



# South Downtown Subarea

## Station Working Group

### Meeting Notes

#### UWT, Tacoma Room

Wednesday, March 21, 2012 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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#### Attendees

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jori Adkins        | <input type="checkbox"/> Andrew Strobel                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amy Bates          | <input type="checkbox"/> Ed Davis                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jane Moore         | <input type="checkbox"/> Jason Fritzier                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kristina Walker    | <input type="checkbox"/> Walter Zisette                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chris Green        | <input type="checkbox"/> Joe Rempe                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eric Crittendon    | <input type="checkbox"/> David Curry                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colleen Hall Barta | <input type="checkbox"/> Dick Ramsey (for Sue Schaffer) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vance Lelli        | <input type="checkbox"/> Greg Tanbara                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tiffany Speir      | <input type="checkbox"/> Milt Trimblay                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doug Fraser        | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Hubner                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Justin Leighton    | <input type="checkbox"/> Ian Munce                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dalton Gittens     | <input type="checkbox"/> Noah Yacker                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chelsea Levy       | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan Arntz                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kell MAboy         | <input type="checkbox"/> Dan Bertolet                   |

#### Welcome

Milt Tremblay welcomed meeting participants and led a round of introductions. Mayor Strickland was introduced and gave her thanks to the group for participating in this project.

#### Project Context and Work Program

Ian Munce provided an overview of the South Downtown Subarea Plan and EIS which was accompanied by a Power Point presentation (available on the project website, [www.cityoftacoma.org/southdowntownplan](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/southdowntownplan)). Ian described the work of Growing Transit Communities and the role that regional growth centers like Tacoma have in future of the region. A large focus of this work is on the benefits from having people live close to transit centers. Ian talked about the funding for this project which is the same as the project that is currently underway for the Northgate Subarea Plan and EIS.

Ian talked about the South Downtown Steering Committee, which is a group of property owners, business owners, and other stakeholders from the Dome District, Brewery District, UWT, and Hillside, who are meeting monthly and have created the Draft Vision Statement that was provided at this



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meeting. Ian also covered the timeline for this project which includes a Draft of the work that VIA Architecture (consultant) has been doing being available in the fall of this year. Implementation for this project is expected for the Spring of Summer of 2013.

## **Project Context and Work Program**

**MLK Subarea Plan** – Brian Boudet talked about the MLK Subarea Plan and EIS that is also currently in process. These are separate projects but there is a lot of coordination between the two. Whereas the funding for the South Downtown project comes from the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), funding for the MLK project comes from the Department and Commerce and the EPA. Brian covered the priorities for the City within the two Subarea Plans as well as the different timelines.

**Brownfields** – Greg Tanbara, Tacoma Pierce County Health Department (TPCHD), talked to the group about some of the environmental concerns that are currently being looked at, specifically in the South Downtown. Part of this work includes going over information for the old gas station sites of which there are 22 known within the South Downtown Subarea. As Greg's work moves forward (and especially if they get the additional funding that has been applied for), they will begin cataloguing these sites. Greg noted that the work that is being done represents only one type of environmental issue. More information on TPCHD brownfields site assessment project can be found on their website: <http://www.tpchd.org/environment/investigation/gas-stations/assessment-brownfields-project/>.

**UWT Campus, Master Plan** – Jan Arntz, Environmental Planner for the University of Washington, gave the group a comprehensive overview of the goals and vision for UWT and the campus. This included:

- The UWT campus provides a sense of place for the community
- There is a heavy focus on providing open space and pedestrian connections while integrating a variety of uses on and around the campus to accommodate the 10,000 students that the school is planning for, of which 10-12% would reside on campus.
- The school recently completed an infrastructure plan for full build-out and is actively looking at the transportation needs of the school.
- Jan provided more information which is largely available in the 2008 Campus Master Plan – <http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/administrative-services/campus-planning-documents>.

## **Draft Vision Statement**

The draft vision statement, which was created by the South Downtown Steering Committee, was provided to the group. The desire was to have a few members of the group review this document and bring it to the next meeting for approval from the entire group.

*Action Item: Review the Draft Vision Statement and bring it back to the next meeting to be approved by the group*



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## Other Items

Michael Hubner from Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) took a few moments to speak to the group and talk about the work that PSRC is doing to provide context of how the South Downtown Subarea Plan will be an important piece of the work that is occurring regionally. He also expressed his gratitude to the Working Group for their willingness and participation.

Milt spent some time working on scheduling for future meetings. It was agreed on by the group that, for the time being, the meeting time should be the fourth Wednesday of the month from 3:00pm to 5:00pm which would make the next meeting Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. At the next meeting, this will be revisited to see if there is a better time or for the group members.

## Next Meeting

**Wednesday, June 27, 3:00-5:00pm, UWT Campus - Carwein Auditorium, Keystone Building**

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