Corvallis Sustainability Coalition

Transportation Action Team (TAT) Meeting Agenda

Wed, November 18 2020, 3:30-5pm, on Zoom

AGENDA: Equity Impact Assessment of the TAT's Bike Valet Program, led by Jim Stratton

ATTENDANCE:

Sylvan Spiegel Hoover (Corvallis Bicycle Collective Board Member)

Annette Mills (League of Women Voters, Corvallis Sustainability Coalition)

Steph Nappa (Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments Transportation Planner)

Jay Thatcher (Cycling Educator, Parks & Rec Bike Camp instructor)

Margie Stevens (Corvallis Climate Action Advisory Board, Coalition Steering Committee)

Dave Rabinowitz (Coalition's Land Use Action Team)

Steve Starcevich (Coalition's TAT)

Jim Stratton (Multicultural Literacy Center)

Josh Capps (City of Corvallis Public Works, Active Transportation Program Specialist)

Lorie Bailey (Coalition Treasurer)

Judy Dugan (TAT member)

Sara Dalotto (OSU Transportation Services)

Rachel Schwindt (Corvallis Right of Way)

MEETING NOTES:

Bike Valet Program Overview (Lorie Bailey with notes from Kevin Grant)

Bike valets occurred before TAT got involved, such as at daVinci Days. The first bike valet from TAT was the 2012 Corvallis Fall Festival (September 22), as part of World Car Free Day. Starting in 2013, TAT provided bike valet at both days of Fall Festival. TAT worked with Trevor Heald (now incorporated as Marys River Metalworks) to build racks transportable by bike; some were purchased by City and some by Coalition then donated to City. Since then the program has been used at growing number and diversity of annual events: Septembeerfest, Juneteenth, Sustainability Coalition Townhall. Even though the program is offered as a free service, starting in 2015, TAT added "Suggested Donation" signage and each event has become a decent fundraiser for the team. At each event, the program has been staffed by volunteers from TAT and other coalition action teams. The Bike Valet Program is strongly associated with the coalition and has become a community builder within the coalition, in collaboration with City staff, and community members.

Equity Impact Assessment (Jim Stratton)

We followed the long version of the EIA, written by Jane Waite (2018), which included 10 questions. Discussion with limited to six minutes for each question. See attached document for details about the EIA questions.

1. Identifying stakeholders:

People who like craft beer

Fall festival attendees represent a wide demographic of people, including families Students

People within reasonable biking distance

Only bike owners (some skateboarders)

2. Engaging stakeholders: Who is missing and how can they be effectively engaged?

New events engaging new stakeholders: Juneteenth, Dam Jam, OSU football games.

Event attendees may not know the service will be provided.

Spanish-speaking community may not know this service exists.

City doesn't advertise this service, how can those unaware of this service and unconnected to coalition find out about it. The City (Josh) receives orders for bike racks and facilitates rack scheduling, including for non-TAT events: Mead Festival, Octoberfest.

Engagement suggestions:

Translate signage to Spanish

Advertise on City website

Require the bike valet program is included in event's promotional materials

Reach out to new groups (e.g., contact Casa Unidos)

3. Identifying and documenting inequities:

Are there any data on demographics of usage?

Kevin Grant has numbers on how many used the program Open Streets and other events.

City (Josh) has rental agreement data.

Part of the reason for using bike valet is to reduce dependence on cars and make it more convenient, how can we improve that?

Provide a suggestion box to those who used the program and ask others why they didn't use it. Multilingual signs at the valet parking site.

Some concern about facilitating riding under the influence of alcohol; we could point out safer (and legal) ways for people under the influence to get home.

4. Examining the causes that produce or perpetuate inequities:

Non-English speakers may not be able to use, or feel comfortable using, the program.

Only those who already know about the program can use it.

At the Juneteenth event Lorie noticed the program wasn't listed on their website of their event; she worked with the event organizers to add it.

Recruit volunteers from partner orgs and event organizations.

Concern about class issues surrounding the word "valet"

5. Clarifying the purpose and advancing equity and inclusion:

Promote an active lifestyle for more community members.

Reduce impact on environment.

Provide a safe place to park bikes.

Community building exercise.

Expanding the program to include more events, but it is time consuming to set up an event for a volunteer and can lead to volunteer burnout.

Farmer's market might be a good place spread the word.

Expand the program's mission to include bike parking alone with no valet service.

Consider a pilot project to distribute bike racks in bike parking deserts, expand the role of the racks.

Disabilities and mobility issues, reach out to include people.

6. Considering the adverse impacts (unintended consequences):

Contact underserved groups and ask them what they think about it.

Although a great fundraiser, some may feel pressure to pay and avoid using the program.

Consequence: burnout of volunteers.

Bike thieves will feel thwarted.

Set up and take down and how the racks get to the location is difficult.

7. Advancing equitable impacts:

Teach some phrases in other languages.

As a bike valet fun meeting new people, students from OSU

Ask event organizers to volunteers with TAT volunteers;

Provide education table at each valet event and increase the volunteer list.

Community building exercise; one of the few coalition projects that brings people from across the coalition.

8. Examining alternatives or improvements:

See previous answers.

9. Ensuring viability and sustainability:

Realistic in its current state.

Expanding would take a lot more volunteers.

TAT leader spends more time on this event than any other coalition event.

Increase pool of volunteers.

Use nice snacks/other benefits to lure new volunteers (e.g., tokens for food trucks, maybe invest some of TAT donations).

Recording testimonials at the bike valet.

Delineate roles so the event doesn't fall on the TAT leader or a small group of volunteers. Create mailing list to prompt volunteers.

Consider paying staff time.

Get others involved: families, greek system houses looking for volunteer projects, harnessing groups that may not use the program; high school/college public service hours can be earned.

10. Identifying success indicators:

The number of events is a good measure of success, more than the number of participants. Send a survey to users or event organizers to evaluate the program.

Repeat this EIA to keep equity and program evaluation on our consciousness; need to get this into the DNA of the coalition. Development of the shortened form is for when you've done the long form a few times.

Brainstorm on city/county events that don't know about this program and may want to use it. Turkey trot opportunity; parks and rec events.

Other action teams have used Spanish language translators.

Make sure our signs are translated.