



CITY OF TACOMA BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING MINUTES

DATE: February, 24 2014

GROUP MEMBERS

PRESENT: Dave Cook, Jennifer Halverson Kuehn, Anne James, Aaron Knight, Paul Nordquist, Kris Symer

GROUP MEMBERS

ABSENT: Justin Camarata, Janet Higbee, Brandi Riddle, Ken Peachey

OTHERS PRESENT:

Stephen Atkinson, Hannah Miner, Darius Thompson, Raymond van der Roest, Diane Wiatr

- **Meeting called to order at 5:05 PM**
- **Introductions**
- **Approval of Minutes**
- **Bicycle Parking Code Changes as part of the 2014 Regulatory Code Amendment – Stephen Atkinson, Associate Planner, City of Tacoma**

Stephen Atkinson presented about code changes as a part of the Sustainability Code Amendments. The Bicycle Parking Code Changes include can be characterized by the following overarching themes:

- 1) Decoupling the automobile parking requirements from bicycle parking requirements
- 2) Differentiating between long and short term parking [because of security and weatherization considerations]
- 3) Increase consideration of specific trip origins and destinations by having different requirements for certain areas of the City
- 4) Specific design and locations [including certain features, including showers, changing facilities, and lockers]

These new code amendments are not being implemented to support current demand but are designed to support and plan for Tacoma's vision for bicycling demand. Research shows that about 50% of Tacoma residents own bicycles. These changes will ideally make it easier to opt into choosing bicycling as a transportation choice and activate ridership.

Jennifer will act as the point person and draft a letter to the Planning Commission for BPTAG members to comment on and submit. BPTAG Members can also give public comment at the March 19th Planning Commission's Public Hearing. The period for public comment on the proposed amendments is set for March 21st.

- **\$2.5 Million for Pedestrian Improvements Citywide**—Mark D'Andrea, Engineer, City of Tacoma

Mark spoke about developing the process for distributing the \$2.5 million for pedestrian improvements throughout the City of Tacoma. \$300,000 will be used throughout each of the Council Districts, with \$1,000,000 used in the Downtown area specifically. This project is moving forward quickly. The first step is to do outreach and ask for public comment on specific intersections that need improvements in all council districts. Potential projects will then be prioritized using a process that takes various factors (destinations, current infrastructure, traffic volumes, history of collisions, etc.) into account. There are also opportunities to leverage the funds to stretch them further.

- **S 17th Street Project**—Darius Thompson, Engineer, Public Works

Darius presented on the Jefferson/Broadway connection at S 17th. This project will be a bikeway connection from Pacific Ave. to Market. The initial plan is to provide a bike lane on the uphill side with potential in the future to put in a bikeway connecting Commerce to Broadway, the future site of the UWT YMCA.

After discussing the design, BPTAG members decided that it would be beneficial to write a letter to recommend that the front angle parking be replaced with back-in and that a sharrows be striped on the downhill side of S 17th. Anne will be the point person on this letter of recommendation.

- **Link Expansion Alignment Letter of Recommendation by BPTAG**—All

Diane provided the group with a brief overview of the Transportation Commission Retreat.

- **Announcements and updates:**

- **Bike Month 2014 planning has begun—how BPTAG can get involved**

In the past BPAC members have supported Bike Month by acting as Map Masters at Bike to Market Day (5/1) and the Bike Swap (5/3). In addition to these events returning this year we will also be hosting Tacoma's first-ever Tweed Ride (5/10) and a Blessing of the Bikes (5/2).

- **Bicycle Friendly Business Districts**

Diane will be placing a call for applications for \$500 Bicycle Friendly Business District grants. Paul, Jennifer, Dave, and Kris all volunteered to sit on the committee to review and approve the grants.

- **Retreat for BPTAG on Monday, March 10, 5:30 – 7:30 PM @ Center for Urban Waters**

We will be hosting the BPTAG retreat to discuss the vision of the group and share what members feel our individual and group legacy of BPTAG could become. This will be an opportunity to develop a better understanding of members' individual interests in order to gain a stronger sense of where this group is going. Dinner will be served from 5- 5:30 PM, with the meeting taking place from 5:30 – 7:30 PM.

- **Review of the site visit at Pearl near Pt. Defiance**

Kurtis Hancock (MetroParks) has invited BPTAG to meet at the Lodge near the Pagoda on March 17th to discuss the future roundabout.

The next meeting of the City of Tacoma Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee will be on March 17, 2014, 5:00 PM, Pt. Defiance Pagoda, Trolley Ln, Tacoma, WA 98407