



City of Tacoma

Bicycle and Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group

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

MINUTES

Monday, June 24, 2019

I. Call to order and approval of minutes 5:41

The group approved the minutes with no changes.

II. Introductions

Andre St-Hilaire resigned. Leon Nettels, Susan Reehill, and Alexandra Kaufman requested to be excused. Michael Dehner joined by phone.

III. Public Comment

IV. Business Items:

a. East 11th Street Bridge Closure Update (Steve Carstens)

Steve Carstens presented an overview of the status and condition of the East 11th Street bridge. A recent safety inspection indicated that portions of the bridge are severely and significantly deteriorating. There is The bridge is still being used by bicyclists and pedestrians. There also appears to be welding work, not completed by the City, done on the bridge, which compromises the safety of the people doing the work with heavy equipment and to the bridge. A fence will be installed July 19, 2019 at the west end of the bridge and the east end just above Stewart Street. The City is conducting a feasibility study for options that include do nothing, rehabilitate the bridge, or reconstruct the bridge. The City is working with the Port of Tacoma and key businesses on potential options, which stakeholders would like to see a structure in place in the future. Every option of rehabilitation and reconstruction would include separated bike lanes. Rehabilitation and reconstruction will be costly. In today's dollars, the project would be about \$130 million.

Member Cindy asked what funding opportunities might be available. Steve explained that the City is looking at potential partnerships, which would likely include multiple granting opportunities. Chair Jennifer asked if the bridge is in jeopardy of collapsing and impacting people below. Steve stated that there will be inspectors to evaluate the bridge condition and monitor the degree of safety.



Sarah Weeks, citizen, provided comment on the existing usage of the bridge and future impacts in the case of an emergency, including time to evacuate. She is asking that BPTAG and the City consider ways to keep it open, for example the safest pathway through the bridge or a statement of liability. Member Michael asked that the City also consider an option that maintains an emergency access/option. Steve explained that there isn't a safe pathway on the bridge and if one were identified, it would need to be continually monitored for safety purposes. Chair Jennifer suggested large, bright signage in multiple languages to direct folks to the appropriate detour. Member Matt asked if the approaches would be preserved with bridge replacement. Steve mentioned that was part of the study consideration, but the overall cost to replace wouldn't be much different.

b. A Street – 84th to 96th Street Project

Jennifer Kammerzell provided an overview of the Environmental Services project that will reconstruct A Street along with other streets in the area to be pervious, low-impact development streets. She asked the group to provide input on the proposed redesign to address the future bike boulevard on A Street. Two-way trail on the west side would not require as much traffic calming. Mailboxes could be placed on east side. Streetlighting is needed on A Street.

Bulbouts at 88th by the school or other feasible locations. Raised crosswalk at the school crossing. Bioswales are good traffic calming. Traffic circles at potential locations, although recognize that at T-intersections they are a bit difficult to design and be effective. Traffic calming on 96th (for bike crossing). Chicanes are a good option. In general, if A Street had the same feel as East 40th that would be great. A separated shared use path would be idea. Is that feasible?

c. East 72nd Street – Grandview to Waller Rd Project

Jennifer Kammerzell explained that Pierce County will be restriping 72nd Street E this summer to add bike lanes and reduce it to one lane in each direction with a two-way left turn lane. She asked the group for a recommendation on where the improvements should end, such as Waller Rd/Pipeline Trail, city limits, or to another place within the city limits. The group discussed options and recommends that the bike lanes would ideally end at a full intersection, such as T Street, to provide access on both sides. As far as a treatment for the start/end of the bike lanes, the group recommended adding bike lane ends signs at the end and adding signage at Pipeline to divert on the trail and advance notice that the lane ends in XX miles.

The recommendation to continue was based on taking advantage of an opportunity to connect to it in the future to serve the transit center and commercial area; although there is limited ROW in Tacoma city limits.

d. Streets Initiative Residential Street Opportunities

Deferred to next month discussion



e. Intersection of the Month: TBD

Chair Jennifer asked if anyone is interested in an intersection or corridor for next month. The group will be reviewing 6th Avenue and SR 16. Chair Jennifer asked for the ROW ownership in the area.

Member Theresa asked that the group to consider 37th & M Street. The group will be reviewing it at the August meeting. Member Theresa also brought up the push buttons at 37th & Thompson that are only on one side of the intersection. Member Kristi asked if green paint could be used in the intersection to better delineate bicycle access.

V. Updates

a. Report from Transportation Commission –

Co-Chair Moore provided an overview of the agenda topics, which included the Hazardous Sidewalks Program, Transportation Master Plan 101, and staff project updates, including East 11th Street Bridge update.

b. Staff Updates

Follow-up on Tyler Street improvements and status of project.

c. BPTAG at other active transportation meetings

Puyallup-Tacoma Feasibility Trail Study on June 27th at Pioneer Pavilion at 5:30 PM.
Swan Creek Master Plan on Jun 25th at 6 PM.

VI. Member comments

VII. Adjourn

7:28 PM