



City of Tacoma

Bicycle and Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group

Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market St., Room 243 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

Monday, February 25, 2019

I. Call to order and approval of minutes

5:37p

The group moved to approve the minutes with no changes.

II. Introductions –

Susan Reehill, Andre St. Hilaire, and Jesse Cook requested to be excused. The ice breaker question was “what is your favorite park in the winter?”

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. Discussion: Wapato Loop Concept

Councilmember (CM) Chris Beale, District 5, shared his professional and personal background. He explained that he is visiting various citizen groups to better understand the work that BPTGA is doing and the interests in District 5. Safe Routes to School, pedestrian and bicycle safety, Vision Zero, and multimodal access for historically underserved communities are his priority.

CM Beale discussed a proposal for a Wapato Loop Greenways, which would include creating a bicycle and pedestrian network on neighborhood streets that have traffic calming measures in place. He is asking staff to evaluate the Neighborhood Greenways Program and how it would work in Tacoma. Chair Jennifer explained that the group typically reviews proposed projects in the Tacoma Master Plan and will review an intersection of the month for potential interim and future improvements.

Alexandra asked why the loop would direct to Fred Meyer and not WinCo who serves a different demographic. CM Beale explained that the concept was based on access to the 72nd & Pacific mixed use district; however, he recognizes that 72nd is challenging and there is merit to looking at safe access district wide. Alexandra stated that it would be most ideal to connect the two mixed use centers through and to the park (north and south of the park). Leon would like to see extensions from the Fred Meyer node to other connections, specifically to 64th Street. He would also like to see the bike lanes on Alaska St continue south of 72nd Street. CM Beale proposed doing a bike tour of the Wapato Loop. Chair



Jennifer will discuss the possibility of doing this as a Bike Month ride meeting. Alexandra expressed interest in seeing the loop include access to public facilities, such as the Moore Library. Chair Jennifer explained that as part of the Vision Zero plan, traffic calming is a great fit.

V. Presentation: S 56th and Cirque Project Update

Basel Kitmitto, Project Manager, and Brian Wang, Design Engineer, provided an update on the S 56th Street project that includes providing a bicycle and pedestrian network from the South Tacoma Sounder Transit Station to Tacoma Mall Blvd and to the 47th Street Transit Center. This is part of a grant that the City received. Basel explained that the route will be on S 54th as opposed to S 56th due to truck and vehicle volumes, as well as limited ROW.

CM Beale asked why the connection to S 58th Street between Washington and the Water Flume Line was not provided. *Staff will follow-up.* Matthew explained that the pavement on S 54th is in poor condition. Alexandra pointed out that streetlighting is necessary. Leon proposed using Adams to South 48th Street would be ideal. Staff will follow-up on the history of the route alignment. Overall the group supports a connection using S 58th. Leon explained that the preference would be a direct connection from S 54th to Fife. Kristi commented that on Washington, it would be beneficial to calm traffic. The grant is limited to pavement markings and signage. Michael asked about the current parking situation. Enforcement and education will play a role in the implementation. The group overall supported a barrier to prevent cars from parking on a bike facility (tuff curb), paint, wayfinding to the Flume Line Trail, and direct access to Fife Street. The design will be completed in May 2019. Jennifer Kammerzell explained that Environmental Services and Street Operations will be improving S 54th between Fife and Tacoma Mall Blvd. The group also explained that Option 1 near Tacoma Mall Blvd is ideal as there is a sidewalk connection to Tacoma Mall Blvd. Jennifer K explained that the group could designate money from the Street Initiative Fund – Active Transportation Small Projects to provide an path extension.

VI. Discussion: 2019 bike priorities (striping only)

Chair Jennifer asked for group feedback on potential striping projects. Kristi shared that the 6th Avenue Business District is interested in bike lanes on 6th Avenue. Jennifer K shared that the City has been working with the Business District. Unfortunately, a parking and traffic study will be needed to address current neighborhood concerns.

Michael proposed 6th Avenue between Jackson and Titlow.

Alexandra proposed crosswalks on M Street between South Tacoma Way and S 38th Street to connect to the schools. She explained that S 48th & M Street needs crosswalks as well. Jennifer explained that new crosswalks would require compliant curb ramps. S 48th & Yakima proposed for crosswalks.

Teresa proposed continuing bike lanes from Thompson end to S 27th St on Yakima.



Michael proposed connecting Scott Pierson Trail to Tacoma Avenue via S 25th with bike lanes.

Kristi proposed bike lane connection from N 11th to S 12th on Orchard.

Leon proposed bike lanes on Sprague from S 37th St to S 35th thru the parking lot of Pierce County to Wright Avenue (sharrows).

Kristi proposed bike lanes on Center St between Tyler and South Tacoma Way.

Chair Jennifer asked how much money is in the budget for striping and how much that means.

Additional comments received via email:

- Mildred to N 51st St outside of Point Defiance.
- Jackson and 8th – maybe some green paint around the entrance to the pedestrian trail over the bridge
- Better signage to 1st Creek/ Eastside Community Center/ Pipeline
- N 21st from Alder to I St. I've never understood why the bike lane stops at Alder. I know Yakima is the preferred route, but one thing that drives me crazy about this stretch of 21st, is the amount of cars stopped to turn left, and then cars that try to go around on the right, because of how wide the road currently is. A narrower road would make this stretch much safer, especially around N 21st and Prospect.

VII. Updates

a. Report from Transportation Commission

Chair Jennifer explained that the Commission agreed to spend funds from the Street Initiative projects on the Tacoma to Puyallup trail feasibility study that is a partnership with other city agencies. The Commission also reviewed the 6 YR Transportation Improvement Program that is amended annually to reflect potential grant projects and projects receiving grant funds.

b. Staff Updates

i. Bike and Scooter Share

Chair Jennifer and Jennifer K shared that Lime is no longer going to operate bicycle and has reduced the scooter fleet. Bird has chosen not to pursue the 3rd permit extension and staff will not be seeking additional vendors to participate in the summer evaluation.

ii. Bike Swap: April 27th, 10-2 at UPS

Keep an eye out for an opportunity to volunteer at the event – Map Master's table or as event staff.

c. BPTAG at other active transportation meetings

Swan Creek Master Plan meeting at 6pm on February 28th.

South Sound Sustainability Expo on March 2nd.

March 10th is the Seattle Bike Swap at Magnuson Park.

VIII. Other Items



IX. Adjourn – please state end time for the recording

7:34

The next regularly scheduled meeting will take place on Monday, March 25, 2019.