

Friends of Portland Streetcar
Thursday, 20 April 2023
Via Zoom

Members Present:

- Stephen Weber, Chair
- David Brandt

Mobile Music Festival Recap

- Finally back after three years
- Smaller event than in previous years, but the turnout was pretty good
- There was a slight issue with an operator on one train, but the event otherwise went smoothly
- Andrew would like to start doing more smaller music festivals more often to align with events around the city

Car 031 Update

- Brookville is sending out an engineer to address an electrical issue with the car
- Car testing starts this Sunday in South Waterfront from Midnight to 6am
 - There will be eight runs each night of about three minutes each to test the propulsion and braking
 - PBOT will be blocking S Moody from the Tilikum Crossing to S Lowell during the test runs
 - More info: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORPORTLAND/bulletins/35622c1>
- Some paint touch-up work will need to be done before the car enters service
- PSI will not be exercising the option to purchase two more trains from Brookville
 - Washington, DC has bought our options instead
- Dan hopes to be able to invite us for a preview ride in late May or June
- Cars 032 and 033 are expected to arrive in the coming months
- All three cars are expected to be in revenue service by the middle of summer

The Future of the Fleet

- Car 015 will be going to auction in the coming weeks
 - Dan offered the car to both the Oregon Rail Heritage Center (ORHF) and the Oregon Electric Railway Historical Society (the group that runs the Willamette Shore Trolley) and neither museum were interested
- Security cameras and new passenger information displays have arrived to be retrofitted on the fleet
 - Similar equipment to what will be on the car from Brookville
 - Dan wants to unify the fleet with one, digital system on all cars
- PSI hopes to publish a request for proposals to manufacture 11 new cars to replace cars 001-010 and 015 around 2026
 - Dan has already started looking at vendors and has identified one that would likely be a good fit if they submit a bid
 - A 100% low-floor design is desired
 - A train capable of running off-wire is desired
 - Would allow for a lower cost to build the NW 23rd extension to Montgomery Park
 - If the RFP is launched in 2026, the hope is to begin receiving cars two to three years later, in time for a potential Montgomery Park alignment

Returning To In-Person Meetings

- Stephen will reach out to Andrew to see if PSI is still an option for a meeting location
- The Capital One Café at Pioneer Square was identified as a good possible alternative

Next Meeting: Thursday, 18 May at 3:30pm. Location TBD.