



City of Tacoma
Transportation Commission

Jane Ann Moore, Co-Chair
Justin Leighton, Co-Chair
Gary Hofmann
Michael Hutchinson
Judi Hyman
Yoshi Kumara
Vance Lelli
Evette Mason
Jacki Skaught
Andrew Strobel
John Thurlow

MINUTES

*** Due to technical difficulties, the audio recording for this meeting is not available.**

MEETING: REGULAR TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
TIME: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015, 5:30 P.M.
PLACE: 9TH FLOOR VISIBILITY CENTER, TACOMA MUNICIPAL BUILDING
747 MARKET STREET, TACOMA, WA 98402

1. CALL TO ORDER
Co-Chair Jane Moore called the meeting to order at 5:39 PM.
2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS
Commission Members Leighton and Hoffman were excused absences.
Commission member Hutchinson was absent. Commission member Lelli arrived at 6:05 p.m.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
CM Mason moved to approve the August 19, 2015 minutes. Seconded by CM Skaught. CM Hyman requested the minutes be amended to include mention of a discussion regarding the proposed Theatre District Link Station relocation and the owners of a business nearby. CM Strobel moved to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by CM Mason.
Voice vote was taken and carried.
4. BUSINESS ITEMS
 - a. MAYOR'S TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE – INFORMATIONAL
City Council Member Ryan Mello presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Mayor's Transportation Package. His slides addressed the following topics: stakeholder input, dedicated funding efforts, proposed package funding, proposed projects, residential street improvements, other projects, the ballot measures "Proposition No. 3" and "A", and street repair and maintenance funding. He noted that Resolution No. 39236 that sent Proposition No. 3 to the ballot states that the City Manager must do an annual progress report to the public through the Transportation Commission. Discussion ensued regarding why the Transportation Commission were not involved earlier in the process, plans for public outreach prior to the November election, and Council Member Mello's expectation of the Transportation Commission regarding future review of the annual progress reports. Council Member Mello also provided Commission members with a one-page document about Propositions 3 and A, and discussed the planned efforts of the political organization "Fix Tacoma Streets."

CM Lelli arrived here, at 6:05 p.m.

Mr. Diekmann noted he would send Commission members some information about permissible and prohibited activities relating to political campaigns.



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b. CENTERS OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE – (JOSH DIEKMANN) INFORMATIONAL

Josh Diekmann stated there will be a new appendix added to the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) for Centers of Local Importance.

c. ELECTIONS

CM Strobel moved to keep the status quo for Chair/Vice Chair. Seconded by CM Kumara. Co-Chair Moore stated she is agreeable to being Co-Chair for another year. Voice Vote was taken and carried. The motion was adopted.

5. Other Business/Updates – Mr. Diekmann finished reviewing a PowerPoint presentation outlining comments received on the TMP during the Planning Commission’s recent public comment period that was intended for the joint Transportation Commission/Planning Commission meeting held earlier this evening at 5:00 p.m. The first set of slides addressed the following: project list and project map, safety and level of service, and comments from the Port of Tacoma. Mr. Diekmann requested guidance on whether staff should be making changes to the prioritization criteria. CM Mason provided some additional information on the Port’s comments. Discussion continued regarding the prioritization criteria. Mr. Diekmann continued reviewing the remaining slides regarding parking, comments from the Parking Advisory Task Force (PTAG), impact fees, mapping, 20-minute neighborhoods, citizen comments, priority networks, complete streets policies and the green hierarchy, performance reporting, underdeveloped rights-of-way, and connectivity. Discussion ensued regarding the purpose of the map updates (trails/recreation and 20-minute neighborhoods); and concern over extending the boundaries out too far. Mr. Diekmann then discussed the PTAG’s comments and CM Hyman provided additional information. Mr. Diekmann noted that all of the comments received will be collected and forwarded on to this Commission for review and feedback to the Planning Commission. He noted the TMP is now under the Planning Commission’s timeline and staff will have to begin drafting changes now. Discussion ensued regarding protocol for communicating electronically. Co-Chair Moore requested that all communication be sent through staff and that members please clarify their intent, and indicate whether the information is for staff or for commission members.

Mr. Diekmann then shared several other updates:

1. “Parking Day” will be held on September 18, 2015.
2. A letter was sent to Kristina Walker from the Mayor, thanking her for her service.
3. Downtown on the Go will host a bike ride on September 23, 2015.
4. A scoping meeting for the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan will occur on September 17, 2015 at the Asia Pacific Cultural Center.
5. The City of Tacoma and Sound Transit received a \$2 million dollar grant for planning work related to the Tacoma Link expansion.
6. A handout was provided regarding the State Transportation Funding Package for 2015.

7. The Prairie Line Trail Open House was held yesterday, September 15, 2015.

8. Mr. Diekmann provided a brief update on the Traffic Box Wrap Project, a program to add works of art by local artists to traffic signal boxes that are often targeted by vandalism.

9. The Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (Six-Year TIP) will be going before the City Council soon, and staff will also be working on the new Six-Year TIP around December-January.

Mr. Diekmann stated the next meeting of this Commission will include updates on various ordinance changes including the Model-Traffic, Unified Development Code, Low-Impact Development, and Design Manual.

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)

CM Hyman stated the PTAG is reviewing residential parking permits and more updates will be forthcoming.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

Co-Chair Moore stated the BPTAG's last meeting was a tour of the Prairie Line Trail.

c. Commission Comments

CM Thurlow spoke on Pierce Transit's new express bus service pilot project connecting Northeast Tacoma to downtown Tacoma.

CM Mason spoke on the Northwest Seaport Alliance's safety tips for cyclists and truck drivers when sharing the road.

Co-Chair Moore stated the 2015 Pierce County Trails Conference is October 14, 2015 at the Puyallup Activity Center.

Mr. Diekmann stated CM Hoffman has notified staff that his term ends in November and he does not wish to continue serving. Staff will notify the City Manager's Office since Mr. Hoffman's position is appointed by the City Manager.

Mr. Diekmann then showed Commission Members a large printed copy of the bike/pedestrian multi-modal map and asked for feedback. Members had comments regarding corridor connectivity.

6. Staff Reports

Staff reports were heard previously in the meeting.

7. Public Comment

None.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.