



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

MEETING: REGULAR TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
TIME: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 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 Justin Leighton called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.
2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS
Commission Members Lelli, Hutchinson, Skaught, and Strobel were excused absences. CM Hyman participated via telephone.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Co-Chair Moore moved to approve the minutes of September 16, 2015. Seconded by CM Kumara. A slight typo was noted and corrected. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were approved.
4. BUSINESS ITEMS
 - a. DESIGN MANUAL/TITLE 10 LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT CHANGES – INFORMATIONAL
Josh Diekmann introduced Merita Trohimovich, Principal Engineer for Environmental Services, Science and Engineering Division. Ms. Trohimovich reviewed changes to the City’s Design Manual and Low Impact Development, including regulatory drivers, LID Code update, Tacoma’s proposed approach, documents to review for the LID update, joint efforts, and Tacoma’s process. She then reviewed proposed changes to Chapters 1 through 9 of the City’s Right-of-Way Design Manual, covering Right-of-Way (ROW)/Site Permitting and Local Improvement Districts (LIDs), Site Development Permit and ROW Plan format, multiple areas of Street Design, Stormwater and Wastewater Sewer Design, Illumination, Traffic Signalization, Channelization and Signing, and Construction Related Permits and Easements. She then reviewed proposed new chapters regarding Water Plans, Tree and Vegetation Management, Pedestrian Facilities, and Shared-Use Paths. Ms. Trohimovich concluded by reviewing proposed Code updates for Low Impact Development and next steps for adoption of the Design Manual. She noted the draft manual is currently out and available for public comment and Council consideration will occur in November. Co-Chair Leighton encouraged the City to incentivize and find innovative ways for residents to install rain gardens in parking strips.
 - b. POINT DEFIANCE MASTER PLAN – INFORMATIONAL
Co-Chair Moore discussed the objective of the Point Defiance Master Plan and reviewed some highlights, including improved traffic and pedestrian circulation, public transportation, un-shared pathways, improved entrances to the zoo, Fort Nisqually and Owen Beach; and changes to the roundabout from the entrance on Pearl Street. Discussion ensued regarding whether the Commission would like to officially provide public comment on the Plan.



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Co-Chair Moore was encouraged to attend a Metro Parks' Board meeting and provide comment on the Transportation Commission's behalf.

c. ORDINANCE CHANGES – MTO, UDC, LID - INFORMATIONAL

Mr. Diekmann provided a spreadsheet of various proposed changes to Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) Chapters 10.22 and 11.05. Jennifer Kammerzell noted this is a first draft and there will be more proposed revisions in the future, noting changes to the TMC require Council approval, which includes community outreach and presentations to Council committees.

d. WORKPLAN COMMITTEE

Jennifer Kammerzell announced that the Workplan Committee will resume meeting again and asked members to email her if they have items they would like to add to the work plan. She then discussed some upcoming agenda items for 2016, including changes to the TMC; the 6-Year Program; and the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan. Co-Chair Moore requested to add Safe Routes to School to the work plan. Co-Chair Leighton suggested adding the street-related propositions depending on the outcome of the November 3rd election. Co-Chair Leighton requested clarification on the process for the Transportation Commission to initiate policy. Ms. Kammerzell stated she will be emailing members regarding the Workplan Committee.

5. Other Business/Updates

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)

A PTAG update was not provided this week.

Co-Chair Leighton provided a brief parking update, stating Pierce Transit has begun a study regarding long-term parking management at the Tacoma Dome Station.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

Co-Chair Moore stated the BPTAG heard a presentation on the street-related propositions from Council Member Mello, heard a presentation from City staff on the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan, took a bike ride along the Pipeline Trail area to evaluate where the best route would be, and reviewed the Point Defiance Master Plan. She noted they have a concern about bike lanes in the sound end of the city that is being discussed.

c. Transportation Master Plan Status

Josh Diekmann stated the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) is posted online and hard copies will be provided to the City Council at the end of this week. He noted Council consideration of the Comprehensive Plan that includes the TMP will begin at their meeting on November 3, 2015 with final reading occurring on November 10, 2015. He stated hard copies of the final version of the TMP will be provided to this Commission

after Council consideration. Co-Chair Moore stated she may attend the City Council meeting on November 10, 2015 to speak on the TMP.

d. Planning Commission Agenda

Mr. Diekmann stated this item is a new placeholder to keep Commission members abreast of the Planning Commission's work items.

e. Commission Comments

CM Thurlow noted the not-yet finalized Environmental Impact Statement for the PSE liquefied natural gas plant provides for the rebuilding of Taylor Way to heavy-haul standards.

Co-Chair Moore stated there is a handout done by the Active Transportation Group of the Watershed Initiative that explains Safe Routes to School and problems in Tacoma with statistics and noted she will send a link to it to staff for distribution to the rest of the Commission.

Co-Chair Leighton discussed the recently passed transportation revenue package that includes easing traffic in the Port by completing State Route 167. He stated he believes now is the time to speak up to get support for a non-motorized path from Northeast Tacoma to downtown Tacoma.

6. Staff Reports

Jennifer Kammerzell showed Commission members "Chinook Books" for Tacoma residents that include coupons and resources to promote being more green.

Ms. Kammerzell stated the next Transportation Commission meeting will be November 18, 2015.

It was announced tonight is CM Hoffman's last meeting as a Commission member.

7. Public Comment

None.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.