



City of Tacoma Bicycle and Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group

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MINUTES January 23, 2023 5:30-7:30 PM

- **Call to order and land acknowledgement**

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.

- **Introductions & Approval of Minutes**

Members Teena, Jenn, Ileana, Dana, Thomas, Matt, Julian, Kerri, Mattice, and Riley were present. Members Michael were absent.

It was moved (Members Julian / Thomas) and seconded (Member Dana) to approve the November 28, 2022, minutes. The January 23, 2022, agenda were approved as presented.

- **Public Comment**

- **Business Items:**

- **Portland Avenue (Liz)**

Liz Kaster, Active Transportation Coordinator, explained that the city is working with consultants from Toole Design Group for recommended street redesigns on Portland Avenue. The Transportation Master Plan prioritizes pedestrians, bicycles, cars and transit along this corridor. Portland Avenue is considered a high-risk corridor according to Vision Zero. Portland Avenue has been added to the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Regional Capacity Project List, which is required for the City to make changes to vehicular lanes on a principal arterial (which may be required to improve safety). The city received Pavement Preservation Grants to repave two segments of Portland Ave - phase 1: 56th-64th and phase 2: 64th-72nd. Council approved \$1million for added active transportation safety improvements; Liz shared ideas the City was considering on how to best use the funding on phase 1:

- Missing sidewalks at E 59th Street and Portland Ave
- Adding a HAWK signal at the halfway point between the existing signals on E 56th Street and E 64th Street



- Protected bike lanes were considered; but cannot meet designs standards within the existing curb to curb while maintaining one vehicular lane in each direction and a center turn lane.

Liz shared a potential concept for a parallel bike boulevard on L & M Streets with a connection to the Pipeline Trail via 56th St. BPTAG agreed upon moving forward with the bike boulevard, while keeping protected bike lanes on the table for future implementation on Portland Avenue.

Member Dana asked about a convenient route to the 72nd street Pierce Transit Bus Station. Dana was concerned about the safety of bicyclist traveling to the Transit Station. Liz explored the possibilities of a path leading to the Transit Station.

- **Legislative Priorities**

Member Jenn shared a document of 10 active Washington State Legislative priorities that pertain to Transportation. Jenn discussed the bills she is following and encouraged BPTAG members to track bills at [Bill Information \(wa.gov\)](https://www.wa.gov/bills).

- **Staff Updates:**

On January 1, 2023, new Tacoma speed limits went into effect. The residential speed limit are lowered from 25 MPH to 20 MPH. The speed limit in Old Town, 6th Avenue, McKinley Hill, and Lincoln neighborhood business districts from 30 MPH to 25 MPH. For a map of speed limit reductions, visit www.cityoftacoma.org/visionzero

- **J Street Bicycle Boulevard**

Liz shared the designs for the grant funded J Street Bicycle Boulevard project will be announced soon. Charla Kinlow, Engineer Project Manager will be presenting the designs at an upcoming BPTAG meeting.

- **Scott Pierson Trail**

Liz shared Council approved \$200,000 funds for safety improvements on the Scott Pierson Trail. BPTAG will discuss what areas to prioritize and how to best use the funds.

- **Report from Transportation Commission**

Joe Korbuszewski summarized the Transportation Commission's Chair nominations and leadership changes that occurred during the Wednesday, January 18, 2023, meeting. Jennifer Kammerzell, Interim Division Manager presented the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program. Carrie Wilhelme, Senior Planner discussed Vision Zero and Speed Reduction updates.

- **BPTAG at other active transportation meetings**

Next meeting is scheduled for February 27th, 2023, at 5:30pm

- **Adjourn**

Chair Jenn adjourned the meeting at 7:11 PM.



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