



City of Tacoma
Transportation Commission

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

MINUTES (Amended 9-16-15)

MEETING: REGULAR TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
TIME: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 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 5:35 PM.
Commission Members Leighton and Kumara participated via telephone.
2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS
Commission Member Hoffman was absent. Commission Member Lelli arrived at 6:20 p.m.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
CM Leighton moved to approve the minutes of July 15, 2015. Seconded by CM Strobel. Voice vote was taken and passed. The minutes were approved.
4. BUSINESS ITEMS
 - a. NEW TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONERS – (JANE MOORE)
Co-Chair Moore introduced newly appointed Commission Member Evette Mason, and noted that she, CM Hyman, CM Skaught, and Co-Chair Leighton were all recently re-appointed for another term by the City Council.
 - b. SOUTH TACOMA WAY MULTIMODAL PROJECT – (SAID SEDDIKI) INFORMATIONAL
Said Seddiki, Public Works Engineering, provided background information on the South Tacoma Way Multimodal Project, a project improving two segments of South Tacoma Way from 56th to 66th Street and 43rd to 47th Street. He then reviewed the project location, project description, outreach, public involvement, budget, and schedule. Discussion ensued regarding funding for this project, if the project aligns with the priority corridors in the Transportation Master Plan (TMP), and community outreach.
 - c. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ANNUAL AMENDMENTS & TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN SCHEDULE UPDATE – (JOSH DIEKMANN)
Mr. Diekmann stated the Planning Commission is holding their public hearing tonight on the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendments and staff will provide a summary of the public comments received to see how they relate to the TMP. He noted the Planning Commission meeting minutes and audio recording will also be available. He then briefly reviewed the timeframe for the reminder of the Annual Amendment process.

Mr. Diekmann stated staff has recently been trying to incorporate the TMP projects into GIS, broken out by mode: bicycle/pedestrian, transit, railroad, arterial street improvements, modal conflict study, and neighborhood action strategy projects. He provided Commission members with a handout of maps for each mode and noted they are very preliminary, but staff is seeking feedback tonight. Discussion ensued regarding the bicycle/pedestrian project map and Taylor Way



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not being a safe route for bicycle/pedestrian travel. CM Mason noted that Port of Tacoma representatives will be commenting on that tonight at the Planning Commission public hearing. Commission members requested legends be added to the maps. Mr. Diekmann noted that the maps have not been quality checked yet, and they will continue to be refined and brought back for review. Discussion ensued regarding the idea of an interagency map for active projects.

CM Hyman noted that Parking Technical Advisory Group members are meeting with the co-chairs of the Planning Commission regarding parking and will be commenting on the Annual Amendments.

d. UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS – (JANE MOORE)

Co-Chair Moore stated a handout outlining meeting topics through December 2015 has been provided. CM Hyman requested the South 21st Street & Pacific Avenue U-Turn agenda item be moved up on the priority list. Discussion ensued regarding the Mayor's Transportation Package agenda item planned for the September 16th meeting. Commission members expressed concern and disappointment about the Mayor's Transportation package update coming to this Commission so late in the process. Co-Chair Leighton noted that the TMP is named within transportation package and he would like to know the implications. Discussion continued regarding the expectations of the Transportation Commission if the measure passes, with commission members requesting clarification on their role.

CM Skaught moved to strike the Mayor's Transportation package from the agenda for the September 16, 2015 commission meeting. Seconded by CM Hutchinson. Discussion ensued regarding whether the item could be moved to the November 18, 2015 meeting after the election to see if the measure passes. Commission members stated that they would like to be more at the forefront of items in the future.

CM Lelli arrived here, at 6:20 p.m.

Voice vote was taken and failed. The motion failed.

5. Other Business/Updates – Mr. Diekmann stated staff member Jennifer Kammerzell will be out of the office for the next two months and he will be the primary contact for the Transportation Commission during her absence.

Mr. Diekmann then briefly reviewed Amended Resolution No. 39255 regarding the Tacoma Link Light Rail expansion. Discussion ensued regarding the approved Council amendment to Resolution No. 39255 to recommend that the center platform configuration is preferred for all stations and should be evaluated and considered for each station where possible. Discussion continued regarding support for the proposed 4th and Stadium Way station stop; the proposed Theatre District station relocation; and formalizing recurring meetings with Planning staff to coordinate Planning Commission and Transportation Commission items. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed Theatre District Station relocation and a potential misunderstanding with the owners of the business located in front of the Theatre District Station.

Mr. Diekmann stated the City Council just approved the contract for Phase 2 of the Pedestrian Crossing Project. Commission members asked which projects will be included in it. Mr. Diekmann also noted that the public meeting on the proposed one-way on East 25th Street in front of Freighthouse Square was held recently and went well. He then briefly discussed the South 96th Street chipseal work between Pacific Avenue and Yakima Avenue and the addition of a center turn lane and bike lanes. He stated that the Point Defiance roundabout is now funded for construction and staff will be reviewing a traffic study that Metro Parks has prepared on how their development projections affect public right-of-way. Discussion ensued regarding the Point Defiance Master Plan and pedestrian improvements. He also noted that expanded Sound Transit express bus service between Northeast Tacoma and downtown Tacoma will start this fall. CM Hutchinson briefly discussed a legislative website that highlights all projects that have been funded and their status.

Mr. Diekmann stated a public meeting for the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan will be held on August 26, 2015 at Madison School Complex. Discussion ensued regarding CM Mason being on the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan Stakeholder Committee and first finding out if CM Kumara is interested in holding that seat. Discussion continued regarding Commission outreach to the neighborhood groups.

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)

CM Hyman stated the PTAG had their residential parking permit outreach meeting yesterday but she was unable to attend.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

Co-Chair Moore provided a brief update on the presentations that the BPTAG has recently received.

c. Commission Comments

CM Thurlow inquired about Active Transportation Series workshops.

CM Skaught provided copies of an article about how car-centric cities like Phoenix, Arizona learned to love light rail.

CM Strobel requested a list of the sites planned for improvement through the Pedestrian Crossing Phase 2 Project.

Commission members requested that the City's TIB applications be made available.

6. Staff Reports

Staff reports were heard previously in the meeting.

7. Public Comment

None.

8. Adjourned at 7:00 PM.