

Minutes
Joint Municipal Action Committee
September 8, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Anders Ibsen called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL-JMAC COMMITTEE

Anders Ibsen, Chair, City of Tacoma
Marty Campbell, City of Tacoma
Tim Reid, Metro Parks Tacoma
Jessie Baines, Metro Parks Tacoma

GUEST INTRODUCTIONS

Puyallup Watershed Initiative: Liz Kaster, Hannah Miner
Metro Parks: Jennifer Bowman, Joe Brady, Andrew Austin
City of Tacoma: Jennifer Kammerzell, Kurtis Kingsolver, Nadine Daly, Randy Lewis
Tacoma Public Schools: Carla Santorno, Dan Voelpel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Tim Reid moved to approve the agenda. Jessie Baines seconded the motion. The chair declared the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tim Reid moved to approve the minutes of August 11, 2017. Jessie Baines seconded the motion. The chair declared the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEMS

 Safe Routes to School In Tacoma

Liz Kaster opened the discussion commenting that every 8 days, a child in Tacoma is hit by a car while walking or biking. She noted between 2010-2014, 222 youth ages 18 and under were hit. A city map highlighting where these crashes occurred was reviewed by Ms. Kaster. She noted that the highest concentrations of these accidents are in areas of lower income schools in the city. Ms. Kaster commented that an action plan for creating safer routes to schools is underway. She commented that an outreach plan including formation of a stakeholder committee, stakeholder interviews, parent surveys, school survey, community events and an open house has taken place.

Ms. Kaster noted that the action Plan is made of six "E's". Equity is the first of the "E's". This component of the plan includes hiring a full time SRTS coordinator, and providing additional support to under resourced schools that may have limited volunteer capacity, and establishing a SRTS Working Group. Jennifer Kammerzell noted that the second E relates to Engineering. This part of the plan will include community walk audits, prioritizing projects based on documented safety and equity needs, developing maps highlighting safe routes, and including SRTS improvements in the Tacoma Mobility Plan. Ms. Kammerzell informed the committee that after the first safety and equity analysis the data collected helped to prioritize schools based on crashes within one mile, students receiving free and reduced lunch, and percent of non-white students. The safety and equity analysis will be completed every two years. Based

on the data collected thus far the 2017-19 SRTS Pilot Program will focus on Lister Elementary, First Creek Middle School, Blix Elementary and Stanley Elementary. Funding for the pilot program will come from state grants and City Council budget. In addition \$1.07 million has been allocated for school beacons at 14 schools.

The third “E” of the plan is Education. Plan highlights include providing bike and pedestrian safety education at all Tacoma Public Schools in alignment with the new K-12 Health and Fitness Standards. Developing and distributing SRTS educational materials for parents will also be done. Encouragement is the fourth “E” of the Plan. Ms. Kaster commented that providing trainings for SRTS champions who want to plan events at their schools and establishing free resource kits for running these events will be a piece of this action plan.

Enforcement, the fifth “E” of the plan will include the installation of enforcement cameras, and speed feedback signs. In addition there will be a greater focus on developing and promoting neighborhood/school zone motorist safety campaign. Reducing barriers to following the law by giving away bike lights and helmets is another area of attention. The final “E” of the plan is evaluation. Jennifer Kammerzell stated that data will continue to be collected during the program to inform an annual report on the program that will be distributed.

The need for partnership with other agencies including Metro Parks and the Health Department was also stressed.

Next steps include the City taking the lead on the first four schools identified in the pilot program. The school district will be creating an interdepartmental walking group to meet monthly with the SRTS Stakeholder Committee. Schools will also begin the implementation of curriculum standards. Staff noted that safe routes to parks is also an area under consideration. The Health Department is assisting with funding walk and roll kits.

Dan Voelpel thanked the City for taking the lead on the program.

Andrew Austin commented Metro Parks is supportive of coming together for this program.

Joe Brady commented that the community approach will help in moving the meter to increase safety.

Marty Campbell commented that the Board of Health also continues to be involved and supportive.

Kurtis Kingsolver noted that education is key as infrastructure is only part of the solution for creating safer routes to schools.

Jesse Baines and Tim Reid both voiced support for the program, and encouraged these same tools to be used in creating safe routes to parks.

DISCUSSION OF MUTUAL INTERESTS AND CONCERNS/FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

The committee decided to reschedule the November 10th meeting to November 3rd due to the Veterans Day Holiday.

Andrew Austin reminded the Committee of the Eastside Community Center Construction celebration scheduled for September 23rd. He also commented that Ruston Way Planning initiative will launch to the public at the Downtown to Defiance event this coming weekend.

SETTING OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Office of Equity & Human Rights (City of Tacoma)

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Affordable Housing

Homeless Encampments (City, County Agencies, Tacoma Public Schools, Port of Tacoma)

Sub-Area Plan – Tideflats Area

Landbanking and Surplus Property Strategies Follow-Up (Jordan Rash, Forterra)

IDEA

Workforce Development

South Sound 911/Emergency Management

Continue Mental Health Conversation

Youth Mental Health Issues: Trafficking, Housing/Shelters, Gangs, Drugs, etc.

Economic Development Growth and Impacts

Trades, Apprenticeships, and Regional Partnerships (Tacoma SD, Bates, City)

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, October 13, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in Conference Room 248 at the Tacoma Municipal Building.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Anders Ibsen adjourned the meeting at 8:50 a.m.