



CITY OF TACOMA BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 13, 2014

GROUP MEMBERS

PRESENT: Justin Camarata, Dave Cook, Jennifer Halverson Kuehn, Anne James, Aaron Knight, Paul Nordquist, Brandi Riddle, Kris Symer

GROUP MEMBERS

ABSENT: Janet Higbee, Ken Peachey

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jennifer Kammerzell, Josh Diekmann, Stephen Atkinson, Diane Wiatr, Hannah Miner

- **Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM**
- **Introductions and Icebreaker**
- **Approval of Minutes from joint meeting with the Transportation Commission**
- **Approval of interim member, Kendall Reid**

BPTAG members approved the appointment of Kendall Reid as an interim BPTAG member while Janet Higbee takes a leave to care for her husband.

- **Summarize the joint meeting with Transportation Commission - All**

BPTAG members discussed the joint meeting with the Transportation Commission on December 18, 2013. BPTAG is interested in discussing how to best communicate with the Transportation Commission, including reevaluating meeting times in order to best be prepared to make recommendations

- **\$2.5 Million for Pedestrian Improvements**—Jennifer Kammerzell, Associate Engineer, Public Works

Jennifer Kammerzell shared that the City of Tacoma has allotted \$2.5 million dollars for pedestrian improvements. Some portion of the funds will be used on high visibility and high impact projects. A portion of the funds will be spent on projects in Downtown Tacoma and the remaining amount will be shared among council districts. There is room for BPTAG to be involved as the City of Tacoma develops a prioritization process and does community outreach. Plans to implement include some construction in 2014 with funds being spent by the summer of 2015. Pedestrian improvements are important to the City Manager and the City Council.

- **Pt. Defiance Park Roundabout Recommendation**—Josh Diekmann, Associate Engineer, Public Works

Josh Diekmann presented information about the development of a large single lane roundabout as a possibly traffic management solution for the entrance to Pt. Defiance Park. This will be located at the 5 or 6-way intersection that is part of or adjacent to many different jurisdictions (Washington State Ferry terminal, MetroParks facilities, State Route 163, Ruston, etc.). A roundabout was chosen for this intersection because this structure is generally self-regulating with opportunities to invest in mechanisms to regulate should the need arise. This design is in its early stages, but as this plan develops, planners want to cognizant of other possible connections like trails or bikeways in order to support many different modes. There are many partners involved at this early stage and for this reason it looks like there might be ample opportunity for funding this project.

BPTAG members decided that it would be beneficial to take a field trip (or two separate trips) in order to see the existing conditions prior to the next meeting. There is no set timeframe for this project and the extent of the BPTAG's involvement is not known.

- **Link Expansion Alignment Letter of Recommendation by BPTAG**—All

There was a lively discussion of the benefits and challenges of each of the different alignment options. Group members showed an interest in making a recommendation in some fashion but more discussion and information was needed in order to come to a conclusion about how they wanted to proceed and what issues they wanted to focus on specifically. No final decision was made about how the group should proceed.

- **Russell Family Foundation Puyallup Watershed Initiative Active Transportation Community of Interest**—Diane

The Russell Family Foundation is awarding \$10 million over the next 10 years to protecting the Puyallup River Watershed—from the source on Mount Rainier to everything it touches. The Foundation has organized Communities of Interest to organize around different concerns. Diane will keep the group informed about when the next Community of Interest Meeting for Active Transportation will be held. BPTAG members are encouraged to participate and give input.

- **Work Plan Additional Meeting Day/Time**—All

In order to develop a workplan, the group decided to schedule another meeting to focus on only goals and visions for 2014. The time, date, and place are to be determined.

- **Announcements and updates:**

- **BPTAG Inter-group Communication**

In order to create more efficient and easy to use communication, please email the BPTAG google group. Contact Kris if you have any issues and she will help to troubleshoot if necessary. Also, be sure that the subject lines match the content in order to allow for easy archives access.

- **Bike Month and Downtown to Defiance Planning**

Planning has begun for these two events. The 6th Annual Tacoma Bike Swap will take place on May 3rd. Diane is still in conversation with MetroParks about what their involvement will look like in 2014, but the City of Tacoma has designated \$25,000 for essential services like road closures and waste management services.

- **Speed Cameras in School Zones**

The City of Tacoma will be activating three speed cameras on Monday that will fund general government and TPD. Seattle has seen success in creating a revenue stream for comprehensive a Safe Routes to School program by installing cameras in school zones. There are plans in the works to replicate this program in Tacoma and use the revenue to build better infrastructure and create Safe Routes to School programs in Tacoma Public Schools.

- **Report to the community January 29th in The Olympic Room, Tacoma Public Library Downtown Branch from 6:00 – 7:30 PM**

City of Tacoma staff will report out about 2013 Active Transportation accomplishments and plans and visions for 2014, followed by a discussion with the community members. BPTAG are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussion.

- **February meeting date change to Feb. 24 due to President's Day**
- **Retreat for Transportation Commission Date TBD**

- **Work Plan Additional Meeting Day/Time—All**

- **Work Plan and Bylaws for 2014**
- **Green Roads**—Jessica Knickerbocker, Engineer, Environmental Services
- **ADA Planning**—Gail Hines, ADA Coordinator
- **Bicycle Parking Code Changes as part of the Regulatory Code Amendment**—Stephen Atkinson, Associate Planner
- **Crosswalk Criteria Flowchart**--All
- **Link Discussion (Con't)**--All
- **Pt. Defiance Roundabout, report back from fieldtrip and discussion**—All

The next meeting of the City of Tacoma Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee will be on February 24, 2014, 5:00 PM, Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, Location TBD