



MINUTES (Approved on 5-1-19)

TIME: Wednesday, April 17, 2019, 5:00 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Tacoma Municipal Building, 1st Floor, 747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402
PRESENT: Stephen Wamback (Chair), Carolyn Edmonds, Ryan Givens, David Horne, Jeff McInnis, Brett Santhuff, Andrew Strobel, Dorian Waller
ABSENT: Anna Petersen (Vice-Chair)

A. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM CALL

Chair Wamback called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. A quorum was declared.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with a modification to begin discussion item D-1 first to allow time for discussion with the Co-Chairs of the Transportation Commission and then go back to Public Comments before finishing D-1.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

D. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Tacoma Dome Link Extension

Lihuang Wung, Planning Services Division, facilitated the Planning Commission's review of the draft letter of scoping comments to be forwarded to Sound Transit concerning the Tacoma Dome Link Extension (TDLE) project. Also present were Jane Moore and Gerrit Nyland, Co-Chairs of the Transportation Commission, to provide feedback and discuss what the Transportation Commission's draft letter would entail. Mr. Wung provided an overview of the project, highlighting the timeline and upcoming Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process in which Sound Transit will continue to study the preferred stations and routes for the project.

Mr. Wung went over the draft letter, which was prepared based on the letter drafted by Commissioner Santhuff, reviewed at the April 3, 2019 meeting, as well as observations and comments from Commissioners and Transportation Commission Co-Chairs.

Both Co-Chairs agreed that overall the letters are very similar and share the same message, but differ in the fact that the Transportation Commission's letter will not include anything about the cut-and-cover station option, as the commission has not yet reached an agreement on the subject.

(The Co-Chairs then excused themselves for the Transportation Commission's meeting and the discussion was paused for public comments.)

The Commission resumed discussion. The consensus was that the letter turned out well, and everyone's efforts were appreciated. It was noted that it is important to make a strong statement, especially on the subject of the cut-and-cover station option. The point was made that the urging should be for Sound Transit to give an equal amount of study to the cut-and-cover option as other alternatives, and not necessarily to choose cut-and-cover as the only station option. The Commissioners discussed examples of wording changes in section 8 of the draft letter. Specifically,

changing the first sentence in section 8, paragraph 3, to read: “We strongly recommend a below-grade, cut-and-cover station and track facility option be studied.”

The Commission also reviewed who the letter will be sent to, noting that the letter should be sent to the Sound Transit Board Members in Pierce County in addition to the recipients currently listed.

Commissioner Santhuff moved to authorize the letter on the TDLE with the discussed changes, Commissioner Edmonds seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

E. TOPICS OF THE UPCOMING MEETING (May 1, 2019)

- (1) 2019 Amendment Public Hearing No. 1 – Future Land Use Map Implementation

F. COMMUNICATION ITEMS

The Commission acknowledged receipt of the information.

G. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

**These minutes are not a direct transcription of the meeting, but rather a brief capture. For full-length audio recording of the meeting, please visit:*

http://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/committees_boards_commissions/planning_commission/agendas_and_minutes/