

Meeting Summary for SCNA March Board Meeting

Mar 20, 2025 04:53 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada) ID: 820 3280 4110

Quick recap

The group discussed the ongoing challenges in getting the City Council to consider a viable design for the Reed Market Roundabout, with plans to work with Gina, their liaison with the City Council, to develop a new design. They also discussed the importance of fire safety, the need for property owners to clear their surroundings, and the potential for a survey to gauge community feelings on the issue. Additionally, they touched on the city's plans to strengthen building codes, the need for a broader community to raise concerns about traffic circle issues, and the potential for a survey to gather more feedback from the council and the neighborhoods.

Next steps

- Todd: Continue working with Gina to arrange meetings with city engineers regarding the Reed Market roundabout design
- Robbie: Contact Melissa Steele from Bend Fire about organizing multiple fire-wise property assessment walks in different quadrants of Southern Crossing
- Robbie, Todd, Lowell: Work together to create a survey about the Reed Market roundabout for the next newsletter
- Robbie: Monitor city council's report to track the number of emails received regarding the Reed Market roundabout issue
- Robbie: Review the TIF program presentation and investigate the potential development project on Century Boulevard and Hall trail
- Lowell: Include information about the April 24th wildfire roundtable event in the next newsletter
- Robbie: Contact Crux to confirm 3rd Wednesday of each month for informal meetups and request dollar-off deals
- Robbie: Send dates to Todd for the summer block party kickoff meeting
- Lowell: Add Gina to the newsletter email list and send her a link to the latest newsletter
- Lowell: Explore options to improve newsletter subject lines and summary content to increase readership
- All Board Members: Think about and share roundabout survey questions via email for discussion

Summary

Reed Market Roundabout Design Challenges

Todd Torczon, the instigator of the Reed Market Roundabout, discussed the ongoing challenges in getting the City Council to consider a viable design for the project. He noted that the Council is hesitant to invest in an engineer's design due to their perception that neither of the two scenarios presented are good. Todd plans to work with Gina, their liaison with the City Council, to sit down with city engineers and develop a new design that the Council might consider. Robbie Silverman expressed frustration at the delay in starting the design process, which has been pushed off until 2029. Todd suggested that the community needs to continue speaking up and pushing for action. Robbie proposed conducting a survey of the neighborhood to gauge their feelings on the issue and to potentially prompt the Council to start the design process.

Addressing Traffic Circle and Wildfire Risks

Todd, Robbie, and Lowell discussed the need for a survey to address the city's traffic circle issues and the importance of persistence in resolving the problem. They also discussed the need for a broader community to raise concerns about the issue. Todd expressed his concerns about the city's standards and the need to think outside the box for a solution. Regina, a resident, expressed her surprise at the city's lack of action on the issue despite the fire risks. The group decided to work on the survey for their next newsletter. They also discussed the wildfire risk in their community and the need for resources and information. Todd suggested organizing a tour with the fire department to assess the risk and provide guidance. Robbie agreed to reach out to Melissa Steele from the fire department to organize the tour.

Fire Safety and Property Owner Responsibilities

Todd, Robbie, and Regina discussed the importance of fire safety and the need for property owners to clear their surroundings. They agreed to schedule a firewise presentation for their neighborhoods and publicize it to encourage attendance. Regina expressed concerns about the timeline and potential costs for property owners, while Robbie mentioned that the city is unlikely to enforce the rules proactively, relying more on complaints from neighbors. They also discussed the possibility of the city providing resources to help defray costs for property owners.

City's Evacuation Plans and Block Party

Robbie discussed the city's plans to strengthen building codes and improve road construction practices for large-scale evacuations. Todd shared his efforts to inform his neighborhood about the association and the need for volunteers. Robbie also mentioned the upcoming summer block party and the need for a kickoff meeting with the committee. Robbie also discussed the resumption of monthly meetups at Crux, with the first one potentially being indoors due to weather.

Meetup Schedule and Promotion Discussion

The group discusses changing their meetup schedule from the third Wednesday of the month to potentially the last Wednesday. After considering various factors like holidays and board meeting dates, they decide to keep it on the third Wednesday. Robbie will communicate this to Crux, where they plan to hold the meetups, and request a discount. They aim to promote the meetups in their newsletter, which goes out six days before the board meeting. Regina suggests considering summer travel patterns when scheduling.

Neighborhood Districts and City Roles

Robbie and Todd discussed the outcomes of a meeting with neighborhood districts and Envision Bend. They highlighted the need for clarity between the districts and the city regarding their roles and expectations. They also discussed the city's assessment of the neighborhoods and the potential for more representative city council districts. Robbie suggested conducting a standalone survey on the roundabout and considering district representation in the future.

Managing Multiple Projects and Council Support

Todd and Robbie discussed the challenges of managing multiple projects simultaneously, with a focus on the Reed Market project. They agreed that the project should not be held up by the lack of funding for the railroad bridge to the east. Todd suggested that the project could be divided into smaller sections to avoid delays. They also discussed the importance of getting the City Council's support for the project. Robbie suggested that Todd should copy him on his communications with Gina and Megan to ensure that the council's perception of the board is accurately represented. They agreed to conduct a survey to gather more feedback from the council and the neighborhoods.

City's TIF Program and Affordable Housing

Robbie discussed the city's new TIF program and its concept of blight, which could include buildings in disrepair or underutilized land. She mentioned a development in Southern Crossing that was previously pulled back but may be re-energized. Robbie also shared his concerns about the city's definition of affordable housing and the potential impact of new developments on neighborhoods. Todd and Lowell agreed that the city's TIF program could be beneficial for affordable housing, but also acknowledged the potential challenges and the need for expertise in managing these developments.

Past Grievances and Future Meetings

Todd, Robbie, and Lowell further discussed the Envision Bend meeting that went poorly, with the main topic being past grievances against the city. The meeting was supposed to be about a group therapy session for old-time board members, but it was hijacked by Awbrey Butte. The group also discussed the potential cancellation of future meetings due to the poor outcome of the previous one. Additionally, they mentioned that Makayla, a city liaison, is leaving her role and her position may not be replaced. They also touched on the city's comparison chart of

neighborhood districts in other cities, highlighting the success of some cities in implementing block party vans. Finally, they discussed the area median income threshold for various programs, which is set by the Federal Government.

Budget Update and Newsletter Engagement

Lowell provides a budget update, noting that the \$300 park rental fee came from their regular budget. He has started a planning spreadsheet for this year's block party expenses. The newsletter email response showed significant interest in the roundabout topic, with the evacuation plan link receiving the most clicks. They received 13 requests for slow down signs. Lowell explains that MailChimp's tracking doesn't work for email links, only web addresses. The group discusses ways to improve newsletter engagement, including adjusting subject lines and summaries. They decide to have an email discussion about creating roundabout survey questions.

AI-generated content may be inaccurate or misleading. Always check for accuracy.