



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, JANUARY 20, 2016, 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 Leighton called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.  
  
Commission Member Kumara participated via telephone.
2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS  
Co-Chair Leighton announced that after evaluating the bylaws, the Commission will now be excusing absent members who have requested it, noting motions shall be made to approve the absences.  
  
CM Strobel moved to excuse Co-Chair Moore from tonight's meeting. Seconded by CM Mason. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was adopted.  
  
CM Skaught arrived at 5:35 p.m.  
  
CM Lelli arrived at 5:45 p.m.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
CM Hyman moved to approve the minutes of December 16, 2015. Seconded by CM Strobel. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were approved.



4. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. PIERCE TRANSIT LONG RANGE PLAN

Darin Stavish, Pierce Transit, provided background information on Pierce Transit's long range plan. He reviewed two key long-range transit plan components and discussed four future scenarios for either constrained or unconstrained funding: aspirational growth, rapid growth, incremental growth, and current conditions. He then reviewed the four scenarios in further detail, showing conceptual drawings for each.

Mr. Stavish concluded by reviewing internal and external challenges or obstacles, opportunities for growth, and next steps. He noted the draft plan is scheduled for release in February and he will be presenting to the City Council next week. Discussion ensued regarding how Pierce Transit will address challenges and the timeline for plan adoption.

b. S. 38<sup>TH</sup> STREET/LINCOLN BUSINESS DISTRICT PROJECT & FUTURE VISION

Bryan Elkins, Public Works Engineering, provided a brief update on the upcoming revitalization project in the Lincoln District. He reviewed planned pedestrian and transit improvements and discussed auto amenities. Discussion ensued regarding the type of outreach that has been conducted to business owners in the area, the project timeline, and if it will conflict with other construction projects in the city or on Interstate 5. Mr. Elkins discussed community engagement for this project including a field office on-site and the use of interpreters. Jennifer Kammerzell discussed how this project aligns with the Transportation Master Plan. CM Hyman requested that future project presentations include the section of the TMP that corresponds with the project. She also requested to have a hard copy of the TMP available at each Commission meeting to reference.

c. GRANT PROJECTS FOR 2016

Chris Larson, Public Works Engineering, reviewed the 2016 grant application process, including a list of typical grant opportunities that are available most years, and the list of draft Proposition 3 and A capital projects. Discussion ensued regarding certain grant requirements, arterial & residential street repairs, and if the City is bound to the design after a grant is awarded, or if beautification elements can be added or changed. Mr. Larson stated the Public Works Director has made a commitment that this commission will have the opportunity to review projects on the list, and asked how the Commission would like to receive grant project updates in the future. CM Strobel noted it would be good to see how projects on grant lists

were scored in the TMP.

d. BREWERY DISTRICT TRAFFIC STUDY

Josh Diekmann provided background information on the Brewery District Transportation Study. He reviewed the study area, including the purpose and need. He then reviewed proposed development, existing conditions for the non-motorized network, roadway operations and parking utilization; priority networks and performance measures for all modes. Mr. Diekmann then reviewed analysis methodology, 2022 conditions for all modes, potential mitigation measures, conceptual drawings for Fawcett Avenue with a bicycle/pedestrian priority; Hilltop access, and 2040 conditions. Co-Chair Leighton noted the concept of a stair climb up to the hilltop is a stated community goal in both the Hilltop Subarea Plan and the South Downtown Subarea Plan and asked staff to please keep that in mind if the City's 6.4-acre site is developed.

e. BYLAWS/MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Co-Chair Leighton stated the bylaws need to be amended to state the Commission's current meeting schedule, which is now the third Wednesday of each month. CM Mason moved to amend Section V. (A) of the Commission's bylaws by deleting the words "1st" and "And". Seconded by CM Lelli. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was adopted.

Discussion ensued regarding Section V. (D) regarding member absences. It was proposed to strike the word "consecutive" on the first line, and to strike the sentence, "If the Commission determines not to excuse such absences" on the third line. It was also proposed to split Section D on the fourth line and create a new Section "E" with a new sentence stating, "Upon missing 4 excused or unexcused regular meetings in a calendar year" on the first line before the remainder of the paragraph. CM Skaught moved the bylaw amendments in Section D and new Section "E" as proposed. Seconded by CM Strobel. Discussion ensued regarding the process for notifying staff and commission members of an absence. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was adopted.

5. Other Business/Updates

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)

CM Hyman stated the PTAG is currently analyzing parking counts conducted in October.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

There was no BPTAG report. Jennifer Kammerzell noted that the Commission's next meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup> will be a joint meeting with the BPTAG and there will be presentations on Vision Zero and a bike-share program. Discussion ensued regarding Safe Routes to School.

c. Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Status

Josh Diekmann stated the final version of the TMP is available and will be posted online soon. Commission members requested that a hard copy be brought to all future meetings.

d. Planning Commission Agenda

This item was not discussed.

e. Commission Comments

CM Hyman asked if the Committee is going to have a retreat this year. Ms. Kammerzell noted two new members will be joining the Commission in March and that may be a good time to revisit 2016 work plan topics or the possibility of a retreat.

CM Lelli inquired about the Lincoln District Project, and whether it was prompted because of other needed utility work in the area. He also inquired about the type of development proposed for the 6.4-acre site mentioned in the Brewery District Traffic Study.

CM Thurlow stated the Northeast Neighborhood Council has made preliminary comment on the proposed methanol plant, which included an item about expedited evacuation routes out of the tide flats and they need help articulating it better. Discussion ensued regarding the emergency warning system in Port, and PSE's proposed liquefied natural gas plant in the Port.

6. Staff Reports

Jennifer Kammerzell passed on a note of appreciation from Council Member Ryan Mello regarding the Commission's hard work and commitment toward Sound Transit's ST3 project.

CM Thurlow noted that he received an email notification recently regarding an upcoming Tacoma Transportation Benefit District public hearing on adjustments to their spending plan, and noted all Commission members should be receiving these types of notifications in the future.

Discussion ensued regarding this Commission's connection to the Transportation Benefit District (TBD) Governing Board. Discussion continued regarding the type of oversight and/or influence the Commission has on projects funded with TBD dollars or Prop A or Prop 3 dollars.

Co-Chair Leighton noted he will speak with Council Member Mello to clarify the Commission's responsibility with regard to the Prop 3 dollars. Discussion continued regarding this Commission's interest in receiving more information at the forefront.

7. Public Comment

Public comment was heard from Chris Karnes, Chair of the Pierce Transit Community Transportation Advisory Group.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.