



MINUTES

MEETING: Regular Transportation Commission Meeting

TIME: Wednesday, August 16, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Conf. Room 243, Tacoma Municipal Building
747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

1. Call to Order

Co-chair Moore called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. Roll Call/Introductions

Co-chair Leighton called in to the meeting.

Co-chair Moore excused CM Thurlow and CM Hyman. The motion was approved and seconded.

3. Approval of Minutes (July 19, 2017)

Co-chair Leighton moved to approve Minutes. Voice vote was taken and Minutes were approved.

4. Public Comment for Items on the Agenda

Chris Karnes commented to support dedicated transit ROW on Puyallup Avenue westbound direction between East G St. and Pacific Avenue.

John Brekke commented on proposed 37th St. that would connect S. Tacoma Way with Pine Street.

Valerie Fyalka-Munoz commented on the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan and the impact to Michael's Plaza.

Cody (last name not confirmed) – commented on the Puyallup Avenue alternatives from a bicyclist's perspective.

John (last name not confirmed) commented on Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan and the impact to Michael's Plaza.

5. Business Items

a. *Puyallup Avenue Corridor Project (Mark D'Andrea, Dana Brown, Mazedur Hossain)*

Mark addressed the public comments from Chris and Cody. He then presented an overview of the project. At this stage the project is still in the conceptual stage.

The project runs from South C St to Portland. Throughout the public process public feedback has been that Puyallup Avenue is uninviting so the hope is to change that perspective with this project. Between October and November the



outreach has brought in about 300 responses from the public.

Advertising has been done on the City website, News Tribune, e-mails and through social media – Facebook and Twitter.

There are 3 concepts at this time which Mark presented again. He said not to focus too much on dimensions since that will change.

Question: What are the traffic counts in that area?

Answer: Average of about 15,000 vehicles per day and about equal in both directions. There is more traffic as you get closer to the Tacoma Dome. We used WSDOT's statistics and found that about 1/3 of the traffic is in the vicinity of the Tacoma Dome.

Question: For each alternative is the ROW consistent along the whole corridor?

Answer: The ROW is generally about 100' the whole way but narrows a bit in a few locations?

Questions: On the north side what is the 7' sidewalk and 3' buffer.

Answer: It could be anything– a curb, striping - the diagram just indicates a buffer or comfort zone for pedestrians.

Question: Could you go back and look at pedestrian movement? Why do a lot of the alternatives show transit stopping at D St. but not continuing to Pacific Ave.?

Answer: The HOV lane does run the whole length of the corridor but the slide may not reflect that. We do have information of the number of passengers and realize that it is a lot of people taking transit.

Question: Looking at a cross section that has this broken into districts – are these from the sub area plan?

Answer: No it's not – this developed from walking with the stakeholders and businesses along the corridor.

Question: In follow up is this consistent with the sub area plan?

Answer: It is consistent based on the stakeholder feedback. The names will probably not be carried through but this is just for conceptualizing.

Question: Alternative 1, 2 & 3 from the cross section there is no transit lane. Is there no alternative that shows transit HOV from Pacific to D St.?

Answer: The transit lane does run the whole corridor so Mark will review the slide.

Co-chair Leighton asked Josh if we had reached out to Pierce Transit for feedback and whether or not we have written comment from them.

Josh said that he did touch base with Mark the following day. Mark did reach out to Peter and found out that Peter preferred the HOV alternative but that he also saw that Alt. 2 allowed you to move faster along the corridor. Overall Peter indicated he was happy with the project.

Question: Did the folks at the Tacoma Dome have any comment?

Answer: The Tacoma Dome is tricky – how do you plan for Tacoma Dome events and can you plan for those? There was a Tacoma Dome representative on the TAC

committee. We are building the road for long term use for a lot of other reasons. As we develop our design we will be working with them.

Question: Has BPTAG commented?

Answer: They prefer the cycle path and feel it would be safer and encourage families to bike especially on a business road like this. Also it's something we don't have in the City.

Question: Could the buffer be more solid in Alternative 2?

Answer: Yes it could.

Question: Has this study ever looked holistically at the corridor for mobility - i.e. including E. 25th from G St.

Answer: It was not in the scope of the project to look at side streets.

Question: Did they look at a dedicated transit freight lane?

Answer: Mark will have to look into that and get back to the Commission.

Mark said that he would like comments from the Transportation Commission.

Co-chair Moore said that everyone should send comments to Jennifer and she and Co-chair Leighton would draft a letter to send out to everyone. Mark said that as long as they receive it before the next TC meeting they could add it as an Appendix.

b. Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan (Elliott Barnett)

Elliott said that the Planning Commission has released a draft of the full plan. The Planning Commission has asked that the TC commission provide written comments on this project. We are trying to get Council action by the end of the year. Elliott provided an overview of the project.

Co-chair Moore asked to see the actual request that came from the Planning Commission. If the TC is supposed to address the connectivity requirements and the regulatory approach she will need to know a lot more about it. Since the plan is 237 pages long it is a lot to read and comment on.

Co-chair Leighton said that he spoke with PC Andrew Strobel and they are asking the TC to make a recommendation about the 37th St. issue.

Co-chair Leighton felt that the Planning Commission provided a clear direction as to what comments and feedback they were requesting.

Elliott understood it to be the proposed connectivity requirement with the development of large parcels, not just 37th Street.

Question: The loop road that is supposed to encourage walking and biking – is that just for peds & bikes or for vehicles as well?

Answer: It is a full street with all modes.

Dana recommended a separate session with the Commission before the next Public meeting to help clarify the proposal.

Jennifer explained that this was being brought forward to the Commission as with other sub area plans in the past to get their comments as to whether or not it fits in with the TMP.

Co-chair Moore said that she needs to know more before she can make that decision. If the Commission was supposed to read a certain section of the plan and be ready for discussion it would have been nice to know that.

The Commission would like a breakdown of how it is now, what is our TMP in relation to that and are the changes in line with the TMP – if not, why not.

The Commission will have comments to the Planning Commission by Sept. 15. Before that they will set up a 2 hour meeting.

Co-chair Leighton was opposed to holding a special meeting.

The remainder of the Commission voted to have a special meeting and it was approved. 3-1

Jennifer will send a Doodle poll for the meeting dates.

c. 2018 TMP Amendments – Performance Measures (Jennifer Kammerzell)

Jennifer said after speaking with Planning Commission staff we have another month to go over the TMP amendments.

She will send out the proposed amendments which were updated from the last meeting to the Commission.

Jennifer briefly explained some of the changes she had made.

Jennifer asked that the Commission provide comments and she will make further updates before the next meeting. Next meeting she will present the updated

Appendices. BPTAG did not have any comments on the Appendices.

A. Other Business/Updates

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)

Dana said they met on July 13 and there are about 7 areas that would like to create a residential parking zone, but the petitioners are having a difficult time coming together.

Occupancy study at Stadium district from S. 4th to Broadway to Wright Park. Every block is parked at 100% during peak time. The district would like paid parking.

Question: If you have a residential permit can you park in a metered spot?

Answer: The residential parking permit only applies to residential neighborhoods and there is no metered parking in those areas – only in commercial.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

They had a presentation on E. 64th. Co-chair Moore said that they received the comments from BPTAG on Puyallup Ave.

c. Planning Commission Agenda

Tideflats Land Use Interim regulations and emergency temporary shelters interim regulations.

d. Commission Comments

No comments.

B. Staff Reports

a. Responses to Commission Inquiries

No reports.

b. Status of Grant Applications & Major Capital Projects

TIB applications are being submitted this week –E. 64th and S. 21st (adjacent to Town Center) and the other for the sidewalk program (adjacent to Allenmore on 19th).

Yesterday we accepted 4 grants at Council—for SRTS and Ped Bike programs. We were also awarded an NHS preservation grant on 19th from Union to Mullen.

In Sept. we will be submitting on the Transp. Alternatives program. We have 3 slots-support SRTS effort. which is more programmatic request. Potential projects to fill the slots are Pipeline Trail, Xing imp. & Wayfinding along Scott Pierson, Missing link sidewalks, Ped Safety Imp. 6th west of Pearl, Waterflume Line Trail. The Commission is welcome to comment on any of these. Josh will confirm that these are all on our project list.

Dana said there is only \$60M in federal money available over a 4 year period for the entire region. You have to pick a year in which you want your project funded.

c. Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

LID replacement program is moving forward.

There is a study to look at the 11th street viaduct and bridge over the Puyallup River. Consultant selection will be coming up.

d. Commission Member Terms

We have 6 applications and interviews are in Sept.

C. Public Comment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.