Pierce Transit Approves an Innovative Bus Demonstration Project for NE Tacoma!

NETNC and several community members have been working for some time with Pierce Transit staff to re-think bus service for NE Tacoma. The old 61 route that wandered around NE Tacoma and connected to downtown wasn’t great, but coupled with Bus Plus service (dropped in the mid-2000s for budget reasons) and the associated disabled shuttle services, it was of some use to NE Tacomans and even Browns Point and Dash Point residents. The 62 route that replaced the 61 after the sales tax revenue collapse in the late 2000s has been much less useful, offering rush hour trips to SR99 and 348th St. in Federal Way. There, riders can connect with buses to the Federal Way Transit Center and to downtown Tacoma. With transfers, those are long trips. This service is very-little used, and per-rider costs are high.

This spring, urged along by NETNC which had included PT-developed questions in the year-end 2014 community survey, and a broad Community Investment Team convened by PT, Pierce Transit planners and outreach staff proposed a new approach to serving NE Tacomans’ transit needs. The Community Investment Team gathered by PT included representatives from NETNC, Parks, the Port, Public Works, City Council, the Puyallup Tribe, and area residents from different demographics (students, commuters, etc.). The CIT reviewed and commented on the innovative approach, and gave it clear support. On June 8th, the Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners approved a “demonstration project” to run from September 2015 through September 2016 to test the usefulness and economics of a more-attractive service.

The service will be operated in partnership with King County Metro, which will continue its 182 route and extend its 903 route to the QFC area on 49th Ave. NE and around to the Center at Norpoint. The extended 903 (“Feeder”, on the map) will run 20 times a day, and connect NE Tacoma with the Federal Way Transit Center directly. PT will implement a rush-hour express service from the same stop to the 10th and Commerce St. downtown Tacoma transit center, with three trips in-bound in the morning and three out-bound in the afternoon/early evening. While this express service doesn’t support casual mid- or late-day visits to downtown Tacoma, commuters will be able to reach downtown and readily connect with buses to other Tacoma destinations, such as TCC. Maps of these routes are on page 3.

Cont. p. 3
**NE Tacoma Crime News**

www.tacomacrime.org shows numerous crimes during May through June to date: burglaries/breaking and entering, car thefts, thefts from vehicle (break-in), simple assaults (likely domestic), credit card fraud, vandalism, and thefts. The site is useful for seeing what kinds of things are going on, especially in your immediate neighborhood, but it tends to exaggerate some crime reports because of the simplicity of the description possibilities. For example, minor property theft often gets reported as a burglary, which we would usually associate with a house burglary with more major property theft.

CLO Brandon Showalter reviews crime trends and key events at the monthly (NETNC) Community Meetings – come to hear his take on crime in NE Tacoma.

Residents are invited to send reports of incidents to netnews98422@hotmail.com for inclusion here.

If you have questions about any police issue, please direct them specifically to the TPD Community Liaison Officer for our area, CLO Brandon Showalter, at 253.594.7951 or brandon.showalter@cityoftacoma.org.

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**FISH Food Bank Is at BP United Methodist Church**

This is a reminder to let friends and neighbors who are in need of food assistance know that the weekly FISH Food Bank food bank Friday afternoons from 4:30pm to 6pm is now at the Browns Point United Methodist Church (5339 BP Blvd.). Recent experience shows a growth to 12-18 NE Tacoma families getting needed help from the service. Please help get the word out!

Donations of either non-perishable food, kitchen/baby supplies, or money are gratefully accepted. Money donations are very valuable: FISH can provide $7 worth of food for each $1 donated!

You can find out more about FISH Food Banks at: [www.fishfoodbanks.org](http://www.fishfoodbanks.org).

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**Metro Parks Always Has Interesting Things Going On**

The good way to find out what’s up at the Center at Norpoint and around the Metro Parks circuit is to look in the current Go Guide. You can download a copy at: [http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/calendar-events/](http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/calendar-events/), or pick one up at the Center at Norpoint. Note that Norpoint offers Silver Sneakers programs. Several health care programs offer free memberships; check them out on the web page.

You can also scroll through the upcoming event calendar at: [http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/calendar](http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/calendar) – look for events at Norpoint, as well as in many of the wonderful MPT facilities.

*From Metro Parks*

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**TV Tacoma June Highlights**

*From TV Tacoma (www.tvtacoma.org)*

Some April neighborhood-oriented programming highlights include:

- **artTown:** Sarah Ionnides leads Tacoma Symphony Orchestra, Dashiell Hammet’s Tacoma experiences, poet and pianist take us to inspiration.

- **Business Matters:** Maxwells’s Restaurant & Lounge, Destiny City Comics, ChooseVets.com, Uncle Thurms Finger-Lickin’ Ribs & Chicken

- **CityLine:** weekly call-in that puts you in touch with activities, events, and services in our City.

- **Inside Tacoma** presents elected officials: Mayor Marilyn Strickland, Councilmember Joe Lonergan (Dist. 5: South and South End Tacoma)

- **Tacoma Report:** Happenings in the community, City services and programs

- **Urban Green:** Healthy Homes, Healthy Neighborhoods, bees and honey, Tacoma Wastewater Treatment, Green Infrastructure challenge, tips for saving water.

- Programmed on “Northwest Indian News” and VA News, among other topics

- City Council: Council meetings live Tuesdays, 5pm; study sessions live Tuesdays noon, Civil Service Board, and Public Utilities Board meetings (some broadcast only, City Council can be watched on-line – works on your mobile, as well!).

TV Tacoma is available on Click! and Comcast on channel 12 (21 in Pierce County). If you can’t watch live, you can watch archived shows on your cable video-on-demand service or on the website (www.tvtacoma.org). Choose from Regular Programs, Special Presentations, and Meeting Coverage in the list on the left.
PT representatives readily admit that over the last years, we have been taught “to not to ride the bus”. Hence an intense outreach program will be mounted to attract riders to these services. A key factor in attracting riders is to provide them with Orca cards, the central Puget Sound transit card that works with PT, KCM, Sound Transit, Snohomish County’s Community Transit, Kitsap Transit, and for foot passengers on Washington State Ferries. Using the card makes it easy to board and transfer between buses (you get two hours to complete your trip). NET News will report on the outreach program, highlighting opportunities to learn about the services, and offer information on how to most-effectively travel to various destinations.

*From Pierce Transit and NETNC sources*
NETNC Board Members 2015-16

Area 1—Northwood
Arill Berg 924.0701 arillberg@nventure.com
Open position

Area 2—Stonegate/Centennial
Dick Hayek 952.1210 richardhayek@aol.com
Patti Warwick 568.1333 pattiwarwick@gmail.com

Area 3—Northeast Tacoma
Carolyn Edmonds 952.0301 carolyn.edmonds@comcast.net
Yvonne McCarty yvonne.mccarty@comcast.net

Area 4—Crescent Heights
Sandy Leek sandy.leek@psc.com
Jim Philp 952.0509 j.p.b@att.net

Area 5—Northshore
Lois Cooper 925.5802 loiscooper@harbornet.com
Bill Thompson 425.785.7578 thompar4@juno.com

Area 6—Harbor Ridge
Hayes Alexander 952.5142 hayes18@nventure.com
Jon Higley 569.0145 jondolar2@comcast.net

Area 7—Upper Browns Point
Don Halabisky 927.4968 dhalabisky@nventure.com
Karen Pischel 927.0656 jkpischel@msn.com

Area 8—Cedar Heights
Jim DeJung 927.0719 jfdjing@comcast.net
Marion Weed 927.1735

Members at Large
Sue Baldwin 927.2351 suzieb@harbornet.com
John Thurlow 924.0288 jonthurlow@harbornet.com
Faye Teel fteel@hotmail.com

NETNC Executive Committee
Co-Chairs: Carolyn Edmonds, John Thurlow
Vice-Chair: Jim Philp
Recording Secretary: Jon Higley
Corresponding Secretary: Faye Teel
Treasurer: Karen Pischel

NETNC Representatives to the Community Council of Tacoma
Hayes Alexander John Thurlow
Marion Weed alt.: Jim Philp

Neighborhood Council Coordination
Carol Wolfe 591.5384 cwolfe@cityoftacoma.org
Bradley Forbes bforbes@cityoftacoma.org 591.5166

Tacoma City Councilmember (District 2)
Robert Thoms robert.thoms@cityoftacoma.org

Tacoma Police / Fire / Medical
Emergency - crime/threat in progress, fire, medical: 911
Police Non-Emergency - report crimes and suspicious behavior (wait for pickup) ............................798.4721 or 2

Tacoma Police—Northeast
Sector Commander: Lieutenant LeRoy Standifer
lstandifer@cityoftacoma.org 591.5431
Community Liaison Officer: Brandon Showalter 594.7951 brandon.showalter@cityoftacoma.org
Police Substation: 4731 Norpoint Way NE 594.7970
Daily hours are 9am-9pm weekdays, but there are some shifts not filled, so call before visiting. If no one answers, call 911 or the non-emergency number. We hope that full volunteer coverage is resolved soon – join the volunteer cadre: call Jerry Pischel at 594.7970 (leave a message).
MOVING INTO LIFE’S NEXT PHASE?
I CAN HELP.

Ready to downsize? Thinking about a retirement community? These life-style choices can be overwhelming. Please call for a free consultation.

Carolyn Edmonds
SENIOR TRANSITIONS SPECIALIST
(206) 300-9828

Windermere Real Estate/South Inc.
NE Tacoma Crosswalk Projects
Implementation Moving Right Along
Following up last year's effort to identify top priority crosswalk improvements necessary in NE Tacoma, Public Works is moving along the implementation projects at four intersections:

- Northshore Parkway NE and Nassau Ave. NE
- Northshore Parkway NE and 42nd Ave. NE/Fairwood Blvd. NE
- North Shore Blvd. NE and Nassau Ave. NE (near south end of Nassau)
- 49th Ave. NE and 41st St. NE

These are important street crossings for folks out for a walk, headed for an attraction, and school pupils headed to school or home. There is a very long list of needed crosswalks and sidewalks in NE Tacoma, further developed through the community survey NETNC conducted at last year-end, and we will be working on gaining priority for funding projects and getting them on the schedule.

From NETNC and City of Tacoma sources

School’s Out
SCHOOL-AGE CHILDCARE PROGRAMS AT:
Browns Point Elementary School
Northeast Tacoma Elementary School
Crescent Heights Elementary School

Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. ~ before/after school day

Safe, Quality Program • Reasonable rates (part-time available)
To enroll call Rainey Dhillon at 253-678-9020 or e-mail rainey.schoolsout@gmail.com
NETNC is working with the City of Tacoma’s Community-Based Services and Solid Waste to hold a Community Clean-Up Day on August 1st, 10am-1:45pm, at Meeker Middle School’s upper parking lot (enter off Nassau Ave. NE). All NE Tacoma single-family and duplex residents are eligible to come by and drop off garbage, recyclables (TVs and computers), bicycles (regardless of condition), and re-usable clean clothing, furniture, and household items. Hazardous materials aren’t accepted, so you should either take them to the S. Mullins St. free drop-off, or hold them for the expected August drop-off at Browns Point Elementary School. Look for a postcard reminder from the city in July. Last year 326 residents dropped material off (many making multiple trips to drop off unneeded waste and recyclables). Solid Waste carted off 28 30-yard dumpsters containing ~27 tons of garbage, metal, refrigerators (3), and tires (114, both on-and off-rim). Goodwill filled two truck trailers with electronics, both working and not, and re-usable household items. Code Enforcement brought in loads from residents unable to get their stuff to Meeker, including tires. The Bikes for Kids volunteers from Marine View Presbyterian collected numerous bikes, some in excellent condition, for its program of providing working bikes to needy folks through various agencies and ministries. They took bikes that weren’t repairable, too, and used them for parts and even to sell the residual scrap metal to metal dealers to raise funds for the program. We’re looking for volunteers to help out: preparing goodie-bags for and welcoming participants, transferring stuff from incoming cars and small trucks to the dumpsters, directing traffic, taking care of refreshments for the volunteers and workers, etc. Please let John Thurlow, johnthurlow@harbornet.com, know if you are willing to help. Last year, we had volunteers from NETNC, Stadium H.S.’s Jr NROTC unit, the 38th St. Ct. NE block watch, and a Samoan church from South Tacoma. It took all of us to make the day successful!

From NETNC and City of Tacoma sources

National Night Out on August 4th – Gather with Your Neighbors to Fight Crime and Promote Neighborhood Safety

Safe Streets promotes participation in National Night Out to Fight Crime neighborhood events every year. Local neighborhood groups and public-spirited individuals sponsor gatherings in parks and streets for some summer fare and conversation about protecting the area from crime and improving neighborhood safety. These gatherings are a great way to meet neighbors and work on other topics of mutual support, as well. Go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/H97Z3TT to register.

There’s more discussion at: http://www.safest.org/weblog/2015/05/27/national-night-out/.

From Safe Streets and NETNC sources

PART DAY PRESCHOOL AVAILABLE

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2015-2016: HS & ECEAP PART DAY EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS

Programs Offer:
- 4 days a week
- 2.5-3.5 hour sessions
- School year calendar
- Nutrition Meals & Snacks
- Family Support/Engagement
- Health Support & Access/Enrollment Support
- Family and Child Education
- Language and Literacy Support
- Leadership Opportunities
- Community Involvement

Who is Eligible?

How Do I Qualify for Part Day?
*Families with limited income | Families receiving TANF or SSI
Families experiencing homelessness | Children in Foster care
Children with a disability or IEP

Complete an application and a staff person will work with you to see if your family qualifies for the program.

For an application, PLEASE CALL 239-3788 OR SEE BACK FOR MORE INFORMATION
NE Tacoma Community Calendar

To help remind everyone of the community and Board committee meetings this year, as well as key community events, we prepared a calendar that we’ll update as dates firm up. If you have an event planned that’s open to the broad NE Tacoma community, please let us know, and we’ll include it.

**NETNC Community Meetings are at 7pm, TPD NE substation**

**Executive and Planning Committees meetings are at 6:30pm at the substation**

| June   |   | Community Meeting – Program: Parks project sw update, TV Tacoma Candidates Forum taping questions, Top 5 streets projects, 2015 NETNC goals review  
|        | 24 and 26 | Candidates Forums: (TV Tacoma, Community Council of Tacoma, League of Women Voters); taping in City Council Chambers: 24th: 10am-3pm; 26th 1pm 5pm |
| July   | 2 | Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome  
|        | 16 | Community Picnic at Alderwood Park: 6:30pm, hamburgers, hot dogs, some vegetarian, pot luck. |
| August | 1 | Community Clean Up Day (Meeker M.S. 10am-1:45pm): Can you help? Write to netnews98422@hotmail.com  
|        | 4 | Primary Election Day  
|        | 4 | National Night Out  
|        | 6 | Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome  
|        | 20 | Community Meeting  
|        | 30 | Norpoint Farmers Market: last one of the season |
| September | 3 | Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome  
|         | 17 | Community Meeting |
| October | 1 | Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome  
|         | 15 | Community Meeting, Board nominations  
|         | tbd | Candidates Forum: Port, City Council, Parks, Schools, Civil Service Commission |
| November | 3 | General Election Day  
|         | 5 | Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome  
|         | 19 | Community Meeting, Board elections |
| December | 3 | Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome  
|         | 17 | (date tent.) Holiday Party |

We’re developing the 2016 calendar, and will begin posting it here in the August NET News.