWNI)
www.swni.org, 503-823-4592*