



## Minutes

**Meeting:** Regular Meeting  
**Time:** Monday, December 19, 2018 at 5:30 P.M.  
**Place:** Conference Room 243, Tacoma Municipal Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

### I. Call to Order

Co-Chair Nyland called the meeting to order 5:30 PM.

### II. Roll Call/Introductions

Commissioner (CM) Moore and Williams were excused. CM Miller was absent. Members introduced themselves and the district they represent.

### III. Approval of Minutes (October 17, 2018)

The minutes were moved and approved as distributed.

### IV. Public Comment on Agenda Topics & PTAG Report Out

- a) There was no public comment.
- b) Parking Technical Advisory Group – Rachel Lindahl shared that the group is analysing the feedback obtained from community members for the Stadium District and looking at potential parking tools to address business, customer and resident concerns. CM Leighton asked for clarification on how the group will analyse the different uses and demands. Rachel explained that the group recognizes that this area is different than the downtown and will be looking at a variety of tools.

### V. Business Items:

- a) Pierce Transit Fast Foot Ferry Update

Ian Munce provided an overview of the Tacoma Fast Foot Ferry Feasibility Study, which is a partnership with Pierce Transit, Port of Tacoma, and City of Tacoma. He provided an overview of the route analysis, site evaluation, and cost. CM Brown pointed out that the original presentation included a stop in Federal Way and asked if that was still the case. Ian stated that it wasn't specifically included in this feasibility study, but if Federal Way were to partner financially, it could be an option. CM Leighton asked for clarification on the Pt



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Defiance dock and if it will need to be retrofitted. Ian stated that it can accommodate a 250 ft ferry.

Co-Chair Nyland asked what is the WA Ferries fare box recovery rate. Ian stated that it's about 70%, which the Tacoma ferry would be significantly less than that. CM Leighton asked who is the target audience. Ian stated that it is a difficult question, but that the team has not looked at the socio-economic impacts. The ferry would serve a 30 minute catchment area and would likely serve folks looking to pay for the alternative mode and commute. Ian stated that the study demonstrates that it is feasible; however, further analysis and development of a viable business plan is required. Funding, schedule & ridership, landing locations, economic impact, Seattle facilities, Regional coordination/collaboration, and community support. CM Nathan pointed out that the 11<sup>th</sup> St stop would be comparable to the Sounder Train, and folks may not choose to pay more for the ferry. Co-Chair Nyland asked if an environmental comparison would be included in the analysis, including diesel use. Ian stated that it would and the move to hydro-electric is helpful. CM Miller asked if staff talked with Kingston and learned from their project. Ian stated that they have. CM Leighton recommended that free parking should be removed. He also asked that future studies include socio-economic analysis and who this will be served, and can funds be better served by boosting transit dollars in underserved areas. He recommends that the Commission and City look at this with a true equity lens. Co-Chair Nyland recommends including the subsidies per trip.

b) Sound Transit Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension

Austin Neilson and Wilbert Santos provided an overview of the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension (HTLE), which included scheduling, station location, traction power substations (TPSS), and station design. In 2018, the final design was completed, permits approved, contract awarded, and utility relocation completed. The underground and construction will be primarily occurring 2019-2022. Wilbert reviewed each segment of construction and the work occurring. He pointed out that they are trying to be conscientious of the work and existing operations, which includes working in front of the school in the summer and in the business district after the holiday moratorium. Wilbert provided an overview of the community outreach and business mitigation, which includes a local community member that uses a variety of methods and times to conduct outreach. Wilbert pointed out that one of the contractor's staging location they chose is S 38<sup>th</sup> & Pacific. The contractor will be working with the City on the haul route for the 2-5 trucks (possibly up to 10) per day, which would not include use through Lincoln District and Pacific Avenue overpass. CM Gardner pointed out that the egress may not be a concern, but the ingress that requires a left into the site may be problematic. Wilbert stated that they will be holding several community meetings with the



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Eastside Collaborative and Eastside Neighbourhood Council to conduct outreach on impacts and potential mitigation, which includes art onsite.

c) Sound Transit Tacoma Dome Link Extension

Kirby provided an overview of the Tacoma Dome Link Extension, which extends regional link light rail to the Tacoma Dome Station with parking garages in Federal Way and Fife. The project is currently in the planning phase that includes alternatives development, environmental review, and alternative selection, which occurs 2018-2022. A detailed evaluation will occur October 2018-February 2019 with a goal to have a preferred alternative for summer 2019.

Kirby reviewed the Elected Leadership Group recommendations. CM Nathan asked why the stations south of I-5 for the east Tacoma did not move forward. Kirby explained that there were several concerns regarding impacts to Puyallup Tribe of Indians land and services, as well as single family homes. CM Nathan asked what were the benefits of TD1. Kirby explained that TD1 scored well for transit oriented development, where TD2 scored well for multimodal access. CM Nathan asked if Sound Transit is working with the City to provide connections to neighborhoods on the south side of I-5. Kirby is working with Josh Diekmann on current WSDOT projects that would provide wider sidewalks under I-5, as well as working with Pierce Transit and Puyallup Watershed Initiative. CM Leighton encouraged the Commission to look at how the east Tacoma station will help to revitalize the area that has vacant land. He asked when would the City be asked to provide comment on the Board preferred alternative. Austin explained that they are planning a February study session that inform the EIS scoping. A recommendation to Sound Transit Board would be preferred April/May 2019, which means the Transportation Commission should provide a recommendation to IPS by April. CM Leighton pointed out that TD1 and TD4 are a long trek to the regional bus station on Puyallup Avenue.

## VI. Other Business/Updates

- a) Sound Transit TDLE Stakeholder Group – Josh explained that the Stakeholder group reviewed what Kirby's presentation included. He relayed that CM Williams provided photos of the slides presented by Kirby and that TD2 appeared to meet the intent of the TMP the most. The Stakeholder group also discussed below and aerial station options.

Councilmember Beale provided input on the TDLE station locations and shared the concerns of CM Nathan and CM Leighton regarding support for the eastside neighborhood/communities and future development. He asked that the Commission voice concerns or recommendations to IPS. He also voiced concerns about the S 38<sup>th</sup> & Pacific staging location and will be working with Sound Transit to mitigate impacts. He encouraged the Commission to do a site visit of stop location



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- b) Bicycle & Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group – Jennifer Kammerzell stated that BPTAG has been reviewing the bike and scooter share pilot program. They have heard the comments/feedback and are looking at possible conditions as part of an extension and/or a permanent franchise agreement. At this time, the permit allows operation for Lime into January and Bird into February. CM Leighton pointed out concerns regarding bikes and scooters blocking sidewalks and ramps. CM Miller pointed out that there is an article on streetblog regarding bike and scooter share use.
  - c) Planning Commission – The Planning Commission agenda was included on the agenda.

#### **VII. Staff Reports**

- a) Responses to Commission Inquiries - Jennifer followed up on CM Gardner's request for a status update on S 64<sup>th</sup> Street Improvement project, which is in the final design phase and will be out to bid in the late winter.
- b) Status of Grant Applications & Major Capital Projects – Jennifer shared that Mary Lyon SRTS and South 19<sup>th</sup> & Clay Huntington crossing are proposed for the next round of State budget consideration.
- c) Upcoming Public Meetings – CM Gardner mentioned the next round of BRT open houses in the winter.

#### **VIII. Commission Comments**

Co-Chair Nyland proposed that the Commission consider looking at programmatic improvements, not just infrastructure projects. For example, he has been interested in how to implement making taxis accessible. He asked that the Work Plan Subcommittee (Nyland, Miller, and Morris) convene before the January 2019 meeting to review an agenda topic.

CM Brown encouraged the Commission to include equity in the conversation and implementation.

CM Leighton asked for a joint Planning Commission and Transportation Commission subcommittee to work on a TOD zoning. CM Nathan supported and would be interested in this subcommittee.

#### **IX. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **X. Adjourned at 7:24 pm.**