



**TO:** T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
**FROM:** Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer /KDK  
 Justin E. Davis, Facilities Division Manager, Public Works  
 Ronda Cornforth, Sr. Real Estate Specialist, Real Property Services  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution - Setting Public Hearing – May 19, 2015  
 Street Vacation 124.1355 – Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority  
**DATE:** May 4, 2015

**SUMMARY:**

A resolution requesting authorization to set Thursday, July 2, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., as the date and time for hearing before the Hearing Examiner on the request by Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit) to vacate all that portion of the alley lying between East 25<sup>th</sup> and East 26<sup>th</sup> Street from the easterly margin of East G Street to the westerly margin of East J Street for the expansion and reconstruction of the Tacoma Trestle Replacement Project at Freighthouse Square.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Cultivate a vibrant cultural sector that fosters a creative, cohesive community.

This vacation, coinciding with the WSDOT & Amtrak Point Defiance Bypass Project, will benefit the community at large by improving passenger travel accommodations for the Sounder, Amtrak and Coast Starlight trains as well as improving the safety and accessibility to and from the platforms at Freighthouse Square.

**BACKGROUND:**

A petition has been filed by Sound Transit for the vacation of all that portion of the alley lying between East 25<sup>th</sup> and East 26<sup>th</sup> Street from the easterly margin of East G Street to the westerly margin of East J Street in connection with the Tacoma Trestle Replacement Project.

To replace the trestle, Sound Transit will demolish the current 0.65 mile long wood structure and construct a new double-track bridge over East G Street, crossover tracks, and an expanded passenger platform to accommodate Amtrak passenger trains; make street repairs; relocate various utilities; and upgrade railroad signals.

Sound Transit is seeking to acquire the entirety of the 20' alley right-of-way and has begun negotiations with the abutting property owners. Each of the abutting property owners has signed the petition ensuring that we have 100 percent concurrence.

**ISSUE:**

Pursuant to RCW 35.79 and TMC 9.22 the Public Works Department is requesting the City Council set a date to consider this request for this street vacation to be heard by the Hearing Examiner and report the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendation back to the City Council for their consideration.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

An alternative is to deny the street vacation, subsequently limiting the construction to a single track design, creating a situation of stacking of trains loading and unloading, and jeopardizing the feasibility of the anticipated Pt. Defiance rail realignment and its associated trains through the heart of Tacoma.



**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Public Works Department recommends setting Thursday, July 2, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., as the date and time for a hearing before the Hearing Examiner on the request to vacate all that portion of the alley lying between East 25<sup>th</sup> and East 26<sup>th</sup> Street from the easterly margin of East G Street to the westerly margin of East J Street to accommodate the double track construction associated with the Tacoma Trestle Project.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This action only sets the date and time of the public hearing before the Hearing Examiner. Unless decided otherwise, the City will receive market value compensation for the vacated right-of-way, the proceeds of which will be determined after public hearing and will be deposited in accordance with TMC 9.22.