



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 March 25, 2024 5:30-7:30 PM

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

Chair Jenn Halverson-Kuehn called the meeting to order at 5:36 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 Julian Helmer was excused absent. Members introduced themselves. Liz Kaster introduced Rey Sosa Hernandez, the new Active Transportation Member Ileana made a motion to approve the February 26, 2024 minutes. Member Thomas seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

III. Public Comment

JP Kemmick provided public comment regarding making Mason Ave one-way on each side of the Union-Mason Loop Trail.

Larry Leveen, Forever Green Trails, provided comment on timely pedestrian signal repairs and an upcoming Pierce County Transportation meeting.

Joe Korbuszewski, Transportation Commission, provided comment on the good work BPTAG is doing.

IV. Business Items:

- **6th Ave Preservation (Paving) Grant – S Yakima Ave to St Helens Ave: Bike Channelization Options**

Liz Kaster presented that the City is pursuing a paving grant on 6th Avenue between Yakima Ave and St Helens Ave. The repaving project provides an opportunity to improve the current bike facilities. Liz explained the existing conditions on 6th Avenue, which includes on-street parking (parallel and angle), ADA parking, Route 1 transit stops, bike lanes, and sharrows. Liz also presented a variety of options that preserved ADA parking, parking on one side, and transit stops. The grant would not fund bike protection or new Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons, so improvements beyond thermoplastic would require active transportation funds.



The group discussed improving the pedestrian crossing at G and 6th, bike channelization options, increasing pedestrians crossing the road due to the elimination of parking on the park side, and minimizing conflicts/weaving between bikes, cars, and buses. Liz provided an overview of proposals and options for each block – including maintaining existing conditions with minimal updates, striping bike lanes in both directions, and adding protected bike lanes in both directions.

For 6th Ave between Yakima and G St (Option C) - The group generally supported the bike lanes should be restriped to meet current standards.

For 6th Ave between G and Tacoma Ave – The group generally did not support reinstalling sharrows, preferring painted bike lanes.

For 6th Ave between Tacoma Ave and Fawcett Ave (Option B) – The group generally supported converting the angle parking and adding bike lanes that meet standards. They also supported widening the downhill bike lane and/or providing a buffer between the parked cars and downhill bike lane.

For 6th Ave between Fawcett Ave and St Helens Ave (Option B) – The group recognizes that parking needs may be high here, but that parking management tools have not been maximized in this area. The group generally does not believe sharrows would support riders of all ages and abilities.

Overall – BPTAG requested painted bike lanes in both directions be installed as part of this project. While BPTAG has previously voted to support protected bike lanes along all of 6th Ave, the group supports painted bike lanes for this segment at this time, due to the limited scope of this project, less traffic/fewer lanes than further west on 6th Ave, potential for bus/bike interactions without full build out of bus island and significant parking impacts (including ADA parking).

- **Additional Upcoming Grants**

Puget Sound Regional Council grant opportunities include:

- Rehabilitation/Preservation – 6th Ave between Yakima and St Helens
 - Major Projects – Puyallup Avenue Complete Streets Project construction funds
 - Active Transportation – Planning study for the Tacoma Mall Loop Trail (per Subarea Plan)
- Reconnecting Communities Grant awarded \$1.3M towards the I-5 Crossing Study project.

- **South Tacoma Sounder Station Access**

Liz provided an overview of the projects proposed for Tier 1 of the Sound Transit South Tacoma Sounder Station Access Improvement project.

- **Staff Updates**

Liz shared an update on the BPTAG vacancies and new member recruitments.

- **Report from Transportation Commission**

Joe Korbuszewski shared that the Commission received a presentation from Street Operations roles and responsibilities.

- **Report out on Volunteer Assignments**

- **Transportation Commission:** Jenn Halverson Kuehn – Joe K provided the update.
- **Metro Parks Point Defiance Park - Outer Loop Visioning Committee:** Matt Pavolka, Teena Johnson, Thomas O'Neil, & Jenn Halverson Kuehn – Chair Jenn shared that the group discussed maintaining two-way bike routing, improved signage and education, and enhanced visibility of pedestrian crossings.
- **Metro Parks Strategic Plan:** Matt Pavolka – No update for this project.



- **Pierce Transit Strategic Plan:** Julian Helmer – No update for this project.
- **South Tacoma Neighborhood Plan:** iLeana Areiza – The kick-off for the South Tacoma neighborhood meeting is next month.
- **Metro Parks Climate Action Plan** (<https://engagepiercecouny.mysocialpinpoint.com/climate-action-plan>): All
- **Pacific Avenue Sub-Area Plan** (<https://www.cityoftacoma.org/picturepacave>)

V. Adjourn

Chair Jenn adjourned the meeting at 7:12 PM.



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