



CITY OF TACOMA
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 23, 2017

GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Cook, Dan Hansen, Theresa Beaulieu, Leon Nettels, Anne James, Jennifer Halverson-Kuehn

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Kammerzell, Jane Moore, Steve Durrant (Alta), Todd Sawin (AHBL), Andy Micklow (COT)

I. Meeting called to order at 5:38 PM

- **Approval of Minutes** – August and September minutes were approved.

II. Public comment: There was no public comment.

III. Introductions: Everyone went around the room and shared one fun thing they had done in October.

IV. Links to Opportunity Project (AHBL & Alta Planning & Design)

Todd gave an overview of the Hilltop Links to Opportunity Project, which capitalizes on the Sound Transit Link Extension. Steve presented the proposed streetscape engineering on and around the Link route. Part of the project includes increasing bike parking. This would be done with bike corrals, parallel bike parking, bike repair stations, and covered bike parking. Another part includes creating bicycle and pedestrian improvements/connections, which is based on the former Mobility Master Plan and TMP. The main streets are J, Martin Luther King Jr. Way, L, and M Streets.

Question: Dave asked if bike corral was a common term and Steve said that it is and there is also a 4th level which is called a bike SPA (secured parking area).

Question: Leon asked if the Stadium Way bike lanes will remain. Both Steve and Meredith confirmed that the bike lanes will stay.

Wayfinding will play a key role in helping bicyclists find/patronize businesses and also recommend alternate routes not on MLK. Steve showed various traffic calming devices and bicycle facilities, such as speed cushions, speed humps, contraflow bike lanes, contraflow bike lanes with parking. He also reviewed pedestrian crossing treatments, such as raised crosswalks, rectangular rapid flashing beacons (two strobe lights that flash), half signal (stop sign for cars with a signal that allows cyclists or pedestrians to go), and HAWK signals (hybrid beacon at L and 19th).

Question: Co-Chair Dave asked if a covered corral could be provided near Multicare. Steve stated that corral locations are contingent on right-of-way availability, but Todd said they will be meeting with Multicare and will bring it up.

Question: Co-Chair Dave also asked how the team will address parking loss as the conversation moves on. Steve stated that the team recognizes the impact on parking, but sees the benefit. Meredith mentioned that City staff discussed a couplet on South 11th & 12th where they separate west of Sprague (one way cycle track on 11th & the reverse on 12th) although we don't know if parking would be an issue. Alta said it could be a possibility.

Question: Anne asked if the signal timing on J Street would be modified. Steve said the project would include that, but timing could be redone at any time and could be addressed with Traffic since they handle detection and timing issues.

Question: Leon asked about bicycle connection between Stadium Thriftway and north-south access. Steve indicated that the assumption is the bike facilities will be in place on I Street, but the crossings at MLK and at Yakima will be difficult due to track location and limited ROW.

Question: David asked if you are on Division heading westbound and wanted to cross Division and the tracks were involved do you have infrastructure that would turn the bicyclists onto the side street and then cross directly. Steve said it would be possible even without formal infrastructure – bike box could be added.

a. Discussion about Division at N 1st & N Yakima

Todd reviewed the intersection at Yakima and Division Avenue, which is challenging for safe bicycle crossings and increasing pedestrian crossings. The conceptual drawing includes a raised protected bike lane and new pedestrian crossings on the east and south leg. Expanding the island and providing perpendicular crossings would provide safety.

Question: Leon asked if a better pedestrian crossing could be provided on North 1st. AHBL has been reviewing this intersection and thought of ways to provide pedestrian crossings. Todd explained that the cut-out between Division and 1st was required to remain open per station location agreements with Sound Transit and the abutting property owner. Preventing bicyclists from staying on Division east-west and getting stuck in the tracks will be difficult.

Question: Jennifer asked if the project will include resurfacing of the roads. Todd explained that this project is the design phase and would include applying for grants and looking toward the construction phase. Todd explained that they are working to have 30% design done by the end of the year.

Jennifer asked that designers consider moving the bike corral from People's Park to the Community Center. Todd said maybe both locations could be included.

Dan asked about Sound Transit's timeline. Todd explained that Sound Transit is planning on starting construction summer 2018.

The plan is that the two projects will be well coordinated. Meredith also mentioned that the City has applied for a Transportation Alternatives grant to include pedestrian and bicycle improvements that complements and connect Links to Opportunity and the Brewery District.

Meredith also stated that other TAP grant applications include Pipeline Trail and Prairie Line Trail.

V. Intersection of the Month (revised): S 19th at Fred Meyer (David Cook)

Dave provided a summary regarding a collision involving a student crossing South 19th near Clay Huntington Way this past week. There was another pedestrian collision a few years ago. Several Foss High School students are willing to speak to Council. There was discussion about the previous island that was there and removed likely at the request of Fred Meyer.

Meredith stated that City staff discussed potential next steps, which should include a partnership with Metro Park, School District, and the City. Discussion ensued about next steps and potential solutions. David suggested SRTS could be involved in a solution.

Dave proposed sending a letter to Metro Parks, School District, and the City regarding what occurred and potential solutions. Innovative grants are available now, but cannot be used on infrastructure improvements; however, an education campaign or event would qualify.

Dave asked if the existing project to study Tyler & Stevens between South 19th and Center could evaluate adding a mid-block crossing. Meredith will work with Diane Sheesley to see if that is possible.

It was suggested to involve Neighborhood Council as well and maybe the students could speak at their next meeting.

VI. Updates

A. REPORT FROM TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Jane provided an update on the October regular meeting, which included the larger Hilltop Links to Opportunity project and Pierce Transit High Capacity Transit project for Route 1, which is part of Sound Transit 3. Meredith stated that she is on the Technical Committee. Dan asked if the same

buses will be used on the 6th Ave route. Meredith stated that it is still unknown, but part of the conversation.

B. STAFF UPDATES

- i. Jennifer Kammerzell reported on a request to restripe head-in angle parking on Proctor Street. Staff took this as an opportunity to consider/install back-in angle parking. Based on the lack of outreach and existing planters, staff recommends repainting the stalls as head-in and pursue a redesign before it needs to be repainted. The plan is to relocate the angle parking to North 27th Street and convert Proctor Street to parallel with a bike facility.
- ii. Meredith reported on the annual restriping contract, which includes bike lanes in the north end and Thompson Avenue. 6th Avenue is still in the plan, but there may be contract and weather challenges.
- iii. Meredith also reported that she will be conducting interviews for the vacant BPTAG positions on 10/24. Co-Chair Cook encouraged members to consider being Co-Chair for 2018.

Jennifer Kammerzell gave a status update on the Safe Routes to School plan. The position has been submitted for the mid-biennium Budget Modification. Staff is planning on meeting with the principals for Lister, First Creek, Stanley and Blix for the next projects.

C. BPTAG UPDATES

- i. Co-Chair Cook said that he met with State Rep Fey to discuss bicycle connections and networks, specifically a pedestrian bridge over I-5 at 64th. State Rep Fey recommended the group coming up with a plan/design to cross I-5, which would be contingent on the widening of I-5.
- ii. Jennifer talked about a meeting she attended to address pedestrian safety, specifically the recent collision involving 2 students off Highway 302 in Key-Peninsula.
- iii. Theresa said that she attended the UWT/City of Tacoma Placemaking workshop that builds on the Pierce Transit High Capacity Transit project, specifically at S 38th & Pacific and S 56th & Pacific.

D. NEXT MEETING DATES: The group voted to cancel the December meeting but keep November.

VII. Meeting Adjourned at 7:29 PM