



Minutes

Meeting: Regular Meeting
Time: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 5:30 P.M.
Place: Conference Room 243, Tacoma Municipal Building, 2nd Floor
747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

I. Call to Order (5:35)

Sarah Miller and Jacki Skaught were an excused absence. Kari Nathan has resigned from the Commission.

II. Roll Call/Introductions

III. Approval of Minutes (April 17, 2019)

The minutes were approved with one correction to page 3 under Commissioner Comments.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Topics & PTAG Report Out

No public comments.

V. Business Items (5:45)

a) Tacoma Mall I-5 Direct Access Project (Feedback, WSDOT)

Dennis Engel, Multimodal Planning Manager for Olympic Region WSDOT, presented an overview of the Tacoma Mall I-5 Direct Access project. The project is going through the practical need solutions evaluation. This project comes directly from the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan and a 2001 study. There was a public meeting on April 25th with an online survey. Dennis explained the various options, which includes a roundabout, adding more lanes, a tunnel, and new off-ramp to Tacoma Mall Blvd. The survey responses prioritize pedestrian safety, mobility, and connectivity; ROW/property impacts; and roundabouts are confusing. The projects next steps are to screen and evaluate the options with another public meeting in July and finalized report in the Fall. CM Gardner asked if construction impacts are being considered. Dennis stated that would be considered as part of the planning level study. CM Leighton stated that a lot of the slowing down is due to numerous driveways/access points and if staff has considered alternative solutions before adding a lane. Dana Brown explained that the project is evaluating where the trips are going and how it will contribute to a larger benefit on pedestrian access. The City has our own objectives to create a system for the Tacoma Mall area, whereas WSDOT and Federal Highways is looking for congestion management. CM Leighton brought up concerns regarding driveway placement and possibilities for closing driveways. Josh Diekmann explained that the City is aware of the number of driveways and do consider potential driveway closures as part of projects or redevelopment. Co-Chair Nyland commented about how many design ideas were inconsistent with the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan to increase pedestrian access. Dennis explained that the ideas are brainstorming and the next step includes screening each option,





specifically for pedestrian access. CM Stevens asked if the project is considering dramatic changes, which include street closures outlined in the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan, such as limiting access at Steele Street, or making this area less car-centric. Dana explained that reducing the volume of cars at 38th & Steele Street will allow the City to focus on making the corridor and other parts of the Subarea Plan to be more pedestrian and bicycle oriented. *Co-Chair Nyland asked what the proposed population growth for the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan is planned.*

- b) Bike and Scooter Share Program (Informational, Jennifer Kammerzell)
- Jennifer Kammerzell provided an overview of the bike and scooter share program. The pilot program started as a right-of-way use permit and is in its 3rd extension. The end goal is to create a franchise agreement. An agency stakeholder committee has been evaluating the pilot program. Community engagement is planned for this summer. Concerns/complaints have been focused around speed and scooter placement. *CM Leighton asked that the Pilot Program map be updated by each mode - one for bike ridership and one for scooter ridership. CM Leighton and Co-Chair Nyland asked that the injury data be presented in comparison to industry standards and the larger scale. CM Leighton suggested that the app prompt riders to park properly, then take a photo. Commission asked to clarify helmet requirements for e-bikes, scooters, and e-scooters.*

VI. Other Business/Updates

- a) Sound Transit TDLE Stakeholder Group (Justin Leighton) – Next meeting is May 22nd to discuss the preferred alignment and station location. The Transportation Commission, Planning Commission, and Sustainable Tacoma Commission submitted separate letters.
- b) SR167 Bicycle & Pedestrian Steering Committee (Justin Leighton) – Next meeting May 20th.
- c) Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (Jennifer Kammerzell/Jane Moore)
- d) Planning Commission Agenda – Public Hearing on 2019 amendments including Historic Preservation, Shoreline Master Program amendments, Affordable Housing Action Strategies, Manitou Potential Annexation, and minor code amendments

VII. Staff Reports

- a) Responses to Commission Inquiries – No term expirations in 2019, Josh stated that impact fees Request for Proposals will likely be advertised in June.
- b) Status of Grant Applications & Major Capital Projects – Washington Traffic Safety Commission – Striping & Crossing Guard Education \$5,100 match/\$28,900 request – The Commission moved and approved to fund the project.
- c) Upcoming Public Meetings & Events – WSDOT Active Transportation Plan 2019 Survey - <https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/travel/commute-choices/bike/plan>

VIII. Commissioner Comments

CM Leighton stated that a public celebration for the Hilltop Link Extension will be soon. He also stated that the 43rd WA Public Transportation Conference & Rodeo (<https://watransit.com/event-2019-state-conference/?t=1> to register) will be in August 2019 at SeaTac Double Tree.



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CM Gardner shared that City Council Public Comment included comments about BRT and CM Thoms was on TV Tacoma - Inside Tacoma discussing sidewalks in Northeast Tacoma and Tacoma Dome transit.

Co-Chair Nyland provided information on the Pierce County Coordinated Transportation Coalition (transportation options in Pierce County).

CM Leighton asked about the Transit Oriented Development Advisory Group resolution and the relationship between Transportation Commission. There is concern about it being Tacoma Dome focused. The resolution states that it is an advisory group that reports to the Transportation Commission. Co-Chair Moore attended the Dome District meeting, which they discussed. *Co-Chairs asked that it be an agenda topic at the June meeting.*

Co-Chair Moore shared the Short Course on Local Planning will be on June 13 (downtownonthegeo.com).

IX. Public Comment

No public comment

X. Adjourn (7:13 PM)



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Potential/Continuing Topics

- 6-Year Transportation Program #1L
- Transportation Master Plan Biennial Amendments #1L
- Street Initiative Progress Reporting – Capital and Active Transportation Projects & Programs
- Amend Bylaws
- TMP 101 – What is Transportation Commission relationship to TMP, Why is it important
- Project Participation
 - Tideflats Subarea Plan
 - Safe Routes to School Implementation and Programs - handout
 - Impact Fees
 - Hazardous Sidewalk & Missing Link Sidewalk Program
 - Capital Project Status Annual Update
 - Schuster Parkway
 - Prairie Line Trail Continuation
 - Hilltop Links to Opportunity (Design)
 - Street Initiative Projects Annual Report and Upcoming Projects (biennially)
 - Bike Share
 - Tacoma to Puyallup Regional Trail Connection
- TMP Work Plan Items:
 - System Completeness / Concurrency Status
 - Back-In Angle Parking Policy (handout)
 - Performance Tracking (assess every 2 years - 2020)
 - TMP Amendment Update (every 2 years 2019)
 - TMP Full Update/Assessment (every 5 years - 2020)
- Agency Coordination:
 - Sound Transit –Link Extension, ST3 - Central Link Station Location and South 19th Extension
 - WSDOT – SR167 and I-5 HOV
 - Pierce Transit – Pacific Avenue High Capacity Transit
 - Metro Parks – Ruston Way “Envision Our Waterfront Tacoma”
- Updates:
 - Pierce Transit Franchise Agreement - handout
 - Curb Ramp App – handout
- BPTAG Work Plan
- PTAG Work Plan
- Planning Commission Work Plan





Subcommittees

- Impact Fees
- TMP Updates
- Vision Zero

List of Groups to Attend/Follow

- Neighborhood Councils
- Neighborhood Business Districts
- Hilltop Action Coalition
- Tacoma Dome Business District
- Schuster Parkway/Ruston Way Stakeholder Committee
- WSDOT SR167 Bike/Ped Stakeholder Group (Justin, Bruce)
- Sound Transit TDLE (Raymond)
- Tideflats Subarea Plan Stakeholder Group
- BPTAG Liaison
- Planning Commission Liaison
- Parking Technical Advisory Group Liaison
- Sustainable Tacoma Commission Liaison



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