



## MINUTES

MEETING: Regular Transportation Commission Meeting

TIME: Wednesday, February 21, 2018, 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Conf. Room 243, Tacoma Municipal Building  
747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

### 1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Moore called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call/Introductions

There was a Roll Call and CM Hyman was the only member absent.

### 3. Approval of Minutes (January minutes)

Minutes were approved with no changes.

### 4. Public Comment for Items on the Agenda

No public comment.

### 5. Business Items (Due to computer issues, the order of presentations was changed)

#### *a. Street Initiative Progress Reporting (Reid Bennion)*

- Reid gave an overview of the history of the Street Initiative, 2017 budgets vs actuals, 2017 expenditures, capital commitments, residential street maintenance, Streets Initiative notifications and survey, and work planned for 2018.

*Co-chair Moore asked for a clarification on the columns because they don't add up. Reid explained that he is only showing the Streets Initiative \$ but does not reflect REET or other funding sources.*

*CM Mason asked if the initiative money is January to December. Reid confirmed that it is.*

*CM Nyland asked if the curb ramps were triggered by the overlays. Reid stated that some were triggered, but some were included as part of stand-alone projects. For example, the Hilltop Pedestrian project included curb ramp improvements, but not street paving.*



*Co-chair Leighton asked if they set goals for no. of curb ramps. Reid said that they do not. Curb ramps are added as they need to be done.*

*CM Miller asked about the public notification process and of the ones sent out, how many were returned. Do they think about other ways to reach out? Reid explained that they sent out approximately 3000 and received approximately 100 completed surveys. There are lessons learned and they are working with Media and Communications Office to reach and engage with more of the community.*

- Co-chair Leighton commented that the report still focuses on roads and would like to see a section on Active Transportation, since we are supposed to be spending \$20M over 20 years, with projects listed separately. He also asked to include a map that shows projects completed to date – maybe by Council District, with the idea that in year 10 the city is covered and we've met goals. The report is the official document that captures the information annually. Reid said that he could provide that and it is also on the dashboard. Co-chair Leighton reiterated that he would like it included in the official document that is presented to the Commission.

*CM Mason asked about the miles of bicycle infrastructure installed in 2017. It says 0, but there are several projects that have been completed. Reid explained that the document shows projects leveraging SI money, but does not include projects such as Prairie Line Trail that is not SI funded.*

***b. 6-Year Transportation Program (Jennifer Kammerzell)***

- Jennifer gave an overview of the purpose and need for the 6 YR TIP. It is required by State law for cities to have a current list of their projects or programs for the current year and the ensuing 6 years. It does have to go through City Council for adoption and includes a Public Hearing. This is done annually and has to be adopted by July 1. The list is not a wish list although we do need to show projects we would like to have included so that we can get potential funding. We use the TMP Appendix B project list as our wish list and pull those projects that we would like to get funded into the TIP.
- Jennifer let the Commission know that once the list has been finalized it will be presented to IPS by staff and once IPS reviews it will be finalized by staff and presented one more time to IPS.
- Jennifer mentioned that in the past few years we have asked Project Managers to to include and think about where the project falls in the TMP.

CM Leighton stated that many of these projects are not listed in the TMP and that the Commission worked on prioritizing specific projects. Jennifer said that she will follow-up with the scoring and prioritization. Some of the proposed projects were not in the TMP because of size or specificity, such as School Zone Beacons and missing link sidewalks.

*CM Leighton asked about the \$ amount for #9 on the list – Bridge Capital projects - \$400K is that number correct? Is this just for lighting, painting, etc.? Jennifer said that she will look into this.*

*CM Leighton asked about adding HCT/BRT on Pacific Avenue to the TIP to allow the city to pursue regional mobility grants.*

*CM Mason asked about Yakima #24 and the BRAC funding as well as \$ from the Streets Initiative – she said there should be some alignment with the TMP with this project.*

*Jennifer said that we may be chasing a grant and that's why it is included – she will look into it further.*

*CM Warren asked about #14 Puyallup River Bridge. – what is funded currently? Jennifer to send link for Puyallup River Bridge 16A and 16B website. Two of the 5 spans are currently funded per Josh.*

*CM Leighton asked what the total number of projects is in the 6 Yr. TIP. Jennifer said that she will find out.*

*CM Mason stated that there was a request at a Northeast Tacoma meeting about school safety and beacons and was wondering what the status of the inquiry was.*

*Jennifer will follow-up with Brennan Kidd on the request, which may fall in to the Safe Routes to School Implementation Plan and proposed projects.*

***c. Pierce Transit HCT Update (Darin Stavish)***

Darin and Alexandra Mather gave an overview of the HCT project on Pacific Avenue. They highlighted the schedule which extends to 2022 for construction. Alex gave an overview of the corridor specific to equity, income, and need. Darin reviewed the key milestones, which include preparing for the Small Starts FTA grant in Sept. 2018. The project will be scalable based on funding availability from FTA. The route would be shortened depending on funding not a conversion to full BRT light. The first concept plans will be part of the next Open Houses on 3/27, 3/28 & 3/29. Darin reviewed the concepts:

- Mixed traffic: Right lane
- Curbside running: BAT (Business Access and Transit) lane – (most ROW and expensive)
- Mixed traffic: Left lane
- Median lane: Right side boarding (operates most like light rail)
- Median lane: Left side boarding (requires doors on both sides)

CM Leighton asked for clarification on the concept ranking/scoring. Darin explained that he has a table/slide which he will provide.

Darin reviewed the recommended vehicle which is a 60 ft. articulated bus. He reviewed the timeline and said he will be at UWT on 3/29.

*CM Miller asked if the King County Rapid is BRT light. Darin said that generally they are BRT light.*

*CM Nyland asked about station placement and how far they are spaced. Darin said approx. 1/3 mile apart in Tacoma and 1/2 mile apart in county. From a disability lense the spacing is different, but if density and affordable housing is provided around the station it would be helpful.*

*CM Brown asked about improvements to sidewalks and ramps that lead up to the stations and Darin said that 'Yes' and FTA funds could be used toward sidewalks that connect to a station.*

CM Leighton stated that this is a reason for wanting to add a project to TIP/TMP for BRT station improvement project.

CM Leighton asked what PT is asking from the City of Tacoma. Darin said that it will go to the public first, and then they will present recommendations to the City. Darin offered to come back in April for comment – would need 30 minutes.

CM Miller asked how other cities handle eliminating Route 1 and address needs for folks that can't access the system. PT would be mandated to provide access via Paratransit, which has its pros and cons that PT will need to address.

## **6. Other Business/Updates**

### **a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)**

No report

### **b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)**

Jennifer stated that BPTAG has 4 vacancies coming up, so please spread the word for potential applicants. Their February agenda will include reviewing bicycle facilities for Links to Opportunity.

### **c. Planning Commission Agenda**

Jennifer will provide the agenda in the minutes. Today they did the Comprehensive plan amendments. Also on the agenda was a request to include the TMP amendments.

### **d. Commission Comments**

CM Miller is interested in why the ped/signal lights operate the way they do. Why can't the ped signal come up automatically as opposed to pushing the button?

CM Thurlow provided a brochure of directory of elected officials.

CM Warren said he attended NC meetings and the concern is the loss of parking at Tacoma Dome and desire to see BRT happen on Pacific Avenue.

CM Leighton asked where the Tideflats study was in terms of building a stakeholder group. CM Mason said that the ILA is still under negotiation.

**7. Staff Reports*****a. Responses to Commission Inquiries***

Jennifer stated that Co-chairs from Trans Comm, Planning Comm & STC will meet 2/22/18.

***b. Status of Grant Applications & Major Capital Projects***

No updates.

***c. Upcoming Public Meetings & Events***

No updates.

**8. Public Comment**

Hally Bert from DOTG shared upcoming community events.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.