

City of Tacoma Bicycle and Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group

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MINUTES September 26 2022 5:30-7:30 PM

I. Call to order and land acknowledgement

Chair Jenn called the meeting to order at 5:31 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 & Approval of Minutes

Members Teena and Matt were absent.

It was moved (Member Tyler) and seconded (Member Michael) to approve the August 22, 2022, minutes.

Public Comment

No members of the public provided comment.

III. Business Items:

Leading Pedestrian Intervals (Adam Leslie)

Adam Leslie, Transportation Engineer, shared a presentation on the use of Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPI) in Tacoma. The presentation explained; what is Leading Pedestrian Interval, do LPIs work, what is required to install an LPI, where are LPIs installed in Tacoma, how a request for a LPI is handled, and information from the LPI Working Group.

- Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) gives Pedestrians a 3-7 second head start when entering an intersection with a corresponding green signal in the same direction. LPIs enhance visibility of Pedestrians crossing the intersection and allows for Pedestrians crossing the intersection to have the right of way. LPIs are proven to reduce pedestrian-vehicle collisions.
- There's seven LPIs installed in Tacoma and more pending along the Hilltop Link Extension project. The current LPIs are installed at: 19th and Mildred, 56th and Washington, South 50th and Pacific, South 72nd and Pacific, South 64th and Pacific, South 19th and J street, and South 19th and Clay Huntington.



- The costs to add LPI can vary widely, depending on the existing signal infrastructure in place (age, space in the traffic cabinet, APS, etc.) and whether LPI can be easily added – but it can be a very inexpensive solution.
- LPI Working Group consist of nine staff members from Public Works, the current scope of the working group is to advance the implementation of LPI from guidelines to policy and identify a plan for future LPI installations.

Accessible Pedestrian Signals (Leigh Starr)

Leigh Starr, Assistant Division Manager Transportation Division, shared a presentation on Accessible Pedestrian Signal (APS). Leigh shared the APS policy intent, data for upcoming projects.

- Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) are devices that communicate information such as "Walk" and "Do Not Walk" at signalized intersections for Pedestrians who are vision and hearing impaired or low vision.
- APS uses audio and vibrotactile cues to help people who are sight impaired cross an intersection.
- Traffic cabinets and controllers need to be updated to support APS. Approximately third of the intersections in Tacoma have APS.
- There is a process underway to clarify and update policy around when APS needs to be installed.

Area of Focus: S 37th St I-5 Crossing

This item was postponed for discussion at a later meeting, October 2022, or another month.

Updates:

o BPTAG New Member Recruitment

Liz shared- Four applicants' names (two adult, one youth, and one youth alternate) have been shared with the City Manager's office, we should know who was appointed and will be joining the group in the month of October.

- Upcoming Meetings:
 - In person participation option starting in October- BPTAG meetings will now offer either in-person or virtual participation. Liz will operate the virtual meetings.
 - Ashley Jones, Active Transportation Intern will be the new BPTAG Monthly Meetings minutes notetaker.
 - November meeting is currently scheduled for 11/28- Liz asked the group if the November meeting should be canceled. The group will revisit in October.
 - No meeting in December 2022.

IV. General Updates



Report from Transportation Commission

Jennifer Kammerzell, Assistant Director of Transportation Division, attended the Transportation Commission meeting and was able to report back- a parking presentation was shared, parking updates were discussed, there were four new Transportation Commissioners in attendance, an update on Pacific Avenue Subarea plan was also discussed.

Staff Updates

Liz shared staff updates on the #WeekwithoutDriving and reminded everyone that Sound Transit will be attending October 2022 meeting. Pedal with the Politicians ride went well this event highlighted funded projects that included upcoming bike connections.

BPTAG at other transportation meetings

Kerri shared the emphasis on speed enforcement on Pacific Avenue corridor, Department of Commerce improvements to Pacific Avenue.

Adjourn

Chair Jenn adjourned the meeting at 7:14 PM.



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