

CITY of TACOMA
TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP (TODAG)
MEETING NOTES

(Reviewed and Approved on 4/19/2021)

MEETING NO.: No. 15 (Special Meeting)

MEETING DATE: March 15, 2021

Members Present: Imad Bahbah (Chair), Don Erickson (Vice-Chair), Adam Cook (in place of Kim Bedier), Daren Crabill, Justin Leighton, Evette Mason, Kerri Hill, Laura Svancarek, Rick Semple, Roberta Schur

Visitors: Sue Comis (Sound Transit), Tim Bates (Sound Transit), Eric Chipps (Sound Transit), Tina Lee (Pierce Transit), Jennifer Kammerzell (COT/PW), Kokila Lochan (VIA Architects), Matt Roewe (VIA Architects), Katherine Howe (VIA Architects), Dana Brown (COT/PW)

Staff Support: Brian Boudet (COT/PDS), Lihuang Wung (COT/PDS), BT Doan (COT/PDS)

ITEM 01: CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Don Erickson called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

1. The meeting notes of February 22, 2021 were reviewed.
2. No public comment.

Chair Imad Bahbah joined the meeting and presided over the meeting.

ITEM 02: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Debriefing and Follow-up – Sound Transit Program Realignment (from 2/22/21 meeting)

- (a) Concerned with the potential impacts of the realignment to the budget and phasing of the Tacoma Dome Link Extension (TDLE) project, Chair Bahbah put forward a suggestion for a joint recommendation from both the TOD Advisory Group and the Transportation Commission to the Sound Transit Board and the City Council.
- (b) The group concurred with writing the recommendation letter. Evette Mason would relay the matter to the Transportation Commission on March 17, 2021.

2. TOD Roundtable Series, Session #3 – “Placemaking, Design Principles & TOD Examples/Tools”

- (a) Brian Boudet provided background context for the roundtable series.
- (b) Introductions of VIA Architects consultants were made.
- (c) VIA Architects’ presentation discussed TOD basics as they related to transit-oriented communities and placemaking with design principles, and development-oriented transit and components that impacted TOD. They also illustrated with examples from other cities.
- (d) The group had questions regarding the plan/vision for the Dome District and Downtown area mentioned in the presentation, and the next steps for aforementioned plans.

- (e) Vice-Chair Erickson offered differences between the City of Tacoma and Vancouver based on his experience working there, leading to discussion of placemaking and industrial intensification suitable for Tacoma.
- (f) Kerri Hill inquired about engagement with other stakeholder groups for the plans.
- (g) Evette Mason commented on the development of incubator for clean marine industry in Tacoma.
- (h) Vice-Chair Erickson asked about projects in other cities where transit ran through mixed-use or multi-family development, in connection to the station options for the TDLE.

3. TDLE Portland Avenue Station Area – Conceptual Diagrams and Feedback of Evaluation Matrix

- (a) Only five members had provided feedback as requested at previous meetings.
- (b) Chair Bahbah extended the timeline to submit feedback and encouraged members to provide theirs.
- (c) Potential vision for the area was discussed.

ITEM 03: COMMUNICATION ITEMS

1. Puyallup Avenue Design Project – TODAG Letter of Recommendation (2/22/21)
 - (a) Lihuang Wung informed the group that their Letter of Recommendation was finalized and forwarded to the Transportation Commission and interested stakeholders.
 - (b) Jennifer Kammerzell (City of Tacoma – Public Works) indicated that the Transportation Commission was writing their own letter to express support for prioritizing pedestrian and bicycle safety, being consistent with Vision Zero and the Transportation Master Plan, as well as moving forward with accepting the grant.
2. Growing Transit Communities Monitoring Reports
 - (a) Follow-up information from presenters of the previous Roundtable discussion in response to requests from the group members.
3. Dome District Public Agency Ownership Map
 - (a) Attachment was provided in agenda packet.
4. TODAG Schedules
 - (a) Brian Boudet reviewed the schedules, in particular agenda items of upcoming meetings.
5. Tentative Agenda for Future Meetings:
 - (a) TOD Roundtable Series
 - (b) TDLE – Portland Avenue Station Area
 - (c) Puyallup Avenue Design Project
 - (d) Bus Rapid Transit Project
 - (e) Continued Review of ULI Report and Subarea Plans
 - (f) Quiet Zone Update
 - (g) TODAG Applications Citywide

The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.