

**Downtown Revitalization
Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Summary for 10/1/25
DRAFT**

CAC Attendance: Mayor Frank Bubenik, Councilor Christen Sacco, Council President Valerie Pratt, Susan Noack, Janet Steiger Carr, Skip Stanaway, Janine Wilson, Jilian Saurage Felton, Kelsea Ashenbrenner

City Staff: Sid Sin, Aquilla-Hurd Ravich, Cody Field, Kira Hein

University of Oregon Guests: Megan Banks, Nancy Cheng, Robert Binder

Quick recap

The CAC meeting focused on the University of Oregon's Sustainable City Year program's (SCYP) progress and upcoming projects in Tualatin, including various student initiatives and collaborations between multiple universities. The discussion covered several ongoing projects such as transportation planning, market studies, and urban design work, with specific emphasis on student involvement and community engagement. The conversation ended with a review of project timelines and potential benefits of involving students in pre-development planning, highlighting the importance of community involvement throughout the process.

Summary

Sustainable City Year Program Planning

The CAC meeting focused on the Sustainable City Year program, with a discussion about upcoming projects and student involvement over the next academic year. The group reviewed the latest project schedule and planned to meet again on October 29th for a presentation from CIVILIS Consultants on the Community Identity Report. The meeting began with an icebreaker about fall comfort food, with various members sharing their favorite dishes.

Sustainable City Year Program Update

Megan Banks presented an update on the Sustainable City Year Program, highlighting its progress since June. She explained the program's process of matching classes with city-identified priority projects, using Tualatin's Downtown Revitalization project as an example. Megan also mentioned the creation of online resources related to Tualatin and introduced Robert Binder, an assistant visiting professor who would be speaking later about his specific urban transportation class.

Sustainable City Program Website Updates

Megan presented updates on the SCYP webpage for Tualatin, highlighting the inclusion of city graphics and student resources. She mentioned that the page would be updated as classes progress and that faculty could add more materials. Megan also shared that four fall projects with seven classes at the University of Oregon are currently involved in the program, with more classes being matched in the winter and spring terms. The virtual open houses, initiated during COVID-19, were noted as a useful tool for sharing project updates.

Tualatin Downtown Classes

Megan explained the fall classes include: urban transportation, marketing, planning and design, and timber tectonic.

Robert Binder, a visiting assistant professor from USC, outlined his upcoming urban transportation course that will involve a site visit to Tualatin on Wednesday, October 8, from 11 AM to 2:30 PM, including a guided tour with Sid Sin and CAC members. The course will involve students creating and evaluating comprehensive transportation plans.

Megan noted that students in the Oregon Consulting Group course will conduct a downtown market study for Tualatin to evaluate the business climate and provide actionable recommendations for economic development. This project will compare Tualatin's downtown with 3-5 other cities, including Sherwood and West Linn, to analyze branding, marketing, and downtown structures. She introduced a market survey to identify service gaps and barriers in the downtown core, with results to be used for strategic recommendations.

Professor Nancy Cheng introduced the Timber Tectonics project, which involves students designing modular structures for Tualatin's riverfront park expansion. The project aims to create a gathering space, boat rental facility, and restrooms, with student proposals due November 3rd. Nancy explained that small-scale prototypes and digital models would be created, with the possibility of using last year's wood. Kira Hein, Tualatin's Parks and Recreation Project Manager, emphasized the collaboration between the University of Oregon and Oregon State University and the potential for implementing the students' designs through a design firm.

Megan introduced the Downtown Tualatin Site Analysis and Land Use Planning project. She explained that Masters of Community and Regional Planning students will conduct a site analysis and conceptual design for downtown Tualatin, focusing on themes like economic development, age-friendly communities, and walkability. She highlighted the students' exposure to real-world planning challenges and their use of Tualatin's comprehensive plan and zoning code in their assignments. Skip Stanaway suggested that participants study

Tualatin's businesses and history through the Chamber of Commerce and Heritage Center websites for inspiration and context. Committee members and staff discussed age-friendly urban design, focusing on creating spaces for multiple generations.

Megan emphasized that students participating in SYCP projects are not consultants and may not provide fully refined outcomes. The group also discussed a 40-acre site for urban design analysis, which was selected after considering connectivity to parks and historical sites. Concerns were raised about traffic analysis and the inclusion of major routes in the study. Robert explained that while his students will not conduct full engineering analyses, they will examine traffic patterns and geometry within and beyond the project boundary. Megan outlined the schedule for student site visits and final presentations, emphasizing the importance of community involvement.

Sid presented the project timeline, highlighting key events such as the kickoff event, site visits, and final presentations. The group discussed the potential benefits of involving students in pre-development planning, potentially saving the city money and providing fresh perspectives.