

Kellogg Lake Light Rail Bridge/Trolley Trail Meeting Notes

August 10, 2009
Milwaukie Grange

Purpose of the meeting:

Discuss new light rail bridge over Kellogg Lake and SE McLoughlin Blvd. Address includes re: the bridge alignment/structure, pedestrian and bike connections, potential property and construction impacts and how light rail tracks will interact with Trolley Trail.

Attendance:

Seventy community members representing Milwaukie, Oakgrove and Jennings Lodge neighborhoods and businesses.

Staff representing TriMet, Clackamas County, City of Milwaukie; North Clackamas Parks, Oregon Department of Transportation and Metro.

Pedestrian/Bike Access

- Pedestrian connections across Kellogg Lake connecting Island Station neighborhood to downtown Milwaukie light rail station.
- Continuous sidewalk on the eastside of McLoughlin from Kellogg Lake railroad trestle to Park Ave.
- Sidewalk along eastside of McLoughlin would be redundant with Trolley Trail on the westside.
- Pedestrian connection to Kronberg Park.
- Improve sidewalk along McLoughlin from River Rd. to Kronberg Park.

Traffic

- Concern that the Park Avenue Park and Ride will overwhelm the intersection at Oatfield and Park Avenue. The intersection needs to have traffic signal, lanes widened and left turn lanes installed.
- Concern that Milwaukie Station will increase traffic on Lake Road and SE 21st Street.
- Concern about traffic impacts in downtown Milwaukie during and after light construction.

Bridge Structure

- Prefer an “at grade” light rail crossing of McLoughlin.
- Clear span bridge is preferred. Could be a nice area in the lake bed.
- Would like to see bridge as an enhancement to Milwaukie.
- Concrete bridge would be ok.
- Concerned about height of bridge.
- Use stormwater runoff for green areas (River Road to Bluebird Streets).
- I-205 Green Line bridge structures are not desirable.
- Would like to see artistic treatment of the bridge.
- View of trestle is not important.
- Do not make the structure look like a trestle.

- Architecturally integrate old timber feel.
- Like the idea of constructing a steel bridge, but make it look lighter not industrial.
- Like architectural features of Bybee Bridge. Bridge should be colored/textured.
- Bridge character should have continuous theme throughout light rail line.
- Don't make structure blank—it will attract graffiti. Suggest constructing stone columns like Bybee Bridge.
- Be mindful of the context and scale. Better architecture can enhance the surrounding environment. Worth investing in good materials and treatments so the bridge looks good for 100 years.
- Would like to see a gentle arch in the bridge for the portion that spans the Kellogg Lake.
- Treat both sides of bridge with signage “Entering Oak Grove”.
- Structure must be well lit.
- Make sure that the four bridge segments flow together.
- Concern about noise impacts when light rail vehicle travels along curve of bridge. Make sure it will not impact homes and wildlife.
- Would like to see pedestrian crossing from eastside of McLoughlin, over Kellogg Lake, to Milwaukie Station.
- Like the idea of a pedestrian walkway under the bridge structure. Would like to see benches installed too.
- Would not use pedestrian bridge under Kellogg structure.
- Concerned about people trespassing on Kellogg structure. Currently there are people injuring themselves while trespassing on trestle bridge.
- Pedestrian bridge across Kellogg could minimize trespassing if cost effective.
- Do not want pedestrian walkway on the bridge if it increases the height of the bridge.
- Pedestrian bridge across Kellogg would be a good addition to the park, but if the lake goes away you wouldn't need the bridge as much.

Trolley Trail

- Concern about safety and security need for lighting and visibility.
- Concern about transients.
- Question about Trolley Trail construction schedule.
- Could you just have Trolley Trail go along McLoughlin?
- Concerns about proximity of light rail to Trolley Trail. What will separate the two?
- Don't build temporary trail. Construct segment between Kellogg and Park Ave. with light rail. Detour bikes and pedestrians from Park Ave to River Rd.
- Don't like having to go uphill on Park for detour, would rather see detour on eastside of McLoughlin.
- Stage construction so Trolley Trail is constructed first.
- Would rather have light rail tracks on McLoughlin than taking out trees.
- Would like retaining walls along Trolley Trail to be terraced.
- Would like to see retaining walls with texture treatment.
- Plant trees along trail to soften the look. Create a “green” mural.
- Artistic treatment “relevant to neighborhood/history” at large retaining wall.
- Need decorative fencing along the trail.
- Could portion of Trolley Trail dip into the ODOT site and have a buffer between trail and light rail tracks?
- There is no sound mitigation between light rail tracks and trail.

Kronberg Park

- Need access to Kronberg Park. Would like to see at grade pedestrian and bike connections to the park to increase its use.
- Kronberg was not intended to be left in the “wild” natural state. Would like to see improvements made.
- Add an attractive feature to connect Kronberg Park and the Milwaukie Station.
- Would like to see ball field at the park.
- If the park is needed for construction all equipment must be removed and park restored in better condition.

Light Rail Construction and Operations Impacts

- Very concerned about construction impacts.
- Use trees and landscape to buffer noise.
- Need construction business support information now!
- Contact commercial property owners re construction. Concern about losing tenants.
- Concern about emergency vehicles accessing Sparrow Street.
- See ODOT yard (as Sparrow Street) as opportunity site. How will yard be accessed?
- Very upset that trees will be removed. Houses along the trail will lose sound buffer.

Bus Connections

- Increase bus service on River Road.
- Suggest River Road bus line travel along McLoughlin and loop through downtown Milwaukie.
- Suggest bus service from River Road to Park Ave Station northbound on McLoughlin to Tacoma Station.
- Would like to see pedestrian crossing to Park Ave station from northbound bus stop.
- Would like to see bus shuttle from Milwaukie Station to Tacoma.
- Would like Line #33 McLoughlin to run through Island Station neighborhood southbound via SE 22nd and 23 rd to Park Ave.

Safety

- Concern about people trespassing on new Kellogg Bridge. Currently there is trespassing on railroad trestle.
- Concern about being trapped between fence along Trolley Trail and retaining wall. How do you give people options to get out or avoid uncomfortable situations? Could there be a track crossing from trail to McLoughlin to give people a way out?

Other

- Would like restrooms in parking garages and at stations.
- Likes the idea of removing Kellogg Dam.
- Would like to Sky Bridge between Park Avenue station and garage.