



City of Tacoma  
Transportation Commission

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

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MINUTES

MEETING: REGULAR TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING  
TIME: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2015, 5:30 P.M.  
PLACE: 9<sup>TH</sup> 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 5:35 PM.
2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS  
Commission Members Lelli and Hyman were excused absences.  
CM Kumara participated via telephone.

Co-Chair Leighton moved to amend the agenda to hear public comment first. Seconded by CM Strobel. Voice vote was taken and carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
Co-Chair Leighton moved to approve the minutes of October 21, 2015. Seconded by CM Skaught. A slight typo was noted and corrected. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were approved.

Public Comment

1. Public comment was heard from Liz Kaster, Puyallup Watershed Initiative, Active Transportation Community of Interest. She requested a letter of support from the Transportation Commission to the City Council, requesting that the City of Tacoma dedicate \$50,000 in the mid-biennium budget adjustment to develop a Safe Routes to School Implementation Plan.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS
  - a. TACOMA MALL SUBAREA PLAN – INFORMATIONAL  
Molly Harris, Planning and Development Services (PDS) reviewed a Power Point presentation on the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan. She introduced Julia Walton from 3SquareBlocks Consulting. Ms. Harris displayed a map of the project area; then reviewed the policy background, project approach, and public input. Ms. Walton reviewed neighborhood structure, goals for neighborhood structure, and an illustrative vision plan. She briefly discussed a summary of the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) created by Fehr and Peers for the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan effort. Commission members requested a copy of it. She and Ms. Harris then reviewed transportation, transportation and storm water opportunities, green street concepts, potential regulatory approach, and next steps. Ms. Walton noted this item will go before the City Council next year. Discussion ensued regarding the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan stakeholder committee, and Co-Chair Leighton encouraged



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consistent meetings and structure. He also requested staff return to this Commission with updates on how any potential changes in the mall area link to the TMP before any decisions are made. Discussion ensued regarding the makeup of the Tacoma Mall area and potential pushback from property owners in the area. Co-Chair Moore requested staff keep the Commission up to-date on this item.

b. BREWERY DISTRICT TRAFFIC STUDY –INFORMATIONAL

Josh Diekmann discussed the intent of the Brewery District traffic study and displayed a draft study schedule. He discussed plans for growth in the area near South 21<sup>st</sup> Street. He noted there are no study conclusions ready at this point, but staff are holding weekly meetings and he can return with a follow-up. Discussion ensued how the South Downtown Subarea Plan fits into this study with regard to the flow of automobiles, bicyclist and pedestrians. Discussion continued regarding the Pacific Avenue Corridor Study and if there is any opportunity to complete that study as a part of the Brewery District Study. Co-Chair Moore requested another update on this item in December or January.

c. TMP FINALIZATION - INFORMATIONAL

Mr. Diekmann stated staff just came from a special meeting of the Council's Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee where the Comprehensive Plan was reviewed. He noted the Council Committee appears to be comfortable with the TMP element of the Comprehensive Plan and it will go before the full Council for consideration in early December, with cleanup, modifications, and online posting first of the year.

d. ELECTION RESULTS – INFORMATIONAL

Jennifer Kammerzell briefed the Commission on the preliminary election results. She noted she will provide another update in December when more information becomes available. Co-Chair Leighton requested a copy of the two resolutions that sent Proposition 3 and Proposition A to the ballot.

5. Other Business/Updates

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)

Jennifer Kammerzell provided the PTAG update on CM Hyman's behalf stating that they are working on a final draft document to assist those interested in participating in the Residential Parking Program.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

Diane Wiatr, Active Transportation Coordinator for the City and staff liaison for the BPTAG, discussed a letter to the Transportation Commission from BPTAG, presenting thoughts on front-in versus back-in angle parking and its repercussions as Tacoma works to grow its

mixed-use centers. She noted they would like the preference of back-in angle parking incorporated into the TMP, the City's updated Design Manual, and all new parking projects. Discussion ensued regarding the reasons for the installation of front-in angle parking at Proctor Station, expressing a preference in the Design Manual, and the City's policy for parking. Co-Chair Leighton stated he would prefer this to be in the TMP as a policy on how the Commission wants parking to be implemented.

Ms. Wiatr then provided another BPTAG update, stating they are currently working on a design with Public Works for putting a bikeway on South 66<sup>th</sup> in front of Metro Parks' Star Center.

c. Transportation Master Plan Status

This item was discussed previously in the meeting.

d. Planning Commission Agenda

Mr. Diekmann stated tonight's Planning Commission meeting was cancelled.

e. Commission Comments

Co-Chair Moore stated Michael Hutchinson resigned from the Commission today due to personal and professional commitments. She requested a thank you letter be sent to him for his service on the Commission. Discussion ensued regarding the vacancies on the Commission that need to be filled.

Co-Chair Leighton moved to approve the "letter". Seconded by CM Skaught. Discussion ensued regarding the request for a letter of support from the Transportation Commission to the City Council, requesting that the City of Tacoma dedicate \$50,000 in the mid-biennium budget adjustment to develop a Safe Routes to School Implementation Plan. Co-Chair Leighton stated he is generally supportive of this item, but noted it would be good to have support from a Council Member. Discussion ensued regarding Propositions A and 3. Co-Chair Leighton requested an electronic copy of the request from Ms. Kaster. Voice vote was taken and carried on the decision to draft a letter of support. The motion was adopted.

Other Comments

Co-Chair Leighton provided news from Sound Transit, stating Peter Rogoff has been nominated to become the new chief executive.

Co-Chair Moore stated a PSRC Active Transportation workshop was held yesterday in Puyallup and there was a presentation on "Vision Zero." She asked if Commission members would like to be more firm about talking about Vision Zero and/or if members would be interested in having Tacoma become a Vision Zero city. She also provided a handout from Cascade Bicycle Club.

6. Staff Reports

Josh Diekmann stated a Target Zero Partners meeting is being held in December and he is attending, and will keep Co-Chair

Moore's comments in mind.

Mr. Diekmann stated a rating session for Sound Transit's ST 3 Project will be held next week and he will report on it.

Diane Wiatr stated the Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability is in the process of issuing an RFP for a study on bike sharing and staff may be assembling a stakeholder committee that Transportation Commission members may be asked to participate in.

7. Public Comment

Public comment was heard earlier in the meeting.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.