



**City of Tacoma  
Transportation Commission**

Matt Stevens, Co-Chair, At-Large  
Bruce Morris, Co-Chair, At-Large  
Richard Gardner, At-Large  
James Hill, At-Large  
Joe Korbuszewski, District 1  
Rubén Casas, District 2  
Austin Goble, District 3  
Troy Serad, District 4  
Penny Grellier, District 5  
Pamela Wrenn, City Manager Appointed  
Kerri Hill, City Manager Appointed

## Meeting Minutes

**Meeting:** Transportation Commission  
**Time:** Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 5:30 P.M.  
**Place:** Hybrid: 747 Market Street, Room 243 or Zoom

Join by computer, click on the following link:

<https://zoom.us/join> or <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87316891624?pwd=ZEJBMml3VWZSOTd1cjE5ZjNGT0VoUT09>

Join by Phone: (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID: 873 1689 1624

Passcode: 747000

### I. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

*Co-Chair Morris called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. CM Serad read a Land Acknowledgment.*

### II. Roll Call

*CM J. Hill and CM Goble were absent. All other commissioners were present for all or part of the meeting.*

### III. Review of Minutes (June 26, 2024)

*Co-Chair Stevens moved to approve the June 26, 2024 minutes. CM Gardner seconded the motion.*

*Ayes: 7 - Stevens, Morris, Gardner, Korbuszewski, Casas, Serad, Grellier*

*Nays: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Non-voting: CM Wrenn, CM K. Hill*

### IV. Public Comment on Agenda Topics

*No public comment*

### V. Business Items (5:45)

- a) Tacoma Dome Access Improvements (Discussion) – Diane Wiatr and Artie Nelson, Sound Transit  
*Diane Wiatr and other representatives of Sound Transit provided a presentation on the Tacoma Dome Access Improvement Project (TDAI). The TDAI project, funded under ST2, aims to improve access with options for parking, biking, and pedestrian facilities, with a budget of around \$19 million. The goal is to add up to 300 parking spaces or alternative options including pedestrian and bike improvements. The presentation included information about current and projected parking needs, project prioritization criteria, and potential projects that could improve access for pedestrians and bicyclists.*

*The Commission engaged in discussion and questions are parking. There was a preference expressed against expanding parking due to current underutilization. It was noted by Sound Transit staff that existing constraints are due to specific directives from ST2 ballot measure.*



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Concerns were raised about security in the area around the Tacoma Dome, with the assurance that any parking expansion would include a thorough security analysis. Questions were raised about the absence of analysis for transit-to-transit connections and how this was being handled without a defined Tacoma Dome Link Extension (TDLE) alignment. It was clarified that the TDLE alignment's current status does not affect this analysis.

The Commission voiced the need to separate bike traffic from automobiles along Puyallup Avenue. The importance of outreach was emphasized with the suggestion to include the Pierce County Homeless Coalition in consultations. Additionally, it was mentioned that there are funds available in District 2 for various community projects could align with this work. The need for potential land acquisition for future projects was discussed. There were concerns about the accessibility of certain locations due to congestion from major events at the Tacoma Dome and the potential conflict with housing expansion plans.

The Commission debated whether to focus on parking or other improvements and whether to provide strategic recommendations. It was decided to write a letter to emphasize priorities for access improvements, particularly highlighting a preference for pedestrian and bike enhancements over parking expansion. The Commission agreed to draft a letter outlining their priorities, with comments due within three weeks. A motion was passed to write the letter, emphasizing the importance of prioritizing access improvements. CM Serad volunteered to write the letter. CM Stevens then made a motion for the Commission to submit the letter with a list of prioritized projects, and CM Casas seconded the motion.

- b) Renaming the Transportation Master Plan (Vote) – Carrie Wilhelme, Public Works  
*The commission discussed the differences between the options. Some members felt that adding "and" might highlight transportation involving vehicles, while using "mobility" would better emphasize pedestrian access.*

*Choice A – Transportation Mobility Plan: 2- Stevens, Serad*

*Choice B – Transportation and Mobility Plan: 5 - Morris, Gardner, Korbuszewski, Casas, Grellier*

*Non-voting: CM Wrenn and CM K. Hill*

## **VI. Other Business/Updates (6:45)**

- a) Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (Joe Korbuszewski)  
*CM Korbuszewski stated that BPTAG reviewed the Puyallup Avenue improvements and that the plans look very promising.*
- b) Pacific Avenue Sub-Area Plan Advisory Committee (Richard Gardner)  
*CM Gardner explained a Doodle poll has been sent out to schedule a September meeting for a deeper dive into planning and zoning. There will be a presentation for the TOD Task Force and City Council.*
- c) Proctor Neighborhood Plan (Matt Stevens)  
*Co-Chair Stevens reported there haven't been recent meetings and that open street events are continuing. The North End Neighborhood Council is holding an event at Cushman Station on September 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss potential plans for the station.*



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- d) South Tacoma Neighborhood Plan (James Hill)  
*Carrie mentioned that an interactive map is now available for comments.*
- e) Joint TOD Task Force (Pamela Wrenn and Troy Serad)  
*CM Wrenn and CM Serad explained the TOD Task Force is busy working with a consultant on the transit component of the Transportation Plan. It was noted that there's worry about a lack of urgency regarding the necessary mode shift given the increased amount of population as a consequence of Home in Tacoma and the challenge of meeting Tacoma's Climate Action Plan mode shift goals that are equal to Amsterdam's.*

## VII. Staff Reports (7:00)

- a) Staff Updates  
*Staff had no updates.*
- b) Status of Grant Applications and Major Capital Projects  
*Carrie and Jennifer reported the city recently applied for a grant for the following projects:*
- *S 12th St Arterial (S Grant Ave to Cedar): Approximately \$5 million requested for paving and adding protected bike*
  - *E Roosevelt Ave (E 38th to Sherman): Approximately \$2 million requested for Safe Routes to School, including missing link sidewalks and curb ramps.*
  - *A St and 56th St: Approximately \$600,000 requested to install a signalized crossing.*
- c) Upcoming Public Meetings and Events  
*Carrie explained the staff was completing a Vision Zero annual report that will be presented to City Council and the Transportation Commission. Additionally, there is a Pedal with the Politicians event on Thursday, August 29. She also introduced the new Transportation Commissioner who will be joining the Commission in September.*

## VIII. Commissioner Comments

*CM Gardner reported that Phase 2 of the E 64th construction project has commenced. He also noted that the Prairie Line Trail around M Street is progressing as well. Additionally, he mentioned that the county is working on the Pipeline Trail.*

*CM Grellier reported that a community member has expressed concerns about the need for safer route information for bicyclists due to the closure of the Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge and the encampments and litter near bridge. The community member pointed out that some alternative routes, such as SR 509, are considered unsafe and suggested the possibility of reopening the bridge to cyclists and walkers.*

*CM Serad reported that many transit service changes are planned for early September. These changes will include the introduction of 15-minute service intervals for Route 3. As well, Sound Transit is accepting comments on their service changes online.*



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*CM Stevens proposed holding two meetings a month due to the length of meetings and the range of topics discussed. He noted that CM Carrie agreed that additional meetings may be necessary. Furthermore, CM Wrenn suggested that the second meeting each month could be shorter*

**IX. Public Comment**

*None*

**X. Adjourn (7:30)**

*Co-Chair Morris adjourned meeting at 7:34*



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## City of Tacoma Transportation Commission

### Future Agenda Items

*Streets Initiative 2.0, Streets Initiative Annual Report, TMP Overarching Policies, Land Use and Modal Network Integration Framework, Impact Fees*

### Public Comment

The public may give oral comments related to agenda topics at the beginning of the meeting and general comments will be heard at the end of the meeting. Speakers will have anywhere from 90 seconds to three minutes to provide comment, depending on time availability. The public may submit comments in writing by 5:00 PM one day prior to the meeting. Written comments should be emailed to [cwilhelme@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:cwilhelme@cityoftacoma.org) and include "Transp Commission Meeting Comment" in the subject line.

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