



City of Tacoma Sustainable Tacoma Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: June 17, 2021

Commission Members Present:

Lexi Brewer (Chair), Katin Kendrena, Matthew Benedict (Vice-Chair), Margaret Schwertner, Evlondo Cooper, Ashley Sloan, Gabe Moalii, Elly Claus-McGahan, Nikie Walters (joined 5:15pm)

Commission Members Excused:

Grace Hope, Tony Ivey, Emily Pinckney, Adam Reichenberger

Commission Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Commission Support Staff: LaTasha Wortham, Kristin Lynett, Patrick Babbitt (Commission staff liaison)

Guest Presenters: Graham VanderSchelden and Steve Nicholas from the Port of Tacoma / Northwest Seaport Alliance

Members of the Public: None

Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Commission Chairperson Lexi Brewer at 5:05pm, including an acknowledgement of the occupied indigenous lands this Commission conducts its business on. The Chair welcomed Commissioners, staff, and members of the public and shared virtual meeting practices and requirements.

Approval of June 17, 2021, Meeting Agenda

Motion: To adopt the agenda as written. Motion made by Matthew Benedict.

Seconded by: Evlondo Cooper

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Grace Hope, Tony Ivey, Emily Pinckney, Adam Reichenberger, Nikie Walters

Approval of May 20, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Motion: To adopt meeting minutes as written. Motion made by Matthew Benedict.

Seconded by: Evlondo Cooper

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Grace Hope, Tony Ivey, Emily Pinckney, Adam Reichenberger, Nikie Walters

Public Comment

No public comment was delivered in writing or given in meeting.

Staff Updates

Patrick Babbitt, the Commission's staff liaison, recounted the Sustainable Tacoma Commission's (STC) May meeting activities and then delivered new notices to the Commission. New notices included reminding the Commission that Sustainability Small Grants Program applications are accepted for the second quarter of 2021 through June 30; that the Tacoma Climate Action Survey closes June 22; and that two new dates have been added to the Commission's schedule to meet with City Council Members to discuss the Commission's annual priorities and recommendations. He also noted other happenings in the Tacoma community, including local health regulations and COVID-19 vaccination opportunities. He pointed to resources if Commissioners or community members they are in contact with would like more information.

Staff thanked Commissioners for their work outside meetings, including subcommittees.

Subcommittee Updates

Patrick updated the Commission that its Waste Prevention and Recycling Subcommittee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, June 23 from 5-6pm. Interested Commissioners should engage Patrick or their Chairpersons to participate. Chair Lexi Brewer reported the Climate Action Planning Subcommittee did not meet this past month but instead worked offline to simplify its inventory of climate action plan elements that Tacoma should consider incorporating. The Subcommittee continues to work on final recommendations to staff regarding Tacoma's next climate action plan. No further updates were provided by Commissioners regarding subcommittee activities.

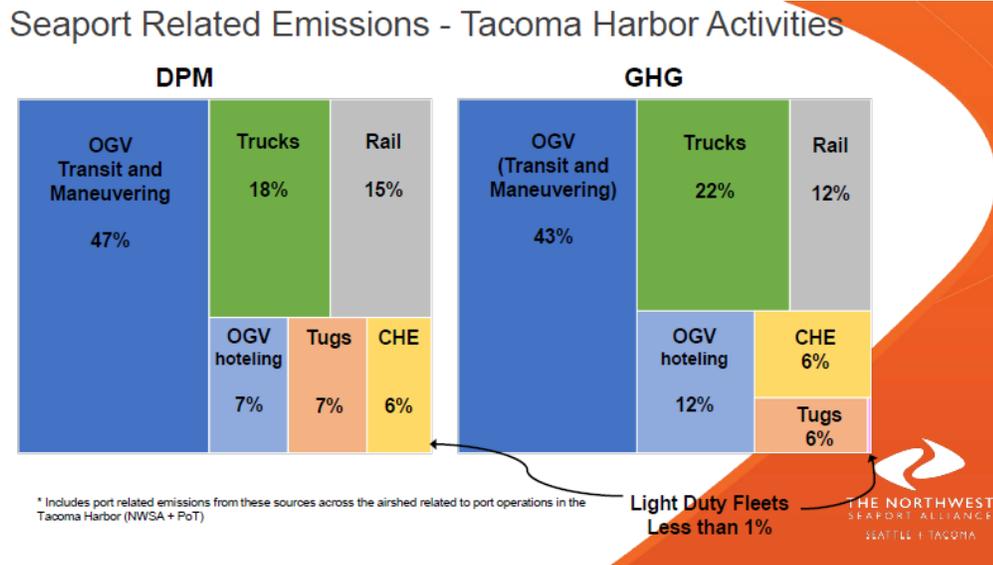
Commission Business Items

Port of Tacoma & Northwest Seaport Alliance's Clean Air Strategy – Graham VanderSchelden, Steve Nicholas

Graham led a presentation providing the Commission with information about the Port of Tacoma, Northwest Seaport Alliance, their jurisdictions and operations, and strategies to reduce air pollution through their joint Clean Air Strategy. They have set a goal to phase out emissions from greenhouse gases and diesel particulate matter by 2050. They have demonstrated a significant decrease in diesel particulate matter emissions since 2005. Shared objectives across northwest ports (Vancouver, BC, Seattle, Tacoma) include: (1) efficiency, fleet modernization, and interim fuels; (2) infrastructure to support zero-emissions equipment; and (3) adoption of zero-emissions equipment. Focus areas for action include ocean-going vessels, harbor vessels, cargo handling equipment, trucks, rail, and port administration and tenant facilities. The Port and Seaport Alliance plan to adapt their management approach to emissions as conditions change, working from 5-year implementation plans focused on different emissions sources and portions of operations. Most emissions come from ocean-going vessels and then trucks and rail, as shown in Figure 1 below. In addressing emissions through the Clean Air Strategy, the Port and Seaport Alliance are seeking to be conscientious of environmental health disparities. In

developing this Clean Air Strategy, they have engaged various stakeholders across jurisdictions and plan to finalize 5-year implementation plans through November 2021. The Commission encouraged the process to better engage with the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, which to date had not accepted invitations to participate by providing input.

Figure 1:



City of Tacoma Climate Action Planning Process Update – Patrick Babbitt, Kristin Lynett, Office of Environmental Policy & Sustainability (OEPS), City of Tacoma

Patrick updated the Commission on recent climate action planning work. He provided a detailed report about progress in the second phase of community engagement to the Commission by email. Primarily he refreshed the Commission on input from over 450 community members from the first phase of engagement, the latest local climate science, and established City policies to guide Commission input on climate strategies and actions to be discussed as the next item of business.

City of Tacoma Climate Action Planning Process Update – Patrick Babbitt, Kristin Lynett, Office of Environmental Policy & Sustainability (OEPS), City of Tacoma

Patrick led Commissioners through a Mentimeter survey to give their input about four areas of climate strategies and actions. Then, the Commission had some discussion about the input they gave through Mentimeter. Commission feedback was recorded through Mentimeter and staff notes, which will be considered alongside input from other stakeholders and the wider community.

Public Comment

No public comment was delivered in writing or given in meeting.

Objectives for or before the Next Meeting

- Staff Updates
- Subcommittee Updates
- Climate Action Planning update and draft actions feedback
- City-County solid and hazardous waste plan

- Urban Forest Management Plan
- Sustainability Small Grants applications review
- Annual Commission report to City Council

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 7:02pm.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be held virtually on Thursday, July 15, 2021, from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

Lexi Brewer, Chair

Patrick Babbitt, Staff / Note Taker