

DRAFT

Transit Oriented Development Advisory Group (TOD Advisory Group or Group)
Summary Minutes: September 16, 2019

Members Present: Ryan Givens , Ben Ferguson, Cathy Reines, Imad Bahbah, Kristina Walker, Janice McNeal, David Daniello, James Ceccanti, Kiara Daniels, Justin Leighton, Evette Mason, Daren Crabill, Kerri Hill, Rory Jens, and Kim Bedier.

Meeting Facilitator: Keith Walzak, VIA-Architecture (City Staff Support: Ian Munce (Planning & Development Services)

- Meeting called to order at 4pm in Room 243 of TMB by Councilman Robert Thoms.
- Members commented on the chair / co-chair role. One proposal was that these individuals should represent the initial core study area - ST3 Central Link Extension to the Dome area. Walzak suggested the idea of small task force or sub-groups as a way to manage workloads.
- The Group felt they could postpone the chair/co-chair matter until a future agenda item and after the group is up to speed on the critical issues going forward and has gotten to know each other better. This item was deferred to the November agenda.
- The Group was interested in scheduling a work session at the October 21 regular meeting to help establish key priorities for the Committee.
- Members indicated that they were unclear as to the scope of the Group and the three priority areas and wanted to receive detailed briefing materials.
- The Group agreed to review the draft set of Guiding Principles and Participation Guidelines (submitted by Walzak) with a view to revisions and adoption at the October meeting.

Action items

Group members acknowledged the need to get up to speed quickly and set the stage for future discussions. Members requested the Agenda format include a Public Comment item as well as a category called 'Hot Topics'. Members also discussed that a mechanism be included to help clarify items that may be 'Open' for advisory group input and 'Closed' items where no further discussion is required.

Members noted the need to clarify the definition of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and other terms (Heavy rail, Light rail, BRT, Multi-modal) and to be briefed on current zoning in applicable areas.

The Group asked that at their October presentation Sound Transit address:

- Purpose/Need and Background information of the Tacoma Central Link Extension
- Project Schedule
- What decisions have been approved by the ST Board regarding the ST3 Central Link Extension (i.e. alignments and station locations)
- What future decisions /milestones are immediate, and the timing for input from local jurisdictions.

Reference Links:

South Downtown Subarea Plan and EIS

https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/planning_and_development_services/planning_services/current_initiatives/south_downtown_subarea_plan_and_e_i_s

Tacoma Dome Link Extension

<https://www.soundtransit.org/system-expansion/tacoma-dome-link-extension>

The Urbanist

Sound Transit Embarks on Tacoma Dome Link Extension Scoping

April 17, 2018

<https://www.theurbanist.org/2018/04/17/sound-transit-embarks-tacoma-dome-link-extension-scoping/>

Railway Age

Sound Transit breaks ground on Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension

November 21, 2018

<https://www.railwayage.com/passenger/light-rail/sound-transit-breaks-ground-on-hilltop-tacoma-link-extension/>

Pierce Transit

<https://www.piercetransit.org/brt>

The Suburban Times

Sound Transit Board approves funding for Pierce County bus rapid transit

August 23, 2019

<https://thesubtimes.com/2019/08/23/sound-transit-board-approves-funding-for-pierce-county-bus-rapid-transit/>

The Urbanist

Pierce Transit Weighs Bus Lane Options for Pacific Avenue BRT

April 3, 2018

<https://www.theurbanist.org/2018/04/03/bus-lanes-considered-tacoma-brt-project/>

City of Tacoma Community & Economic Development briefing Book for the ongoing Urban Land Institutes assessment of development opportunities in the Dome District

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1M9o7rCcAgRdXVGFiasg3VK_ZYs5PsouU

Members discussed the need to clarify the 'D' in TOD. Members acknowledged the need to understand how transit routes and station design may impact development opportunities and the need to view the alignment and station location through the lens of local businesses and residents.

Prepared By Keith Walzak and Ian Muncie

