



City of Tacoma
Transportation Commission

Jane Ann Moore, Co-Chair
Justin Leighton, Co-Chair
Gary Hofmann
Michael Hutchinson
Judi Hyman
Yoshi Kumara
Vance Lelli
Jacki Skaught
Andrew Strobel
John Thurlow
Kristina Walker

MINUTES

MEETING: REGULAR TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
TIME: WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2015, 5:30 P.M.
PLACE: 9TH 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 5:37 PM.
2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS
Commission Members Michael Hutchinson, Vance Lelli and Kristina Walker were excused. Gary Hoffman was absent.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Co-Chair Leighton moved to approve the minutes of June 17, 2015. Seconded by CM Strobel. Voice vote was taken and passed. The minutes were approved.
4. BUSINESS ITEMS
 - a. SOUND TRANSIT 3– LONG RANGE PLAN PRIORITY PROJECT LETTER –RECOMMENDATION
Co-Chair Leighton moved to approve the Long Range Plan Priority Project Letter. Seconded by CM Hyman. Co-Chair Leighton requested that when this letter is transmitted to the Council’s Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee, the two supporting documents be included. Voice vote was taken and passed.
The motion was adopted.
 - b. SOUND TRANSIT 2 – TACOMA LINK EXPANSION –INFORMATIONAL/POSSIBLE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION
Sue Comis, Project Manager, Sound Transit reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the Tacoma Link Expansion, including the project overview, the project and environmental review schedule, project benefits, the environmental decision process, the environmental review process, elements of the environment studied, transportation findings, proposed station locations, station area walk sheds, projected ridership, traffic projections, and parking. She then showed some visual simulations of the relocated Theater District Station on Commerce Street, the 4th Street Station on Stadium Way, the Tacoma Link on Stadium Way, and a curbside station on Martin Luther King Way at South 11th Street. She concluded by reviewing Traction Power Substations examples, the general construction process, community outreach, and the upcoming comment period during July 13-27, 2015. Discussion ensued regarding signalization, planned communication for removing 50 parking spaces, future ridership estimates, impacts to traffic, re-locating the Theater District Station and outreach to adjacent property owners, and traffic signalization. Co-Chair Leighton asked if Commission members are interested in providing written comments to Sound Transit. Commission members agreed and Co-Chair Leighton indicated he would prepare a letter and have it ready for review at the July 15, 2015 meeting.

C. TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN PROJECT LIST APPENDIX–
(JENNIFER KAMMERZELL) RECOMMENDATION



The City of Tacoma does not discriminate on the basis of disability in any of its programs, activities, or services. To request this information in an alternative format or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact the Public Works Department at (253) 591-5525 (voice) or TTY-711.

Ms. Kammerzell stated the goal tonight is to approve this as part of the appendix. Discussion ensued regarding how this project list correlates to the Mayor's \$320 million roads proposal.

Co-Chair Moore stated public comment would be taken first. Public comment was heard from Evette Mason, Port of Tacoma. (Note: Ms. Mason had multiple comments on the draft final Transportation Master Plan and provided a hard copy of them to Commission Members).

Commission Members then reviewed the project list by overall rank and discussed prioritization and scoring. Discussion ensued regarding conflicting corridors, tiers, negative or "0" points, and possibility having a separate category for freight mobility. Josh Diekmann suggested listing priority projects by mode. Commission members ended with a head-nod consensus that they agree they are comfortable using the current type of prioritization, scoring, and tier-system. Josh Diekmann noted that staff may slightly modify the tier cutoffs. Co-Chair Leighton requested a 1-2 page document explaining how the Commission came up with the prioritization and scoring. Ms. Kammerzell indicated she would prepare one.

Commission members then discussed general comments on the project list, including Spreadsheet Project ID No. 19 regarding an overpass or shared-use path project as part of any WSDOT new or reconstruction project; and No. 7 regarding constructing a grade-separated bridge to connect the new Amtrak station with the Sound Transit garage and the new passenger platform and lot near the Tacoma Dome. Co-Chair Leighton asked what the future process will be to add or delete items from the work plan. Ms. Kammerzell noted that discussion is on the Commission's work plan. Commission members agreed to forward the Project List as part of the Transportation Master Plan Appendix to Planning Commission.

D. TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN MOBILITY MASTER PLAN APPENDIX (JENNIFER KAMMERZELL) RECOMMENDATION

Ms. Kammerzell reviewed the BPTAG's comments on the Mobility Master Plan Appendix C. Commission members seemed to be in agreement with the BPTAG's comments, and noted they like the term "active" transportation rather than non-motorized or human-powered transportation. Commission members agreed to forward the Mobility Master Plan with approved changes as part of the Transportation Master Plan Appendix to Planning Commission.

E. BYLAW REVISIONS – MEETING SCHEDULE (JUSTIN LEIGHTON & JANE MOORE) – RECOMMENDATION

Co-Chair Leighton stated the Commission will be going back to meeting once a month on the third Wednesday of every month starting in August. He then moved to amend the Commission's bylaws to meet once per month on the third Wednesday at 5:30 p.m., beginning in August. Seconded by CM Hyman. Voice vote was taken and passed. The motion was approved.

5. Other Business/Updates

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)

CM Hyman stated the PTAG is not meeting in July due to low attendance.

She then discussed a conference she recently attended in Portland, OR. to present on the PTAG's efforts. She noted over the next year, the PTAG will evaluate what they have already done with parking, and will continue to keep the system simple and will work to adapt and grow with the City.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

Co-Chair Moore stated the BPTAG have had discussions on participating in developing the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan and have done some reports on adding bike lanes on South 66th Street.

c. Commission Comments

CM Skaught asked if there are any public events over the summer that Commission members would be attending or participating in to conduct community outreach.

6. Staff Reports

Ms. Kammerzell stated she and Mr. Diekmann presented the draft Transportation Master Plan to the Planning Commission today and it went well, nothing she will summarize their comments and provide them to this Commission. She noted there may be a joint meeting between the Transportation Commission and Planning Commission sometime in August.

7. Public Comment

Public comment was heard from Evette Mason, Port of Tacoma, commenting on the project list.

Ms. Kammerzell stated there will be applicant interviews at the City Council's Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee next Wednesday for appointments to the Transportation Commission.

8. Adjourn (7:40 PM)