



Minutes

Meeting: Regular Meeting
Time: Wednesday, June 19, 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 (5:34 PM)

II. Roll Call/Introductions

Commissioner Stevens was excused.

III. Approval of Minutes (May 15, 2019)

The minutes were approved as provided.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Topics & PTAG Report Out

No public comment provided.

V. Business Items (5:45)

- a) Hazardous Sidewalk Program Update (Mark D'Andrea) – Mark D'Andrea and Sandra Guffey provided an overview of the current hazardous sidewalk program. They stated that there have been several inventory assessments conducted and in general, there is 382 miles of missing sidewalk. They explained that there are approximately 150 complaints per year and there is a 1,155 backlog of complaints. Previously, the program was funded through federal grants. Between 2005 and 2015, the program addressed 1,376 sites (12.7 miles of sidewalk) and reconstructed 91 sites through abatement. In 2017-2018, the program was only funded by \$500k Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) and completed 94 sites (0.7 miles of sidewalk).

Mark provided an overview of the funding for 2019-2020, which includes \$657k from Gas Tax, \$500k REET, and \$300k from Streets Initiative for low-income households. With this funding, they dividing the funding amongst the 8 Neighborhood Councils (NC), which results in approximately 15-20 sites per NC. The screening is based on US HUD 80% median income for Pierce County. They started in the North End, Eastside, and South End. They notified folks of the low-income program and about 20-24 responded. Not all funding was spent in the North End. The Commission was concerned about the unspent funds from various districts and asked if it could be used in lower income and racially diverse neighborhoods. The Commission also asked that the funds are focused on low-income neighborhoods, specifically South End, South Tacoma, and Eastside. Mark and Sandra explained that the program only funds folks that meet the low-income criteria; however, there is opportunity to revise the approach. It was stated that there is not enough money to address all needs. The intent is to only notify as many





people as funding allows, so that folks aren't turned away. This makes fixing sidewalks difficult and a lengthy process. There was discussion on how often does staff notify homeowners and how many times do we give them an opportunity to participate before recommending abatement, which is a difficult process to undertake and not preferred by the City.

The Commission asked that this topic be added to the July meeting to discuss potential program approach and process changes.

- b) Short Course on Transportation Planning & TMP 101 (Informational, Jennifer Kammerzell) – Jennifer Kammerzell provided an overview of the Transportation Master Plan (TMP). She reviewed the need for the plan, which is to address project growth by 2040 and the community's desire to limit building for single occupancy cars. She discussed the mode shift goals and the green hierarchy to prioritize pedestrian and bicycle access. Jennifer reviewed the project list and the prioritization criteria, which includes equity of modes, income equity, safety, system preservation, leveraging funds, timelines, and environmental stewardship. She also discussed what implementation of the TMP means. It is the inclusion of projects in the 6 YR Transportation Improvement Program, making recommendations in the Biennial Budget, and ensuring that capital projects and new developments are consistent with the TMP. Jennifer explained that there is more work to do, such as evaluating and including Vision Zero, Impact Fees, Shared Mobility, curb space productivity, and stronger ties to equity.
- c) Staff Updates: East 11th Street Bridge Update, Frontage Road classification, Comprehensive Plan Amendments (Jennifer Kammerzell) – Jennifer Kammerzell provided an overview of 3 projects/tasks that Public Works is undertaking. Rather than include under Staff Reports, she wanted to provide additional detail. Jennifer explained that the East 11th Street Bridge has been closed to vehicle access. Due to the condition of the bridge – large gaps in concrete and non-City work occurring on the bridge, the City will be installing a fence to prevent any access. It will allow folks to walk a portion of the east approach for recreation, but no access over the degraded part will be allowed. Community members are concerned about lack of a direct evacuation route and long detours for bikes and peds. Jennifer also provided an update on an amendment to TMC 11.05 Traffic Model Ordinance regarding classifying Frontage Road from Milwaukee Way to approximately Port of Tacoma Road to arterial status and 40 mph. It was previously WSDOT right-of-way. As part of a turnback agreement in July 2012, the City was to take ownership and maintenance of the facility. In order to enforce and regulate this section, it will need to be added to the Traffic Model Ordinance. Jennifer also explained that the Planning Commission was holding a public hearing on the applications for the 2019-2020 Comprehensive Plan Amendments. The hearing is to determine if the applications, including updates to the TMP, should be evaluated by staff and included for consideration as part of the 2019-2020 amendments. Jennifer also explained that there are several project/initiatives coming that will need Transportation Commission representation. The initiatives are Transit Oriented Development Advisory group, Bus Rapid Transit Stakeholder Committee, and Envision our Waterfront.

VI. Other Business/Updates (6:45)



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- a) Sound Transit TDLE Stakeholder Group (Justin Leighton) – The meeting was rescheduled but staff did not show. Sound Transit will be working on the EIS.
- b) SR167 Bicycle & Pedestrian Steering Committee (Justin Leighton) - The 3rd meeting of the group on 6/25 will discuss the design and EIS.
- c) Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (Jennifer Kammerzell/Jane Moore) – no meeting was held
- d) Planning Commission Agenda

VII. Staff Reports (7:00)

- a) Responses to Commission Inquiries – No Commission Inquiries
- b) Status of Grant Applications & Major Capital Projects - No staff updates
- c) Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

VIII. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Leighton would like to see a discussion or response on why WSDOT is requiring the evaluation of roundabouts.

Commissioner Mason would like to review the sidewalk program funds.

Co-Chairs Nyland and Moore will not be able to attend the July meeting. Commissioner Miller agreed to chair the meeting.

IX. Public Comment

Adjourn (7:23 PM)



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