



Parking Technical Advisory Group General Meeting Minutes

Hybrid Meeting Hosted in Tacoma, WA 98402

Virtually via ZOOM // In person via 747 Market Street Tacoma WA 98405 Room 243

Thursday March 2, 2023 - Occurs First Thursday, Monthly

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m.
Members Present	Steph Farber (Co-Chair), Joe Loran (Co-Chair), Dorene Callier, David Schroedel, James Sinding,
Members Absent	Stephanie Sarber
City Staff Present	Eric Huseby (Public Works), Rachel Barra (Public Works)
Guests Present	Eric Mcmillan (Republic Parking NW) Drene Sellers (Office of Equity & Human Rights) Natalya German (Republic Parking NW) Lee MacClellan (Public Works) Owen Ronchelli (Rick Williams Consulting) Pete Collins (Rick Williams Consulting)
Regular Business	<p>PTAG Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Updates <p>Transportation Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On January 18, 2023, Co-Chair Bruce Morris and CM Matt Stevens were nominated for the 2023 Co-Chair positions.• At the February 15, 2023 meeting, motion passed electing Bruce Morris & Matt Stevens for Co-Chair positions.• February TC minutes were share with PTAG members prior to the meeting. <p>City Updates:</p> <p>Eric Huseby,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parking Services recently started recruitment to fill two Parking Enforcement Officer positions. The candidates have passed the background check process and offers have been accepted. Start



dates are scheduled for mid-March and mid-April.

- Contract negotiations with Bill Timmer (consultant selected for the 'Improving ADA Enforcement' project in coordination with TACID) has wrapped up. Bill Timmer is actively kicking off the conversations for this project. Staff may have a progress update to share at the April or May meeting.

Rachel Barra,

- The Annual Work Plan has a new format. The new changes include a linear timeline that visualizes all emerging topics, reoccurring items and the downtown action plan elements. The work plan also forecasts out to 2025. The scheduling of work plan items is subject to change, but the new format allows members to forecast the sequencing of topics and discussions. A copy of the current work plan for 2023 was shared with PTAG members prior to the meeting,

4:30 p.m.

Public Comment

NA

Agenda Items:

4:35 p.m.

**Downtown Occupancy
Data by Subzone**

Led by Owen Ronchelli with Rick Williams Consulting, consultants to the PTAG working in affiliation with Public Works, Parking Services

Overview on the methodology, scope and a snapshot of the parking occupancy performance in each subzone per the fall 2022 data collection.

Key points in the presentation included:

- 2022 data collection followed the same integrated data collection (on-street and off-street) as done in the 2019 data collection.
- The boundaries generally encompassed the majority of Downtown. Those boundaries ranged from S 4th St to S 23rd St, Tacoma Ave to the waterfront. With the County Commercial Business District extending to Yakima Ave. The Dome subzone followed the formal boundaries of the Dome Business District. The area was broken into 10 subzones.
- Off-Street sites are categorized by the corresponding land use type. This spatially identifies the surpluses and constraints in



the parking system by the associated land use.

- On-Street
 - Overall, a 30%-point drop in peak occupancy is observed throughout.
 - The number of empty stalls has doubled since 2019.
 - The UWT extended campus area has experienced the biggest shift in occupancy levels, 52.3 percentage points.
 - The Mid CBD subzone has remained the most consistent, only 15.5 percentage points.
- Off-Street
 - Overall, 27%- point drop in peak occupancy.
 - The number of empty stalls has nearly doubled.
 - The Brewery subzone has not changed in occupancy levels, 67% in peak occupancy remains.
 - The South CBD subzone has experienced the biggest shift in occupancy levels, 51.5 percentage points.
- Key Takeaway- Impacts from the pandemic still lingers in the downtown parking system. This is an ongoing trend amongst west coast cities. Traditional parking management approaches for efficiency may not be necessary to implement right away. Recommends looking for opportunities to use surplus parking for more active uses (even if temporary).
- The April 6 PTAG Meeting will be focused on taking a deeper dive into the assessment.
- Steph Farber, agrees with the logic of holding off on consideration to deploy traditional parking management strategies. The focus is to create for opportunities for people to come downtown. Not get more cars to park downtown.
- Joe Loran, recognizes the downtown parking system has not reached the 'new normal' phase. Interested in learning what indicators could be used to determine the system has reached its 'new normal.'
- David Schroedel, hearing the observations that the occupancy levels are down for several other jurisdictions; he is interested in learning how Tacoma compares to others. Owen shared that generally Tacoma is faring better than Portland Oregon. But overall, the levels are performing well compared to most.
- David Schroedel, requests more spatial visuals of the subzones in future presentations.



**4:45 p.m.
PTAG Recruitment
Process**

Presented by David Schroedel, consultant to the PTAG working in affiliation with Public Works, Parking Services

Key points in the presentation included:

- PTAG is structured with 12 seats with members serving on 2 year terms.
- PTAG has 4 vacancies to fill.
- Recruitment efforts must aim to follow the membership standing structure that PTAG restructured in 2021.
- Postings on Tacoma's city site have proven to be difficult in recruiting potential candidates. Informal connections in the community are typically more effective.
- Call to action for PTAG members to supplement the formal recruitment process by reaching out within their community and bring people to the table who are passionate about improving the transportation landscape at the curb.

Adjournment

Steph Farber ended meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Commonly Used Acronyms:

- PTAG- Parking Technical Advisory Group
- TACID- Tacoma Area Coalition of Individuals with Disabilities
- TC- Transportation Commission
- CBD- Commercial Business District
- UWT- University of Washington Tacoma