

MAP-IT McLoughlin Area Plan Implementation Team

A partnership of the Jennings Lodge Community Planning Organization, McLoughlin Area Business Alliance & Oak Grove Community Council

2019 Activities

The McLoughlin Area Plan (MAP) Implementation Team is the partnership of three volunteer community and business organizations to assist Clackamas County, in particular, with the implementation of the McLoughlin Area Plan (MAP) for the unincorporated area between the cities of Milwaukie and Gladstone. The MAP was created in the early 2010s through intensive community involvement by people in the unincorporated Oak Grove, Jennings Lodge and Oatfield Ridge communities; and has a vision, a set of community values, guiding principles, and projects and programs, to carry out the plan.

Work Continues Based on Community-Designated Priorities

The MAP Implementation Team and its Partner Organizations provided a community involvement process in a previous year that led to identifying these MAP programs/projects as current community priorities:

Residential Areas:

Acquire property and/or develop new parks/open spaces; identify strategies to protect/enhance existing natural habitat; and modify the existing Zoning Ordinance to better protect neighborhoods from up-zoning & incompatible development.

Commercial Areas:

Develop a community design plan for McLoughlin Blvd.; develop commercial or mixed-use activity clusters at targeted locations; and provide incentives for businesses that provide family-wage jobs.

Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety:

Construct street improvements on existing, significant transportation routes; and improve pedestrian & bike connections to schools, parks & other key community destinations.

Community-Wide Human Connections:

Encourage community-wide events & cultural celebrations.

In 2019, MAP Implementation Team members continued work on ways to help with these priorities, including:

Residential Areas:

- Developing a preliminary study of opportunities for park property acquisition in public right-of-ways along the Willamette River in Oak Lodge, and a String-of-Pearls Park Acquisition Study along the Trolley Trail.
- Exploring a concept for the MAP Implementation Team to host or partner on a natural areas summit.
- Monitoring County Long Range Planning, Housing Strategy project and NCPRD efforts underway to address parks and protecting neighborhoods from up-zoning & incompatible development, for additional MAP Team/community action if needed.
- Monitoring County Planning discussion of changes to Zoning Ordinance regarding protection of natural resources, for possible MAP Team/community action if/when needed.

Commercial Areas:

- Assisting work on *Park Avenue Community Project* Phases 1 & 2, as it represents an initial step in creating a community design plan for McLoughlin Blvd. and developing commercial/mixed use activity clusters. (See separate section on this subject).
- Monitoring/reporting on government efforts that could address program/projects related to commercial area priorities, such as the *County Housing Strategies* project, for possible MAP Team or community action.
- Sending letters in support of funding requests such as for the "*Corridors: Affordable Housing & Mixed Use Project*" Grant Application.
- Attending/monitoring *Economic Development Commission* meetings, discussions and planning.
- Studying practices in other jurisdictions on developing incentive programs for family-wage employment.

Sidewalk, Bike Lane, Traffic & Transportation Improvements for Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety:

- Laying groundwork for *Safe Routes to Schools Plan* for Jennings Lodge & Candy Lane schools.
- Endorsing a community-driven *McLoughlin Corridor Equity Sidewalk Plan* for presentation to County, Metro.
- Sending letters in support of related funding requests, such as for the *Courtney Ave. Improvement Project Grant Application*.
- *Proposed Metro T2020 Bond* - Outreach to let community members know about potential McLoughlin corridor T2020 investments, and opportunities for involvement; letters to BCC and Metro in support of investment in McLoughlin corridor; creation of T2020 Transportation Advisory group to monitor and report on other opportunities for MAP Team action.
- Monitoring and publicizing other pedestrian and bicycle safety opportunities and issues, such as *OG-LO bridge discussions*, and offering comment to the County on ways to address issues.

Community-Wide Human Connections:

- Working with all MAP Implementation Team Partner Organizations to develop, coordinate and staff a first-ever triple booth of activities, displays, information, prizes for prize drawing, information-gathering and conversation for all Partner Organizations together at the *2019 Oak Grove Trolley Trail Fest*.

Park Ave. Community Project

- Providing a representative for bi-weekly meetings and related work of the Grant Management Team; and a representative for the Park Ave. Community Advisory Committee and its variety of work.
- Providing community outreach at CPO and other neighborhood meetings, and via email communications to gather community comments on Phase 1 work and suggested tweaks for Phase 2.
- Providing excerpts, and creating charts and other documents to aid community in understanding Phase 1 work and making comments.
- Analyzing February 2019 Park Ave. Project survey responses for people in project area, and providing data.
- Aiding Partner Organizations with related meeting discussions.
- Continuing to email interested parties on Phase 1 and Phase 2 opportunities to participate.
- Providing the BCC with collective community feedback on Phase 1, and suggestions for Phase 2.

Other 2019 activities connected to work of the MAP Implementation Team included:

- First time creation of 3-4 member Executive Team, representing all Partner Organizations.
- Formation of 4 standing committees (in addition to Executive Team) to monitor & pursue ways to help with implementation of MAP program/project priorities.
- Six public meetings with opportunities for public comment, sharing of information and speakers.
- Creation of displays and marketing materials, including: a brochure with information on the MAP and the MAP Implementation Team (with current priorities, volunteer opportunities), and answers to local questions about the community; graphic MAP-IT logo; ten-foot MAP-IT banners; MAP tabletop education & photo display; a spin-the-wheel local history game; and handouts on the McLoughlin Area Plan.
- Developed partnerships with additional local organizations such as Historic Downtown Oak Grove (HDOG) and Friends of the Trolley Trail.
- Analysis of information from outreach efforts, and demographic information (from Park Ave. Phase 1 Survey on MAP projects/programs), and identification of MAP Team educational outreach needs and opportunities.

2020 Planning

- Work will continue on tasks and projects already underway from the preceding 2019 activities list.
- The MAP Implementation Team is also discussing a periodic outreach/update of the community priorities for the MAP programs and projects. Along with this, the MAP Team is discussing if and how to re-evaluate the list of MAP programs and projects from nearly 10 years ago, to involve the public in updating as needed for current conditions. As many factors are currently in flux, consideration will include appropriate timing.
- The MAP Team will consider how Economic Development Commission 2019 Annual Report recommendations can help address the MAP values, guiding principles, projects/programs and priorities.