



City of Tacoma
Transportation Commission

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

MINUTES

*** The audio recording for this meeting is not available.**

MEETING: REGULAR TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
TIME: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 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 Leighton called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.
2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS
Commission Member Kumara was absent. (Excused)
CM Lelli was absent (Unexcused)
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Co-Chair Moore moved to approve the minutes of November 18, 2015. Seconded by CM Strobel.
Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were approved.
4. BUSINESS ITEMS
 - a. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN – INFORMATIONAL
Kristi Lynett, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability, provided background information on the Tacoma Environmental Action Plan. (EAP) and showed a flowchart of existing goals, policies, and strategies. She then reviewed framework, action prioritization, and transportation indicator targets. She concluded with public input and next steps, noting an online survey will be open until December 31, 2015. She stated she will be presenting the draft EAP to the Council's Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee on January 27, 2016; and to the City Council on February 16, 2016. Co-Chair Leighton inquired about the City incentivizing residents to install rain gardens in right-of-way areas and parking strips, and potentially adding it to Tacoma's EAP.



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b. WSDOT 167 –INFORMATIONAL

Steve Fuchs, WSDOT, provided background information on the Puget Sound Gateway Program which will provide more direct links from the state's largest ports to distribution centers in the region and to Eastern Washington. He reviewed legislative direction, Connecting Washington, and photos of the current and proposed State Route (SR) 509 Spur/54th Ave Interchange and the SR 509 Spur/SR 509 Interchange. He then reviewed funding, a preliminary activity schedule, and a draft delivery schedule for design, right-of-way acquisition; and construction. Mr. Fuchs concluded his presentation with SR 167 stakeholder coordination, and next steps for 2015-2017. He noted WSDOT staff hope to have an implementation plan prepared by early fall and offered to return and provide this Commission with another update in late spring. Co-Chair Leighton stated a high priority of the Transportation Commission is installation of separate bicycle and pedestrian access from Northeast Tacoma to downtown Tacoma concurrent with work on SR 509 as part of the Puget Sound Gateway Program.

Chair Leighton announced that Item 4d – Election Results would be heard next.

c. ELECTION RESULTS – INFORMATIONAL

Reid Bennion, Public Works, provided background information on Propositions A and 3, which both passed in the November election. He stated the total package approved by voters is \$175 million over ten years for road improvements, noting it is a 120 percent increase in dedicated transportation funding over the next ten years. He reviewed the type of improvements the funding will cover, including residential street maintenance, permanent pothole repair, grind and overlay, and chip seal work. He noted \$50 million will go to Capital projects for arterial streets, freight access routes, and improved walking and biking infrastructure. He then discussed leveraging opportunities with grants and utility participation. Mr. Bennion concluded by discussing how the residential maintenance and capital projects will be selected. He also stated staff will present the 2016 Capital Grant project recommendations to this Commission on January 20, 2016; and are scheduled to present the work plans and performance reporting for Propositions A and 3 to the City Council at their January 26, 2015 Study Session.

d. SOUND TRANSIT 3 - INFORMATIONAL

Chelsea Levy and Eric Chipps, Sound Transit provided background information on Sound Transit's district and long-range plan. They reviewed regional Link light rail expansion and conceptual drawings; ST2 projects in South King and Pierce Counties; and ST3 and planning for the future. They then reviewed Sound Transit's new revenue authority; Sound Transit Board's core priorities and timeline for ST3; ST3 candidate projects in South King and Pierce Counties; additional south projects; and the ST3 finance plan. Ms. Levy and Mr. Chipps concluded by reviewing their upcoming schedule, including the first draft of their system plan in March 2016, public and stakeholder outreach, and potential adoption of the final system plan in summer of 2016. Discussion ensued regarding whether or not the Transportation Commission would like to provide formal comments to Sound Transit and Co-Chair Leighton indicated that he and Co-Chair Moore would work on drafting some comments.

5. Other Business/Updates

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)

There was no PTAG update.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

Chair Moore stated the BPTAG has received presentations on Propositions A and 3, the Tacoma Environmental Action Plan, and bike lanes on South 56th. She noted there may be some interest in having a joint Transportation Commission/BPTAG meeting in February to discuss Vision Zero.

c. Transportation Master Plan Status

Josh Diekmann provided update on the Transportation Master Plan. He stated hard copies of the final version will be available the first of the year.

d. Planning Commission Agenda

Mr. Diekmann listed some upcoming items for the Planning Commission, including the Tacoma Environmental Action Plan and marijuana regulations.

e. Commission Comments

Discussion ensued regarding the current open positions on this Commission. Jennifer Kammerzell provided a brief update on current applicants and the timeline for interviews. Discussion continued regarding the Commission's absence policy.

6. Staff Reports

Josh Diekmann provided brief comments about Target Zero and the statewide plan being updated.

7. Public Comment

Public comment was heard from William King, a citizen interested in becoming a Transportation Commission member.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.