

## Portland City Council Goal Setting Summary - 2017

The City Council and Mayor met on January 23, 2017 to develop a clear understanding of their key priorities and goals for 2017. It was also to develop a sense of which goals the Council and Mayor are most interested in seeing developed. While each committee and the Mayor will still work on all the goals each outlined (see below), the ranking identified the top three areas of greatest interest on each list. The top 3 goals from each list are:

### **Economic Development**

- Eastern waterfront public infrastructure investment/increase utilization of the terminal
- Broad Band Access
- TIF financing policy

### **Finance**

- Question on the ballot regarding elementary school renovations
- Combined tax increase no greater than 2.5%
- Develop proposal for targeted tax relief

### **Health & Human Services**

- Pursue shelter improvements: expand zoning; improvement and new shelter
- Guidance and policy suggestions on substance abuse, opioid crisis, facilities, marijuana education, zoning, operation of the needle exchange
- Seek regional solutions: homelessness, substance abuse

### **Housing**

- Identify opportunity to demonstrate a City partnership to leverage mixed use housing
- Implement policies to capitalize the Housing Fund (*incentives for affordable housing*) added at the meeting
- Pull together a current situation report on Housing Policy, availability and affordability

### **Mayor**

- Universal All Day Pre-K
- Increase inclusionary zoning to 20%
- Earned Paid Sick Time

### **Nominating & Legislative**

- Increase outreach to generate applications
- Establish state and federal intergovernmental relations
- “Ban the box:” examine disclosure requirements

### **Sustainability & Transportation**

- Pedestrian crossings, stop lights, bike lanes, review existing plans, snow removal ordinance and plowing routes, transportation bonds, parking
- Parks: zoning, interactive parks
- Review Portland Climate Action Plan

Attached is a list of each committee’s and the Mayor’s goals.

## **Economic Development Committee Priorities**

The Economic Development Committee recently agreed to propose the following 5 committee goals for 2017. We have additional issues that are annual charges for the committee, such as approving leases on City property, presenting any TIF requests to the Council, to name two. We also have additional goals (i.e. Rewrite of chapter 14 zoning ordinance; Marijuana ordinance) on which the committee will work when not focused on its primary goals, as agreed to by the Council.

### **1. Broadband Access; High speed infrastructure**

This is a carryover from a 2016 Mayor and Council goal. In 2016, the EDC and Council approved a lease agreement with Verizon to support small cell technology investment in Portland. In 2017, the EDC will oversee negotiations to finalize partnership agreements with SiFi Networks for a city-wide fiber network.

### **2. Eastern Waterfront Public Infrastructure Investment/Increase Utilization of Portland Ocean Terminal (POT)**

This is a two-part goal carryover from 2016 and is a multi-year effort. The goals are: 1) to establish direction on the future of the Portland Ocean Terminal (70,000 square feet of vacant space), and 2) evaluate options for investing in public infrastructure on the Eastern Waterfront. Committee work has already begun (i.e. Amethyst lot development; Thames Street discussions; Ocean Gateway lot configuration).

### **3. Sale of City Properties**

The Committee has begun review of a number of sales of city properties for possible commercial, residential, open space or industrial uses, depending upon the specific property. Examples are: Bayside former Public Works properties, Riverside Street industrial properties, former Reed School, Thames Street parking lot, Redlon Woods, Cotton Street lot.

### **4. Tax Increment Financing Policy**

In September, the City Council referred possible amendments to the current TIF policy. These proposed amendments are often called Responsible Contracting. The EDC will study the issue and report findings and recommendations to the Council.

### **5. Study Development Impact Fees and a new Payment in lieu of taxes policy**

Staff is preparing a development impact fee formula to standardize requirements on developers. Also, the City Manager and staff are working on a draft policy for EDC consideration for non-profit tax exempt organizations to contribute annually to cover certain municipal services.

## **Finance Committee Priorities**

- 1. Combined tax increase of not greater than 2.5%;**
- 2. Question on the ballot regarding elementary school renovations;**
- 3. Develop multi-year budget projections (5 or 10 year if possible);**
- 4. Figure out ways to make city services more efficient and effective;**
- 5. Develop a proposal to create targeted tax relief.**

# Health and Human Services Committee Priorities

## Mission Statement:

This committee develops policy recommendations to maintain and enhance the quality of life, health, and safety of all Portland's residents and visitors.

In that capacity, the committee reviews the operations of the city's Health and Human Services, Police, and Fire Departments; examines policies related to the permitting and inspection of food or alcohol service establishments; and makes policy recommendations on issues related to public health, social services, public safety, and quality of life issues in the city.

## 2017 Goals:

### 1. Pursue shelter improvements

- a. Expand shelter zoning throughout the city so that shelters are acceptable conditional uses in areas outside of the B-3, the only zone in which they are currently allowed
- b. Work with city staff & community on shelter improvements, including designing and planning for a new facility, making changes/improvements to our service model, etc.

### 2. Get a new noise ordinance in place that is clear and that will address various noise concerns in the city

### 3. Continue to provide guidance and policy suggestions around substance use, particularly with regard to:

- a. the opioid crisis in Portland
- b. treatment facilities, including the number of detox beds in city (possibly through increased support for Milestone Foundation)
- c. marijuana prevention education for youth/young adults
- d. zoning policies pertaining to the retail sale of marijuana and marijuana social clubs
- e. the operation of the Needle Exchange along with STD/HIV testing and the Free Clinic at India Street

### 4. Explore ways to provide transportation assistance to HIRE and GA clients (vouchers, grants)

Also, if we consider moving the shelter, we'll need to figure out transportation, potentially offer METRO vouchers or work with state programs/GA/grant funding to provide passes, rides, etc.

### 5. Continue to seek regional solutions to homelessness, substance use disorder, etc.

## Housing Committee Priorities

**Goal: Increase access to safe, location-efficient rental and ownership housing that is affordable for working and low-income families.**

Safe, affordable and accessible housing remains a core element of the American Dream. The Housing Committee should focus on land use policies that help residents match their housing needs with appropriate options over a lifetime. Success is when we have a broad array of housing choices to serve evolving individual and family housing needs.

Solid housing stock, parks and open space, quality education, proximity to jobs and entertainment are all important elements that significantly influence whether Portland can retain and sustain current residents and attract new residents of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

### 2017 Priorities

1. **Complete work on STR regulations**
2. **Assure timely implementation of the 2016 Landlord/Tenants policies**
3. **Pull together a Current Situation Report on Housing Policy, Availability and Affordability. This would include, an update on the implementation of policies e.g. inclusionary zoning. Establish a dashboard for annual or semi-annual evaluation.**
4. **Implement Policies to Capitalize the Housing Fund.**
5. **Identify a unique opportunity to demonstrate engagement of the city in partnership (policy, expertise, funding, zoning, public land, etc) to leverage development of a unique mixed use project that includes work force and low income housing.**
6. **Housing Safety - - Serve as the sponsorship committee for the city's housing inspection programs. Support program evaluation, identify enforcement challenges, the advocate for budget resources.**

## Mayor's Priorities

A number of the Mayor's goals from the SOTC were included by Chairs in the workplans of their committees. Below are the others the Mayor will be working on.

1. **Earned Paid Sick Time**

Policy will ensure that workers in Portland can earn time off to care for their physical health and safety. Currently, thousands of workers in Portland can't earn any time off to care for their own medical well-being or that of their child. This policy will follow the lead of states around the country, including Massachusetts, Vermont, and Connecticut, and dozens of municipalities nationwide to work with the business community to implement an earned paid sick day policy for anyone who works in our city.

2. **Increase Inclusionary Zoning to 20%**

While progress has been made on understanding the issues surround Portland's housing crunch, we also need to lock in a substantial number of new or renovated units as affordable to our average working families. This policy change would bring us more in line with other cities who have similar ordinances by increasing our inclusionary zoning requirement from the 10 percent that is currently in statute to 20 percent.

3. **Universal Pre-K**

Another basic need we must meet in our schools is ensuring that families have access to high quality pre-k within five years. I have heard from parent after parent that investing in universal all day pre-k will not only benefit the educational needs of their child, it will address the childcare costs and access issues that will help them stay in Portland or even move back.

4. **Legal Immigrant Voting Rights**

To further actualize the goal of being an inclusive city, this goal would re-open a conversation that took place in Portland several years ago around allowing legal immigrants who are not yet citizens to vote in municipal elections. It could take the form of public hearings, examining legal hurdles and solutions and ultimately asking the residents of the city to again weigh-in (probably in 2018).

5. **Creating a Business Incubator and a Building Trades Training Facility**

For a decade, Portland has been talking about creating a business incubator where businesses can work in one environment and learn from each other. Similarly, there has been a lot of discussion around creating a building trades job training facility, so people can gain the skills they need for a trade. We can translate these conversations into action by working with partners in the labor, business and education community to establish these two facilities in the city.

## **Nominating/Legislative Committee Priorities**

- 1. Work to strengthen City's Boards and Commissions by increasing interaction, exploring professional development opportunities, and examining interview process**
- 2. Increase outreach to the community to generate applications for Boards and Commissions**
- 3. Continue to work to ensure diversity on our Boards and Commissions**
- 4. Establish a state and federal intergovernmental relations process that includes legislative monitoring and clarify the process the city will implement to assist members of the legislative/congressional delegations as they work to represent the interest of the city in Augusta**
- 5. Work with staff on non-union pay study**
- 6. "Ban the Box." Examine the disclosure requirements on applications for licensure relating to prior convictions for applicants and the employees of applicants. Identify those business license applications where the city can remove the box**

## Sustainability and Transportation Committee Priorities

1. **Benchmarking**. The Sustainability and Transportation Committee (the “Committee”) desires to continue the 2015-6 Committee’s work with next steps that include but are not limited to:
  - a. *Sustainability Dashboard*. With the tagline of Sustainable environment, Sustainable economy, and Sustainable community, the Committee hopes to establish a dashboard of indicators and a recurring benchmarking process to measure, document and track accomplishments, identify new and ongoing challenges, update and activate commitments to future action.
  - b. *Next Steps of 2016 Benchmarking Program*. Updates on status of review of City owned buildings and discussion concerning potential programs used to incentivize owners to make improvements to increase energy efficiency.
  
2. **Transportation**. The Committee desires to implement and study the following transportation related matters:
  - a. *Pedestrian Crossings and Stoplights*. Review of peninsula (and eventually City-wide) street and pedestrian lights to ensure systems work efficiently and correctly.
  - b. *Protected Bike Lanes*. Begin planning stage of incorporating protected bike lanes in our complete streets implementation and have staff look into potential projects that could include protected bike lanes with a goal of completing the first protected bike lane by 2020.
  - c. *Review of Existing Transportation/CSO Plans*. Revisit Council approved transportation plans and determine their status. Provide public with an update on what is left to be done, how and over what time period; and, refresh projections of the investment required to complete work to achieve Clean Water Act Compliance.
  - d. *Snow Removal Ordinance/ City Plowing Route Review*. Review current ordinance to determine whether any changes need to be made. Also, review city plowing routes to determine whether additional investment is needed to clear sidewalks and make Portland more pedestrian mobile.
  - e. *Transportation Bond*. Placeholder based on review of the above and report from City Staff pertaining to City-wide infrastructure.
  - f. *Parking*. Explore time-limited parking in residential zones with resident permits and guest passes: this is particularly needed on Munjoy Hill and likely elsewhere on the peninsula (I’ve had requests from the India Street neighborhood as well)
  
3. **Review City of Portland Climate Action Plan (2008)**. Review plan to determine progress and achievement. Potential revisions? New plan needed?
  
4. **Parks**. The Committee desires to:
  - a. *Zoning*. Complete review of mapping of Portland's parks and determine where zoning alterations or protective measures may be need to ensure our open spaces are not compromised (i.e. Fort Sumner).
  - b. *Interactive Parks*. Work with “Parks Department” for potential investment with respect to the installation of grills, benches, and pavilions. (Potential project for King Middle School?).
  
5. **Trash/Recycling/Composting**. Review potential for universal curbside composting and continued review of implementation of trash/recycling carts.