



MINUTES

MEETING: Regular Transportation Commission Meeting

TIME: Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: 9th Floor Visibility Center, Tacoma Municipal Building
747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

1. Call to Order

Co-chair Moore called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Co-chair Leighton called in to the meeting.

2. Roll Call/Introductions

Co-chair Leighton called in to the meeting. CM Austin and CM Nyland were excused. CM Austin will be out on leave until August.

3. Approval of Minutes (May 17, 2017)

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

4. Public Comment for Items on the Agenda

No Public Comment.

5. Business Items

a. Sidewalk Inventory Mapping Data (Jennifer Kammerzell)

Jennifer provided a map to everyone clarifying that this is preliminary and staff is continuing to review and edit.

Question: Could you separate out the information into streets that are missing sidewalk on both vs. one side of the street? Maybe color code to differentiate and use this as part of the prioritization?

Answer: *Jennifer thinks that would be possible-she will verify.*

The map will be presented as part of the Transportation Commission's 2016 accomplishments and 2017 work plan to the IPS Commission. Jennifer said that additional layers could be added to the map.

Question: What are the funding sources for sidewalks?

Answer: *There is some money in Streets Fund Initiative (about \$50K each year)*



and additional if it's part of a larger grant project – mostly arterials.

Question: Is there any discussion about prioritizing corridors or looking at safety issues. If there is heavily used corridor but no sidewalk that would be more of a priority than a residential area that is missing a sidewalk. Also base it on collisions.

Answer: *We could definitely get information about pedestrian/bicycle collisions, just not about pedestrian volume since we don't have that data.*

Co-chair Leighton said that he would like to see prioritization about safety as well as completing the network and creating intermodal connections. Completing a corridor that can help get access to transit or a school.

CM Thurlow feels we should give the Neighborhood Councils a chance to provide their input as well.

Jennifer mentioned the Strava app and said BPTAG is researching the use of this application to determine what routes are being used and where improvements can be made. BPTAG will present to the Commission once they do more research.

Co-chair Leighton asked that we focus on a corridor such as Pacific Avenue to make a noticeable impact rather than chipping away here and there.

Question: Will there be sidewalk added as part of the N. 21st Street project where it is currently missing?

Answer: *Josh said that although the roadway elements may be some time off, the need to complete some of the gaps in sidewalks on that corridor has been recognized by Public Works.*

b. 2018 TMP Amendments – Project List (Jennifer Kammerzell)

Jennifer presented a handout to clarify where the projects fit in the existing priority network and to help jog memories about whether or not some had been proposed before.

Question: Who is proposing these?

Answer: *The requests are mostly from BPTAG. The highlighted are not on the map because they are currently under construction.*

Jennifer explained that these are the projects being proposed – the projects have not changed since last month's meeting. Jennifer would like to move this piece of the proposed Amendments forward.

Question: Are these projects in areas that don't have identified corridors one block away? Concerned that we have so many projects on here that they will overlap with other projects.

Answer: *There are a few that do parallel or overlap each other.*

Consensus was that it is best to have these as part of the plan because if they are

not on the TMP we can't get funding for them.

The Commission moved and seconded to move forward with recommendations 1 through 12 as Amendments to the Transportation Master Plan.

The Motion passed.

The next Amendment that Jennifer will be proposing will be presented as an alphabetized list by Tier.

Question: What about the Amendments at the bottom?

Answer: *Those are part of what you will see in the future. At each meeting Jennifer will present 2 section proposals to the Commission and ask for a recommendation.*

Unfortunately Jennifer was not able to present the Performance Measures today (Item 5.c.), but she will send it out in the next few weeks so if there are any questions they can be discussed at the next meeting.

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

To be e-mailed to the Commission in the next few weeks and discussed at the July meeting.

6. Other Business/Updates

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG) (Eric Huseby, Rachel Lindahl, Judi Hyman)

We are going to exchange minutes with the PTAG group moving forward. Judy said there was change in signage at 6th & St. Helens & 6th & Broadway. It used to be unregulated but now it has been changed to a 2 hour maximum. To be consistent everything leading up from St. Helens and Broadway that was 90 minutes was changed to 2 hours.

They are moving forward with their mixed use center mapping and how it fits in with residential permit parking. One of the challenges with mixed use centers is that it is not an easily identified priority user such as the downtown core which primarily provides customer parking. Since last October PTAG has been analyzing parking in many neighborhoods including Stadium. This is an ongoing and time consuming process which should provide valuable information.

The mixed use center study will take up the bulk of the remainder of the year, but they hope to have a recommendation in front of the City Manager by end of year. PTAG is doing an occupancy study in the Stadium district to figure out what type of parking controls need to be put in place there.

Every other year an occupancy study is done for the downtown core which helps determine whether or not time limits need to change or prices increase – that happens in the 4th quarter of the year.

The goal is 85% which means about 1 out of 6 parking spaces is open. They feel this ratio helps alleviate the stress of finding a parking spot.

Question: How does the process unfold such as the study for the Stadium district?

Answer: *The Business district asked PTAG to come to a meeting and they requested meters be installed in Stadium. Before that can be done, PTAG needs to perform the study to see if that would be justified.*

The Transportation Commission would like to be able to add their concerns to the list for PTAG.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

May agenda – Strava mapping presentation which was very interesting.

Traffic enforcement discussion – how does TPD prioritize pedestrian and bicycle safety? BPTAG will come up with a list for TPD.

There was a special bike ride which was a tour of the north end and Scott Pierson trail.

The June BPTAG meeting was cancelled.

c. Planning Commission Agenda

Jennifer included the agenda for everyone.

There was public comment about the Tideflats area and whether or not there is a need for interim regulations.

Also discussion about the emergency shelters.

Two of the commissioners are leaving which is not the best timing and there are no new appointees yet.

d. Commission Comments

There is the possibility of an all-City Commission member social event on Sept. 5 in the evening to try to enhance fellowship.

Jennifer said she received notification that they are working on a survey to gauge how well the CBCs are doing – it will be sent out to current as well as previous members.

7. Staff Reports

a. Responses to Commission Inquiries

Jennifer explained that the minutes will track questions from the Commission and place the answers in italics. There wasn't too much from the last meeting.

b. Status of Grant Applications & Major Capital Projects

None that we are applying for now but we are starting to think about the TIB applications which are due **August 18th**. There are 4 categories – preservation, economic development improvements, mobility and safety. We are starting to look through the TMP and in July we will have a list of projects we'd like to pursue. One that is being contemplated is E. 64th if the timing works out.

c. Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

July 26 – IPS presentation of the Transportation Commission annual report & work plan.

August 7 – Pierce County walkability summit that is related to a group that went to Atlanta a month or so ago, including Council Member Mello and Meredith Soniat. They are putting together a walkability summit in Tacoma. Details not set yet.

August 9 – IPS presentation of the Safe Routes to School plan. Final plan will be sent to the Commission in July.

d. Commission Member Terms

The City Clerk will issue a press release about the upcoming terms expiring (4 total). New applications will be accepted and interviews scheduled. If the members whose terms are expiring would like to stay on they need to reapply.

8. Public Comment

No Public in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Note: Italicized text indicates staff response to Commission questions.