



City of Tacoma
Transportation Commission

April 15, 2020

Conor McCarthy, Chair
Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Council Committee
747 Market Street, Suite 1200
Tacoma, WA 98402

Re: Pierce Transit Long Range Plan Update Comments

Dear Chair McCarthy,

The Transportation Commission received a brief presentation from Pierce Transit (PT) on February 19, 2020 regarding Destination 2040 Long Range Plan (LRP) update. The presentation outlined the update's purpose, goals, and objectives. Commission members have individually reviewed the draft update. With this letter, the Transportation Commission respectfully submits our recommendations to the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee for consideration.

The Commission's primary concerns are:

1. That the LRP remains consistent with the City's Transportation Master Plan.
2. That PT conduct extensive public involvement and outreach to gather detailed information from existing passengers and the general public and then thoughtfully consider the feedback received and use the feedback to revise the LRP update.

Unfortunately, with the current COVID-19 pandemic, all the plans for service-hour growth previously felt to be realistic may now be unrealistic. It is currently impossible to predict the long-term effects of current events on the economy, tax revenues, and individual behavior.

PT's timeline shows finalization of the LRP Update in April 2020. This is no longer an achievable goal and must be delayed. Adequate public outreach cannot be accomplished through on-line surveys. Further action should be delayed until public open houses can be held in various parts of the city to collect a wide variety of public input.

Chapters 3 – 6 contain thoughtful and thorough discussions of expected changes and ideas for dealing with those changes. All the solutions appear to be hypothetical without addressing specific steps PT plans to take. Chapter 7 does begin to describe actual plans, but these plans are based on a sales tax increase which is probably now unlikely to occur soon.

Concerns about these specific plans have been discussed by the Transportation Commission. The Commission feels that the focus should be on core elements of service: frequency, span, and weekend service. We would also like more transparency of underlying policies for route choices.

Tacoma Transportation Commission
Sound Transit 3 Priority Projects
January 14, 2016

How are decisions made on which routes to add or end, when to increase frequency or span of service, etc.? Factors considered when making these decisions should be enumerated. There are also concerns around planning routes on Ruston Way where cost may greatly exceed ridership and plans for bus rapid transit lines along routes that are also planned for light rail expansion.

In summary, the Transportation Commission recommends that PT's LRP update process be suspended for now and reinstated when public meetings are again possible; changes to the update be based on new realities as they become apparent over the next several months; and factors in decision-making are made transparent.

The Commission appreciates the opportunity to provide the City with its expertise and counsel on these very important issues that will transform our City in a positive way.

Sincerely,

Jane Ann Moore
Co-Chair
Transportation Commission

Gerrit Nyland
Co-Chair
Transportation Commission

cc: Mayor Marilyn Strickland
Tacoma City Councilmembers
Tacoma City Manager
Pierce Transit CEO
Chair of the Pierce Transit Board
Darin Stavish



COVID IMPACT UPDATE

City of Tacoma | Public Works

Transportation Commission
6.17.2020



May 1, 2020



Summary of Estimated Revenue Impact

Fund	Revenue Impact (below plan)
General Fund	\$40 M
Mental Health and Chemical Dependency	\$1.6 M
Tacoma Creates	\$1.6 M
Streets Initiative	\$2.9 M
Street Fund	\$4.3 M
Parking Fund	\$3.8 M
Permitting	\$3.9 M
Tacoma Dome	Contingent Impact
Convention Center	\$4.2 M
Surface Water and Wastewater	Limited
Solid Waste	\$2 M
Total	\$64.3 M

CORE SERVICES
CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT
CREDIBILITY

CITY OF TACOMA
**BIENNIAL
BUDGET**
2019 - 2020



Special Revenue Funds

Department	Fund	Revenue Impact	Response
Neighborhood & Community Services	Mental Health and Chemical Dependency	\$1.6 M or 27%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing all contracts for savings and efficiencies Current commitments already under budget Use of cash balance
Tacoma Venues & Events	Tacoma Creates	\$1.6 M or 27%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redirect funding to emergency related projects
Public Works	Streets Initiative	\$2.9 M or 13%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delaying \$3M in Streets Initiative projects to future years in the program Minimizing irrigation in City maintained parks and ROW Reduction of 2020 Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-Striping Residential Chip Seal and Overlay Construction of ADA Ramps
	Street Fund	\$4.3 M or 16%	

CORE SERVICES
CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT
CREDIBILITY

CITY OF TACOMA
BIENNIAL BUDGET
2019 - 2020

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Enterprise Funds

Department	Fund	Revenue Impact	Response
Planning & Development Services	Permitting	\$3.9 M or 30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancel projects Holding vacancies Extend Development and Plat timelines during the emergency
Public Works	Parking Fund	\$3.8 M or 45%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce operating expenses and capital projects Use of cash balances
Tacoma Venues & Events	Tacoma Dome	Contingent Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 95% of spring/summer events rebooked to fall Cancel capital projects
	Convention Center	\$4.2 M	
Environmental Services	Solid Waste	\$2.0 M or 3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2019 actuals for Solid Waste will help offset projected 2020 losses Use of cash above reserve targets as needed Eliminate non-essential spending in 2020 Hiring freeze for positions not critical to operations Participate in TPU Emergency Assistance Program
	Wastewater and Surface Water	Limited	

CORE SERVICES
CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT
CREDIBILITY

CITY OF TACOMA
BIENNIAL BUDGET
2019 - 2020

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May 22, 2020



TARGET AND PROPOSALS

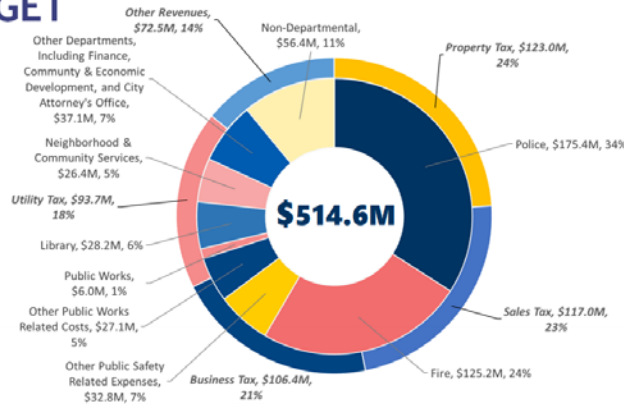
- Departments to:
 - make proposals to reduce expenses by 15%
 - If a department manages a fund with a deficit greater than 15%, Department will need to propose reductions to resolve the deficit
 - maintain sustainable reserve levels
 - submit adds/proposals with corresponding reductions (ongoing adds would require ongoing funding)



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2019-2020 ADOPTED GENERAL FUND BUDGET



7

6



OVERALL APPROACH



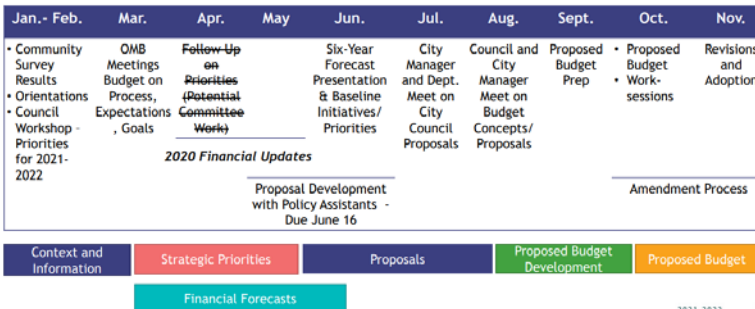
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CITY COUNCIL



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COUNCIL PROPOSALS -DUE JUNE 16TH

- Proposals should be focused on what should come back online that's been cancelled in 2020 (Staff will provide a full list of cancellations)
- Council Member will also need to submit which program could be reduced to fund the proposal (Staff will provide a full list of programs and costs based on the City's program budget)

2021-2022
TACOMA
OPERATIONS & CAPITAL
BUDGET

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GRANT UPDATE

City of Tacoma | Public Works

Transportation Commission
6.17.2020



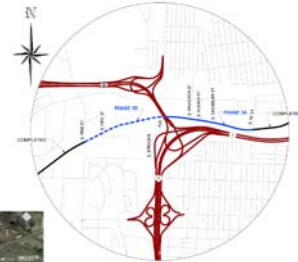
WSDOT



- WA Traffic Safety Commission: First Creek Middle School Beacons (AWARDED)
 - E 56th & Portland Avenue
 - Add flashing school zone beacons to intersection approach
- Travel Demand Management: Mildred Street bike lanes (Notify end of July 2020)
 - Mildred Street – S 12th and Scott Pierson Trail
 - Convert one lane of traffic to bike lanes

PSRC – COUNTYWIDE & REGIONAL

- Water Flume Line Trail Phase 3A & 3B
 - South Tacoma Way – Pine to M Street
 - Shared Use Path Trail
- Prairie Line Trail Phase II
 - Hood Street – S 21st to S 25th Street
 - Shared Use Path Trail



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PSRC – CMAQ & OVERLAY

- Portland Avenue Overlay
 - Portland Avenue – E 64th to E 72nd Street
 - Grind and Overlay
- South Sound Freight Modeling
 - Port of Tacoma, Manufacturing/Industrial Centers, adjacent jurisdictions
 - Traffic modeling update and analysis – supports Tideflats Subarea Plan & Port ITS Plan

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- Bike/Ped: Tree Streets Separated Bike Lanes (Due July 17, 2020)
 - Cedar/Pine – S 15th and Center Streets
 - Convert 2 lanes and parking to separated bike lane, curb ramps, & access to Scott Pierson Trail
- Safe Routes to School: Manitou Elementary (Due July 24, 2020)
 - S 66th Street – Tyler and Cheyenne Streets
 - Raised crosswalk, protected bike lanes, education, encouragement