



City of Tacoma

Bicycle and Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group

To join by computer, click on the following link:

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To join by phone, call: +1 253 215 8782

If you are asked for a Meeting ID, enter: 916 7226 2812

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Minutes

Monday September 28 2020

5:30-7:30 PM

I. Call to order and approval of minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:35PM.

The minutes for July 27, 2020 were moved and approved as provided.

II. Introductions

Leon Nettels was absent.

III. Public Comment

IV. Business Items:

a. Active Transportation Access

Liz Kaster provided an update on the Tacoma Dome Link Extension project, which includes new stations at East Tacoma/Portland Avenue and near the Tacoma Dome. Sound Transit will be holding an online open house on the station location and access to the stations. Sound Transit has dedicated funding towards station access. The open houses will help Sound Transit identify potential projects and evaluate potential improvements. Liz explained that having folks participate in the open house will be useful and having a letter of recommendation/comments on behalf of BPTAG would be impactful.

Liz shared a map that depicted existing bike facilities and planned bike facilities. She described the various connections. She highlighted that Puyallup Avenue is a core street proposed for protected bike lanes (possibly cycle track) that is currently funded for design. There are trails connections from the Pipeline Trail along McKinley Avenue, but there are significant gaps. Liz highlighted what is shown in the TMP and areas where pedestrian and bicycle access or crossings will be challenging, such as at Portland and Puyallup Avenue. She provided an overview of the staff recommended improvements, which include improving crossings along Portland Avenue, filling in missing sidewalks, completing proposed bike corridors on Puyallup Avenue, Portland Avenue, and Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge. The community will have to weigh whether to provide many active



transportation access facilities, or a single more expensive facility, such as a pedestrian bridge over I-5.

The group discussed connections to the City of Puyallup. Liz recommended inviting Shawn Phelps from Pierce County to discuss the County's future corridor planning.

Chair Jenn explained that prioritizing sidewalk access is important. She also stated that ensuring the experience is enjoyable and safe, such as incorporating art and landscaping. Chair Jenn asked if the 6 YR Transportation Improvement Program should be updated to reflect new projects or potential changes recommended by BPTAG. Jennifer Kammerzell explained that it would be most appropriate to include any corridor changes in the next TMP update and to call out those proposed changes in a letter to Sound Transit and the Transportation Commission.

b. Recruitment

Liz shared that the BPTAG recruitment announcement has been prepared. She explained that it will be shared on City social media and with existing community organization, such as Vision Zero Stakeholder Committee. Chair Jenn also stated that there is an opportunity to be a Co-Chair for BPTAG. Member Michael asked what information should be shared. Liz will share the press release and list of organizations that she has reached out to. The application is more streamlined and easier for folks to access and complete.

c. Scott Pierson Trail

Liz provided a presentation on the Scott Pierson Trail that included background, recent improvements, concerns, and potential improvements. The trail is owned by WSDOT. Maintenance is jointly conducted by WSDOT and the City. She explained that 12 catch basins were replaced on Jackson Blvd to be more bike friendly. For the intersection at SR16 & Jackson Blvd, the short-term improvements include adding a new sign that says Stop for Bike/Peds. Mid-term improvements include updating the signal with No Right on Red signs, video detection, Audible Pedestrians Signals, and rechannelizing the eastbound through. Member Michael suggested considering green bike boxes to bring more attention to drivers that don't look when turning. He also pointed out that facilities are needed for northbound cyclists that may be clipped by drivers in the right lane turning onto the SR16 on-ramp. The drivers don't often look for cyclists.

Liz also discussed 6th and Bantz, which includes improvements that the group has discussed a couple years ago as part of the intersection of the month. Chair Jenn suggested adding wayfinding signs and green paint to assist cyclists with finding the trail connection.

Liz also highlighted North 9th & Pearl. Chair Jenn and Member Alexandra recommended adding a leading pedestrian interval to help with the crossing. Member Matt shared that tree roots are lifting the trail along N 9th between Pearl and 1/8th of a mile west.

Liz asked the group to discuss prioritization. Unfortunately, funding is fairly limited. Chair Jenn shared that she has heard of numerous crashes at Jackson and SR16. Member Alexandra recommended Union and Scott Pierson Trail too. She would like to see collision data include



vehicle-vehicle crashes. Member Michael also agrees that Jackson should be a priority because of the high speeds and rolling stops.

Liz asked the group about wayfinding sign preferences, such as the branded Scott Pierson Trail signs or the standard bike route sign. Member Alexandra shared the benefits of both. The standard sign is useful for everyone to understand; however, the specialized sign draws your attention. Member Michael suggested incorporating signage for people with low vision, such as braille placards. Liz will discuss options with the ADA Coordinator. Member Alexandra also stated that the audible pedestrian signals be provided to help with signalized crossings.

V. Updates

a. Report from Transportation Commission

Jane Moore shared that the Transportation Commission August agenda included a discussion on the Transit Oriented Development Advisory Group, Vision Zero, Impact Fees RFP, Budget considerations, and speeding on Narrows/Vassault.

b. Staff Updates

Liz shared that the 56th & Cirque Drive project will have an open house next month.

Jennifer Kammerzell shared that the City Manager will share the City's overall budget to the City Council on October 6, 2020 at study session.

VI. BPTAG at other active transportation meetings

Jane Moore shared the Forever Green Trails Conference on September 30, 2020 from 2-4pm. Liz shared the Walk and Roll Summit hosted by Cascade Bicycle Club is free this year and has a very good keynote speakers. You can attend all or some, and it is highly recommended.

VII. Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM