



City of Tacoma
Transportation Commission

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

MINUTES

MEETING: Regular Transportation Commission Meeting
TIME: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.
PLACE: 9th 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 5:40 p.m.
2. Roll Call/Introductions
Co-Chair Moore, CM Lelli, CM Skaught were absent (Excused)
CM Hyman attended via phone-in.
3. Approval of Minutes (June 15, 2016)
The minutes were approved with one correction on page 1,
section 4 to change “quality” to “qualify”.
4. Business Items
 - a. Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan Update (Elliott Barnett)
Elliott Barnett provided an update on the actions &
recommendations outlined in the draft Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan
(TMSP). He focused on the connection between the
Transportation Master Plan (TMP) and TMSP, more specifically
the project selection criteria, and next steps. His PowerPoint
presentation provided a side-by-side comparison of each modal
priority in the TMP and TMSP.

CM Austin asked about the bicycle facilities along the South Tacoma Way at intersections and ensuring that they continue through intersections. Mr. Barnett said that as part of the year 20 plan, he would add that the trail is continuous along the South Tacoma Way route. Mr. Dana Brown explained that there will be a 10 ft sidewalk on one side of South Tacoma Way, which bikes are allowed to use; however, it cannot be called a trail because it doesn't meet WSDOT standards.

Co-Chair Leighton was concerned about parallel bike facilities crossing major thoroughfares, specifically the one on S 39th St, and asked if it could be further south by the Post Office where less conflicts might occur near S 38th St. CM Hyman concurred. Mr. Barnett explained that the intent was to create a parallel east-west route, since S. 38th St would not likely be able to accommodate a bike facility.



Co-Chair Leighton asked if staff has been working with the Mall and where the bike facilities are proposed. Mr. Barnett explained that the Mall has not confirmed the location, but that it is a long-range visionary plan and they were striving to think big.

Mr. Barnett pointed out that that the TMP shows Warner as a transit priority route, but the TMSP does not. He explained that Pierce Transit does not show it as a future route and the traffic model does not project a high volume of vehicle traffic. Co-Chair Leighton explained that the TMP was adopted prior to the adoption of Pierce Transit's long range plan. It would be beneficial to have the Pierce Transit planner explain prior thinking.

Mr. Barnett reviewed the project selection criteria, which is different from the TMP. The TMSP adds additional criteria, such as Land Use, economic development, and green/stormwater. Ms. Kammerzell explained that staff will evaluate the TMSP projects against the TMP criteria before determining if the criteria should change or how they get incorporated into the TMP. CM Mason asked if there is a financial component and if it did have a funding plan, such as an impact fee, how does this plan prioritize these projects. Mr. Barnett will be looking for feedback on the financing plan and wants to build on the evaluation criteria.

Mr. Barnett said that he will be back in September/October to review the draft and hopes that the Commission will provide public comment.

b. ADA Self-Evaluation & Transition Planning (Gail Himes)

Gail Himes provided a presentation on the history and purpose of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). She provided examples of discriminatory practices, program, and policies. She reviewed what the self-evaluation and transition plan. She explained what the City has done to date, which includes the ADA Transition Plan and Curb Ramp Matrix. Ms. Himes also discussed the City's partner project with UWT and Pierce Transit to evaluate shuttle access. She explained that funding is difficult. The priority improvements besides the ADA Transition Plan are requests she receives from individuals with barriers. *CM Austin asked about best practices for pedestrian signals and if there are locations with automatic crossings that can accommodate people with disabilities.* CM Thurlow asked if Neighborhood Council groups can help with the sidewalk inventory program. Ms. Himes said that she will work with the Hazardous Sidewalk Program to work on the inventory and needs. CM Strobel asked if Street Initiative Fund money would fund ADA. Ms. Himes explained that depending on certain street improvements, such as grind and overlays, ADA improvements would be required.

c. Transportation Master Plan Performance Measures
(Jennifer Kammerzell)

Jennifer Kammerzell provided a quick update on the status of the TMP Performance Measures. She explained that several measures will be proposed for revisions because of difficulty in obtaining information, cost to measure, and accuracy of data. Ms. Kammerzell stated that she would be presenting the spreadsheet to Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability on August 10, 2016. Based on feedback from the June meeting, a transit metric will be proposed for addition. She also asked the Commission to consider a how to measure equity and what the criteria would be. She will return in September/October to continue the discussion.

5. Other Business/Updates

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group
No Update

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group - June 27, 2016 –
East 40th St Corridor, Complete Streets Award (Grant),
Tacoma Streets Initiative Website Exploration

No update on the Mobility Coordinator position.

c. Planning Commission Agenda – July 20, 2016 - PC Annual
Report for 2015-2016 & Work Program for 2016-2018; Sound
Transit Update

d. Commission Comments

Co-Chair Leighton explained that he and Co-Chair Moore attended the July 13th IPS meeting to comment on the proposed Fawcett Avenue vacation. The Commission agreed to draft a letter to IPS about preserving Fawcett Avenue as a bicycle priority and ensure it is consistent with the TMP. CM Austin will draft the initial letter for review. The Commission discussed sending a letter to the City Manager and IPS about other departments recognizing and helping to implement the TMP.

Co-Chair Leighton asked about improvements on MLK Jr Way in front of People's Pool and if they would be redone as part of Link Light Rail. *Street Operations is improving South L Street, not MLK Jr Way.*

Co-Chair Leighton also asked for a copy of Kurtis Kingsolver's presentation to IPS.

6. Staff Reports
 - a. Responses to Commission Inquiries – None provided
 - b. Status of Grant Applications & Major Capital Projects – TIB, HSIP, FAST Grants – To be provided at August 17 meeting.
 - c. Upcoming Public Meetings & Events – None provided
7. Public Comment
 - A. Public comment was heard from Robert Hill, citizen.
8. Adjourn – 7:41 p.m.