

# September 2018 - SE Uplift Board Meeting Minutes

## Meeting Attendance:

### Board Members:

- Ambar Solarte
- Ali Swati
- Suleyman Nor
- Kelly Quinlan
- Catherine Davila
- Taizoon Doctor
- Terrance Dublinski-Milton
- Susan Gershwin
- Miguel Rodriguez
- Paul Willey
- Mary Barrett
- Julia Betts
- Jessica Engelman
- Matchu Williams
- Sam Noble
- Emma Stocker
- Nadyne Rosin
- Brian Hochhalter
- Tina Kimmey
- Reuben Deumling

### Staff:

- Molly Mayo

### Guests

- Bob Stacey
- Lotus Romey-Yu
- Emily and Fatma from Momentum Alliance

## Introductions and Announcements:

Request for volunteers at madison high school. Were looking for anyone who is able to tutor after school in any subject from 3:00 - 5:00

Ballot measure informational meeting at the October meeting in North Tabor. More information on the way

Reed just had the Neighborhood picnic this past Sunday. 50-90 people attended with loads of children. League of women voters had their forum on juvenile justice. Thank you to SEUplift for including them in the news letter.

Electric bussing front; 17 million for electric buses for the general fleet.

Patio Raising event at the Arleta Triangle. Saturday September 29th 9:00AM - 1PM  
<https://facebook.com/ArletaTriangleProject>

October 17th at PCC SE (82nd and Division) Metro state and city will have officials for an event to discuss the future of 82nd ave

On the move is holding a pot-luck in November. Details forthcoming.

Watch out for board retreat information

Bike parking available (keep them out of the lobby)  
We have new tenants on this floor and it needs to stay accessible

Thank you coordinators for the 50th anniversary celebration work

Harvest Festival (Tina has details)

## **Community Building and Social Justice/Equity Training:**

Momentum Alliance (Emily and Fatima)

Momentum Alliance is a youth led social justice non profit. They are all women and under 30 years of age and work to maintain a young perspective. Some of their current goals are taking the opportunity to focus on the anti-blackness, rape culture and accessibility.

Much of our programming is based on development of youth through social justice. Much of this is done through sponsored camps where youth can apply and learn skills to share and refocus these skills.

DOCA rally has also been an area of progress and focus for MA. This has provided the ability to fund undocumented youth to pursue education.

There is a collaborative with five partner orgs run by youth. One in Salem and the other in Woodburn. These orgs come together to work on specific projects. These include focus conferences, state legislation and other efforts.

There is a launched partnership with Metro to enable youth to become an integral part of government. They have also hosted equity training with the Metro directors to talk about barriers, racial justice and how to create new opportunities for youth at Metro. This has

resulted in two new intern positions with MA and Metro. There are efforts with these interns to expand MAX service for new communities and the youth impact of this project.

**Question:**

Interest in the bill on Ethnic studies. Does it include LGBT folks?

**Answer:**

Yes. It is as comprehensive as possible. While this was contentious MA refused to drop any social group. There is a struggle to get PPS to provide the education in this area given budget issues.

Create a space to build relationships to explore racial justice in and beyond the boards

Grasp the issues of social justice and equity

Grapple with the things you need to do to get there

Grapple with what to do when harm is done with injustice or social harm

Signs of identity project

Thoughts on the activity (brief discussion)

*Google form with questions for the next meeting on racial justice. Keep an eye out...*

**Break:**

Social 5 minutes

**Guest: Metro Councilor Bob Stacey:**

Welcome Bob Stacey representative for SE Portland in Metro

Cover some investment work that Metro is completion SE Uplift. They have a new president coming into the Metro council. Lynn Peterson is a mover and wants the council to move forward. Under our older leadership Metro committed to funding to build the SW Rail corridor to Tualatin / Tigard and make a set of investments in the region that go beyond transit that could include expansion of roads, safety growth and other options. The intention is to do what the community wants / needs.

The housing measures on the ballot (one referred by the metro council 26-199) would be \$652.8 Million Dollars from property tax dollars. .24 cents per 1000 dollars (property tax assessed value) and would cost homeowners 60 dollars / year for the life of the bonds

(typically). This in conjunction with the constitution amendment 60-0% of median income to house 12,000 people experiencing houseless.

Mentioned change to the constitution to remove the restriction that public funds be not used for private business. The verbage creates a provision where non profit institutions can benefit from the public funds for housing efforts to expand funding and work in this area. State Measure 102.

<https://www.yesforaffordablehousing.com>

These smaller nonprofits can grow capacity to provide housing and housing services.

Need; how is it measured? Point in time homeless counts are done in winter. Many believe that this number is lower than the reality.

**Question:**

Would metro be spending this money

**Answer:**

We have experience in this somewhat; and are prepared with wet feet. However there are a large number of non-profits and other agencies with much more experience in this area that lack capital funding.

**Question:**

Can you describe what affordable housing means? Big buildings like “the projects,” houses everywhere?

**Answers:**

The examples I am most familiar with are the REACH community development and the housing authority. They have done ~60 unit buildings for affordable housing. Rose community development is currently building a project at 82nd and division. These are all dedicated buildings that are owned and operated by these groups. Scattered housing is also done historically. Smaller scale scattered sights are more common.

Larger projects are done by the housing authority and have proven to be an ineffective community development project. Providing community is key.

**Question:**

For the sum of money that Metro wants to spend on this; what kind of interest is Metro attempting to retain ownership of these sites and money?

**Answer:**

Metro is working with housing authorities that are in the business of owning these properties in the long term. Metro is not interested in having the ownership of these projects change. Also the affordability of these houses. It is a question that needs to be thought about and needs to be addressed in these terms.

**Question:**

Why build a building when we could just provide money for people who need the assistance. Focusing these individuals in buildings could bring other attention.

**Answer:**

The goal of this effort is to provide a level of supportive service that enables them to stabilize their lives. It will enable them to get services that they need to return their lives to a comfortable sheltered place. There is a mixture of needs. We are not dealing with the section 8 portion of the housing but focusing on the other part of these needs.

**Question:**

I am concerned that the need is greater than these bonds will cover. There are other things that could be done to spend political capital as opposed to money to accomplish these goals. What is Metro doing to urge the various governments spend dollars in political ways?

**Answers:**

We are having to fight for incremental change because of the political system in place because they own the roads, track and signals.

**Parks:**

Metro has several parks around the metro area. Uplands park @ Johnson Creek, Deep Creek. It's a long way from the people of the region and difficult to reach. Many people at the Metro council want to restore many of these parks and wild areas to original untouched critical locations. Many believe that we should extend the current bond rate and refinance the parks acquisition program.

Focus made to areas with deeper poverty and need for resources that could leverage current parks programs in the cities and regions. This would be done without backing away from the needs for quality water and land. It would provide easier access to land and open spaces.

How would we invest in these areas?

Micro Parks around the community and region (give money to Portland Parks)

- November 2018 there is a vote on housing (metro bill and state bill)
- 2019 we have the opportunity to continue the parks program
  - What are the investments
- 2020 20 billion, 20 quarters in 2020. We need to be sure we spend the money the right way

**Adjourn:**

Thank you for attending