



City of Tacoma Bicycle and Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group

In person meeting location: Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 248 (747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402)
The Tacoma Municipal Building is served by Pierce Transit bus routes 1, 2, 11, 16, 45, and 57. Visit www.tripplanner.piercetransit.org to find your route. The Tacoma Municipal Building has bike racks at the Market St and St. Helens Ave entrances. Visit cityoftacoma.org/mobility for a map of Tacoma bikeways.

To join by computer, click on the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99545896138?pwd=Skd4dDI0WFQreDU4eFpHQIV5U2J5Zz09>

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

If you are asked for a Meeting ID, enter: 995 4589 6138

If you are asked for a Password, enter: 762319

MINUTES February 26, 2024 5:30-7:30 PM

I. Call to order, land acknowledgement, and approval of minutes

Chair Jenn called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

We gratefully honor and acknowledge that we reside on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People. The Puyallup people have lived on this land since the beginning of time. They are still here today. They live, work, raise their children, take care of their community, practice their traditional ways and speak the Twulshootseed language – just as their ancestors did.

II. Introductions, Icebreaker & Approval of Minutes

Member Teena was an excused absence. Member Riley was absent.

Member Julian moved to approve the January 22, 2024 minutes. Member Steve seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. Public Comment

Sara Kiesler provided public comment on the previous BPTAG Sound Transit South Tacoma Access Improvements letter.

IV. Business Items:

- **Conversation with Youth from 2nd Cycle's Safe Cycle Program**

Second Cycle staff and members, BPTAG members, and City staff had a discussion on bicycle advocacy, projects, and process. Second Cycle members specifically asked how the City identifies bike facilities to construct and what facilities are prioritized. Liz Kaster, Active Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the criteria that the City considers in project selection and design, which includes safety, equity, connectivity of active transportation, and partnerships. The Transportation Master Plan also guides project identification and selection.

Discussions also included how community members engage with City staff and BPTAG on ongoing concerns, such as crashes or a lack of facilities. SeeClickFix (311) is typically the preferred tool to report traffic concerns. The groups also discussed recent bike



improvements and how projects are funded, such as grants, private development, and utility improvements. Supporting and providing education is important in empowering people to bike, especially youth. The groups also discussed where they prefer to ride, places they avoid, and improvements they would like to see more of, including concerns regarding blind spots at intersections, high speed arterials, mentality/lack of care by drivers, and more bike facilities in parks (pump tracks, mountain bike tracks).

- **Home in Tacoma: Comment Letter**

- <https://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/one.aspx?pageId=180033>

Liz Kaster led a discussion on the draft Home in Tacoma – comment letter that Chair Jenn and Member Michael developed. At the January 22, 2024 meeting, BPTAG members agreed to send a comment letter to the Planning Commission on Home in Tacoma policy and code changes to support active transportation. The letter prioritizes a safe and complete active transportation system. Member Steve moved to approve the letter. Member Thomas seconded the motion. Members generally supported the letter. Member iLeana requested that the letter include language about remaining involved through implementation. The motion passed.

- **South Tacoma Sounder Station Access: Comment Letter to Sound Transit Board**

- Comments due by March 13
- 2022 letter could be updated & resubmitted

Liz Kaster presented an overview of the South Tacoma Sounder Station Access Improvement project (STAI) prioritization. The Sound Transit Board will be reviewing a proposed project list for STAI funds that were developed in coordination with BPTAG, community members, and city staff. Liz explained that a comment letter from BPTAG on priority active transportation projects would help to support the proposed list and re-emphasize BPTAG's previous comments on de-prioritizing a parking garage/lot. Member Michael made a motion to allow Chair Jenn to update and submit the previous comment letter. Member Julian seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- **Chair's Updates**

- Street Ops Staffing Follow-up

Chair Jenn provided an update on the state of Street Operation & Maintenance staffing that would support active transportation. She shared that the number of people applying has severely decreased over time. The group discussed other impacts such as higher material costs, hiring processes, and overall recruitment.

- **Staff Updates**

Cailin Henley, Safe Routes to School Planner, shared that the Safe Routes to School Intern position is posted.

- **Report from Transportation Commission**

Jennifer Kammerzell, Asst. Transportation Division Manager, shared that the February 21, 2024 agenda included a discussion on the Tacoma Right-of-Way Design Manual update and 6 YR Transportation Improvement Program update.

- **Report out on Volunteer Assignments**

Chair Jenn shared that this is Member Michael's last meeting. Members shared their appreciation for his contributions, knowledge, and commitment to active transportation. Chair Jenn and Liz will be conducting interviews for vacation positions next month.



- **Transportation Commission:** Jenn Halverson Kuehn (see comment above)
- **Metro Parks Point Defiance Park - Outer Loop Visioning Committee:** Matt Pavolka, Teena Johnson, Thomas O'Neil, & Jenn Halverson Kuehn – Chair Jenn updated the group on the last meeting and that the committee is open to dialogue.
- **Metro Parks Strategic Plan:** Matt Pavolka – No update
- **Pierce Transit Strategic Plan:** Julian Helmer – No update
- **South Tacoma Neighborhood Plan:** iLeana Areiza – There are upcoming meetings in February and March.
- **Metro Parks Climate Action Plan** (<https://engagepiercecounty.mysocialpinpoint.com/climate-action-plan>): All
- **Pacific Avenue Sub-Area Plan** (<https://www.cityoftacoma.org/picturepacave>)

Member Matt shared that the E 64th St Phase II project and Water Flume Line Trail Phase III are out for advertisement.

V. Adjourn

Chair Jenn adjourned the meeting at 7:23PM



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