



Minutes

Meeting: Regular Meeting
Time: Monday, January 16, 2019 at 5:30 P.M.
Place: Conference Room 243, Tacoma Municipal Building, 2nd Floor
747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

I. Call to Order

Co-Chair Moore called the meeting to order 5:50 PM.

II. Roll Call/Introductions

Commissioner (CM) Leighton, Mason and Skaught were excused.

III. Approval of Minutes (December 17, 2018)

The minutes were moved and approved with two corrections: Sarah was present and clarification on WSDOT presenter's names.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Topics & PTAG Report Out

There was no public comment and no report out by the Parking Technical Advisory Group.

V. Business Items:

a) Pierce Transit Bus Rapid Transit

Tina Lee provided a status update on the BRT project, which included a brief overview of the project, recent outreach (new informational video), station location and alignment analysis. Tina focused on the analysis of the Tacoma Dome Station access and alignment alternative.

The Tacoma Dome Station access evaluated 2 options, which resulted in a creation of a hybrid option that minimizes travel time and balances reliability, freight impacts, Dome event impacts, and bus operation. Pierce Transit is looking for feedback on the 3 options, which will need to need to accommodate or address Sound Transit's future link extension.

The alignment alternatives include 3 options: Mixed Traffic, BAT lanes, and a hybrid of both. Tina discussed the corridor traffic analysis, which included future no-build conditions (current operation), hybrid alternative, and curbside alternative. She explained that traffic modelers evaluated queue lengths, which impacts access for the buses to mix back with traffic. For example, general purpose traffic back-ups on 56th



would extend to 46th Street. WSDOT voiced concerns about delay of general purpose traffic and weaving of traffic. Tina explained that the traffic analysis included items such travel time, total person throughput, driveway & business access impacts, ease of transfer to other modes, ease of siting stations, and property impacts. Tina also discussed that there is a cost to providing center stations that are considered an exclusive use on a state facility that is funded by gas tax funds. She also explained that as part of a state facility, they are required to evaluate roundabouts, which is new to the project discussion.

Co-Chair Nyland asked for information on pedestrian and vehicle safety impacts. Tina explained that she does not have statistical data; however, discussions with other transit agencies with similar alternatives have not brought up safety concerns. CM Gardener voiced worry about pedestrian safety at major intersections. Tina explained that pedestrian access at/near stations is a focus and there would be signalized access. CM Nathan asked if there were additional reasons for not considering East 25th Street. Tina explained that conflicts with the tracks and potential to move tracks. CM Morris asked about connections or access between Roy Y and Tacoma Dome. Tina explained that you can get from the Roy Y to Commerce, but not to Tacoma Dome. CM Nathan asked if the lanes would narrow for the BAT lanes. Tina explained that lanes would not likely narrow, but right-of-way or elimination of on-street parking might be required in some areas. Chair Halverson-Kuehn, from BPTAG, asked about station location outreach. Tina explained that the team evaluated ridership and community feedback, which results in an additional station at 25th and shifting one near 104th Street. Street locations have been identified, but can be shifted. It isn't too late to update locations through the environmental process. CM Gardener asked if nearside curbside stations would include a queue jump or right turn lane. Tina explained that it depends on the location and intersection. CM Morris asked about existing stop removals. Tina stated that the stops would change from 64 to 32 stops. Dana Brown, City of Tacoma Assistant Division Manager, explained that with regards to lane width, the TMP prioritizes this corridor for freight and transit. The design will need to accommodate freight traffic turning movements and general access.

b) Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan

Elliott Barnett provided a presentation on a request to add transportation projects from the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan to the Transportation Master Plan (TMP). Elliott asked for feedback on the most appropriate way to include the priority Tacoma Mall Subarea



Plan projects to the TMP. He included a brief overview of the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan. Unlike other subarea plans, the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan includes specific transportation projects. As part of the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan, a project evaluation criteria was created that was tailored to the subarea to identify priority projects and different from the TMP. When ranked using the TMP criteria, many of the subarea projects ranked very similarly. Elliott proposed 2 options for phase 1 integrations: add the subarea plan as part of the TMP appendix, and integrate the subarea plan project with the TMP project list (using the TMP project criteria).

Co-Chair Moore stated the integration of the projects in the project list would be ranked in a tier, not by specific ranking. CM Miller asked if there are other subarea plans projects that are included in the TMP. Elliott and Josh Diekmann explained that the 3 other subarea plans were adopted prior to the TMP and specific projects were considered in the TMP. The other subarea plans were not as specific on a project list or concept plan. Co-Chair Nyland asked if it is problematic if the highest priority Tacoma Mall Subarea Plans don't rank high in the TMP. Elliot stated that it would be a conflict between the plans, but staff has not yet conducted the evaluation criteria.

VI. Other Business/Updates

- a) Sound Transit TDLE Stakeholder Group – CM Raymond explained that the December meeting was cancelled. The next two meetings will be held in March and April with follow-up on the Executive Leadership Group evaluation.
- b) Bicycle & Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group – Chair Jennifer Halverson-Kuehn stated that all seats, including the youth seat, has been filled. She also stated that BPTAG has been reviewing the bike and scooter share pilot program. They have heard the comments/feedback and are looking at possible conditions as part of an extension and/or a permanent franchise agreement. At this time, the permit allows operation for Lime into January and Bird into February. The group recommended continuing the pilot program for further evaluation. CM Nathan voiced concerns about break line vandalism.
- c) Planning Commission – The Planning Commission agenda was included on the agenda.

VII. Staff Reports

- a) Responses to Commission Inquiries – No responses to Commission Inquiries
- b) Status of Grant Applications & Major Capital Projects – The City was awarded 6 grants, which include 4 Highway Safety Improvement Projects that were tied to the safety plan



that Justin Belk presented to the Commission in 2018. Josh also explained that bike and scooter share was presented at the 1/15/19 study session with approval to extend the evaluation of a program

VIII. Commission Comments

- a) Co-Chair Moore explained that Sound Transit Tacoma Dome Line Extension team will be seeking input on alignment and station location. In order to provide input to the City Council for consideration in their recommendation, a special meeting is necessary. The proposal is to hold a joint meeting with Planning Commission so that recommendations/comments can be coordinated.
- b) Co-Chair Moore discussed the Tacoma to Puyallup project, which is in the feasibility stage. The participating cities are committing to funding the feasibility study, including Tacoma. A presentation will be proposed for February to discuss the project and ask for approval of funding through the Streets Initiative Active Transportation funds.

IX. Public Comment

Cody provided comment on the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan.

X. Adjourned at 7:18 pm.