



City of Tacoma

Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Conference Room 248

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 878 2905 6704

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/87829056704 Passcode: 614650

November 08, 2023

4:30 PM

Chair Kristina Walker, Vice Chair Olgy Diaz, John Hines,
Catherine Ushka, Joe Bushnell (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Walker called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Diaz, Walker and Bushnell

Absent: 2 - Hines and Ushka

Public Comment

Public comment was heard from:

1. Patrick Murphy, speaking on Gault Middle School.
2. Jenn Halverson Khehn, speaking on Active transportation update.
3. Sandesh Sadalge, speaking on Gault Middle School.
4. Carlie Thornhill, speaking on Gault Middle School.
5. Aaron Filson, speaking on Gault Middle School.
6. Roxann Murray, speaking on Gault Middle School.
7. Michael Lafrenier, speaking on Gault Middle School.
8. Tara Scheidt, speaking on Gault Middle School.
9. Morgan Alexander, speaking on Gault Middle School.
10. Sarah Franklin, speaking on Gault Middle School.

Briefing Items

4. [23-1076](#) Review of Youth Member Position Applicants for the Sustainable Tacoma Commission
[Nicole Emery, City Clerk]

At approximately 4:44 p.m., Nicole Emery, City Clerk, informed the Committee that they would be reviewing three youth member position applications for the consideration and recommendation of one position to the Sustainable Tacoma Commission.

Chair Walker asked the Committee to review the applications of Cassidy Maruska, Joseph Muller, and Devynee Ye.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the qualifications of applicants.

MOTION: Council Member Bushnell moved to recommend the appointment of Devynee Ye to the “Youth Member” position on the Sustainable Tacoma Commission to fill an unexpired term, to expire June 30, 2024.

SECONDED BY: Vice Chair Diaz.

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

Ayes: 3 - Diaz, Walker and Bushnell

Absent: 2 - Hines and Ushka

3. [23-1075](#) Landmarks Preservation Commission Recommendation for 1115 East Division Street (Gault Middle School)
[Reuben McKnight, Principal Planner, Planning and Development Services]

At approximately 4:48 p.m., Reuben McKnight, Principal Planner, Planning and Development Services, presented the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) recommendation for 1115 East Division Street (Gault Middle School), including an overview, noting requested action; background; health, equity, and sustainability analysis; issues; and LPC recommendation to conduct a formal process for historic nomination consideration. Mcknight introduced Chris Williams, Chief Operating Officer, and Alisha Lobby, Strategic Director of Operations, Tacoma Public Schools, who provided a statement on the LPC recommendation for Gault Middle School and the history of how the District has attempted to find a solution for the site.

Discussion ensued regarding the building condition, timeline; what will happen next; how long the process will take; the historical designation process; options for designation; public process; discussion process; assessment cost to rehabilitate; motion process; and possible process update to be able to preserve a part or piece of the building that is in question for demolition.

MOTION: Council Member Bushnell moved to not concur with the Landmarks Preservation Commission recommendation to formally consider the Gault School for inclusion on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Diaz.

Discussion continued regarding the building condition, community feedback, safety, and recognition of Council Member Ushka's work on this issue.

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

Discussion continued regarding next steps for the LPC and further discussions about the process to review historic places.

Ayes: 3 - Diaz, Walker and Bushnell

Absent: 2 - Hines and Ushka

1. [23-1073](#)

Vision Zero Update
[Carrie Wilhelme, Principal Transportation Planner, Public Works]

At approximately 5:26 p.m., Josh Diekmann, Transportation Division Manager, Public Works, provided opening remarks and introduced Carrie Wilhelme, Principal Transportation Planner, Public Works, who presented the Vision Zero update, including an overview; background, noting traditional approach versus Vision Zero; Tacoma’s goal of zero traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2035, noting that Pierce County also adopted a Vision Zero resolution in August of 2022; the action plan; implementation, noting the 2023-2024 biennium budget crash data and Washington Traffic Safety Commission grants; crash data; speed reduction, noting speed changes that went into effect as of January 1, 2023, for residential (non-arterial) and four arterial business districts; and next steps, noting the work plan for 2024.

Discussion ensued regarding location and time frame for rollout of automated traffic cameras; fine structure; racial equity and the impact of automatic speed cameras; plans to work with other local famous people.

2. [23-1074](#)

Active Transportation Update
[Jennifer Kammerzell, Assistant Transportation Division Manager;
Sandra Guffey, Engineering Technician IV, Public Works]

At approximately 5:56 p.m., Jennifer Kammerzell, Assistant Transportation Division Manager, and Sandra Guffey, Engineering Technician, Public Works, presented the active transportation update, including policy framework; infrastructure projects and acronyms; highlights of recently constructed projects, noting Fawcett Avenue, Whitman Safe Routes To School,

East 56th Street phase 2, and East 64th Street phase 2; construction funded projects, noting Cedar Street to South 15th Street to Center Street; J Street to North 3rd Street to South 27th Street; and Yakima Avenue to South 68th Street. Kammerzell turned the presentation over to Guffey continued by reviewing sidewalk replacement projects; sidewalk cutting project; highlights of projects in planning and design, noting South Tacoma Sounder station access; and Puyallup Avenue complete streets and Tacoma to Puyallup trail. Together they concluded by outlining additional construction funded and planning and design projects, improved project reporting, upcoming planning, programs and policy work, and ongoing challenges.

Discussion ensued regarding how to get the needed funding and back on track; how cost escalation in construction has impacted projects; how quick build works; funding for quick build; and sidewalk funding, noting transportation funding for sidewalks; and funds for missing links.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5. [23-1077](#) November 22, 2023 - Cancelled
 December 13, 2023 - Landmarks Preservation Commission Interviews,
 Planning Commission Annual Report and
 Work Program Update
 December 27, 2023 - Cancelled

D'Angelo Baker, Committee Liaison, stated that the meeting on November 22, 2023, will be cancelled; the December 13, 2023, meeting will include Landmarks Preservation Commission interviews, Planning Commission annual report and Work Program update, noting that this meeting is the last meeting of the year, as the December 27, 2023, meeting will be cancelled.

Other Items of Interest

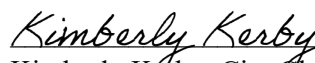
There was no other items of interest.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



 Kristina Walker, Chair



 Kimberly Kerby, City Clerk's Office