

WEEKLY REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

January 23, 2014

Members of the City Council
City of Tacoma, Washington

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

TOPICS OF INTEREST

1. The **agenda for the Public Utility Board meeting on January 29, 2014** is attached for your information.

STUDY SESSION/WORK SESSION

2. The **City Council Study Session** of Tuesday, January 28, 2014, will be held in Room 16 of the Tacoma Municipal Building North, at Noon. Discussion items will be: (1) **Pierce County Community and Technical Colleges Legislative Initiatives**; (2) **Tacoma Link Expansion**; (3) **Other Items of Interest**; (4) **Agenda Review**; (5) **Closed Session – Labor Negotiations**; and (6) **Executive Session – Pending and Potential Litigation**.

At Tuesday's Study Session, the **Pierce County Coordinating Council**, representing the five local technical and community colleges, **will provide an update on their legislative initiatives**.

As a second item at Tuesday's Study Session, the **Council is scheduled to conduct further review of the Tacoma Link Light Rail Expansion**, with the intent of identifying the alignment(s) it prefers be advanced into required State and Federal environmental review processes (State and National Environmental Policy Acts). Planning and Development Services Director Peter Huffman forwards a letter of recommendation from the Planning Commission concerning the Link Expansion. The Commission suggests that the Council's preferred route alignments should offer the best opportunity to maximize economic development, incentivize transit-oriented development, minimize the disruption to the urban fabric and urban lifestyles, be consistent with the *Draft Hilltop Subarea Plan*, and ensure the ease of accessibility, especially for the physically challenged. In addition, I am providing the attached letter from the Tacoma Transportation Commission related to their recommendations for the expansion, which was recently sent to the Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee.

3. The updated **Tentative City Council Forecast and Consolidated Standing Committee Calendars** are attached for your information.

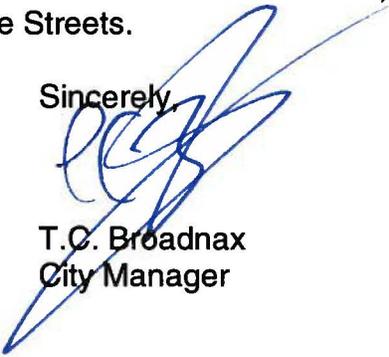
COUNCIL REQUESTS/INQUIRIES

4. On behalf of his constituents, Council Member Mello recently inquired as to what the **City's local emergency preparedness plan was in dealing with the aftermath of an oil train derailment**, should one happen in our jurisdiction. Fire Chief Duggan provides the attached memorandum in response.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

5. You have been invited to the following events:
- **Pierce County Summit Appreciation Luncheon on Thursday, January 30th, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**, at the Hotel Murano, located at 1320 Broadway Plaza.
 - **RACE Challenge Your Perspective Thank You event on Thursday, January 30th, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.**, at the Seattle Center Armory.
 - **Annual Sister City Film Festival February 6th through April 3rd**, at the University of Puget Sound – Tahoma Room, located at the corner of North 13th and Lawrence Streets.

Sincerely,



T.C. Broadnax
City Manager

TCB:crh
Attachments



**City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
January 29, 2014; 6:30 p.m.
Tacoma Public Utilities Auditorium
(3628 South 35th Street)**

Call to Order

Roll Call

- A. Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings**
- B. Comments by the Public**
- C. Consent Agenda**
- D. Regular Agenda**

Departmental

- D-1 Resolution U-10672 – Award contracts and approve purchases:**
- 1. Award contract to TriVan Truck Body for the purchase of five aluminum truck bodies with cab kick-over (\$355,142.15 with the option for two additional one-year period extensions for a cumulative total of \$1,105,142.15, plus sales tax);
 - 2. Award contract to Pacific Netting Products, Inc., for the supply of the net system for the Floating Surface Collector at the Cushman Hydroelectric Project (\$1,839,253, plus applicable sales tax).
 - 3. Award contract to Northwest Cascade, Inc., for the replacement of acquired asbestos-cement water mains located in Vista Place, Glendale Drive, and 27th Street in the City of University Place (\$452,910.33, plus sales tax);
 - 4. Award contract to Pape and Sons Construction, Inc., for the replacement of acquired asbestos-cement water mains located in Soundview Drive, Brookside Way, Rock Road, and Ridge Road in the City of University Place (\$513,774.40, plus sales tax).

H. Reports of the Director

- H-1 November cash projections for Tacoma Power, Water, and Rail**
- H-2 November financials for Power, Water, Rail, Fleet, and Self-Insurance Fund**



The City of Tacoma does not discriminate on the basis of disability in any of its programs, activities, or services. To request this information in an alternative format or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact the TPU Director's Office at 253-502-8201. TTY or speech to speech users please dial 711 to connect to Washington Relay services.



City of Tacoma
Planning Commission

January 15, 2014

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council,

On behalf of the Planning Commission, I am forwarding our recommendations regarding the current phase of the Tacoma Link Light Rail Expansion Project.

Sound Transit is currently in the process of defining and evaluating route alignments along the North Downtown Central Corridor (Hilltop via the Stadium District), which has been identified as the preferred corridor for the potential expansion of Tacoma Link. The City Council is scheduled to make a recommendation in January-February 2014 to Sound Transit on which alignments should be studied for further environmental review. We recommend that the following criteria and factors be keenly weighted in your contemplation and decision-making:

1. The selected alignments should offer the best opportunity to maximize economic development, stimulate urban revitalization, and incentivize transit-oriented development along the corridor.
2. The selected alignments should result in the least amount of disruption to the urban fabric in Greater downtown (i.e., land use, urban design, and infrastructure), the urban lifestyles (i.e., commercial, educational, cultural and recreational activities), and capital investments already made for the Tacoma Link Light Rail.
3. The selected alignments should be consistent with the *Draft Hilltop Subarea Plan*, which is slated for adoption in April 2014 as a new element of the *Comprehensive Plan* and a genuine reflection of the community's vision and development goals for the Hilltop area. The subarea plan envisions a multimodal transportation system, including the Tacoma Link Light Rail on a two-way alignment on MLK Jr Way that provides high-quality transit service for the entire district. The potential transit investment would also be a powerful catalyst for economic development and generate a positive influence on livability and revitalization in Hilltop. [Goal M-4, Figure 5-21, and Action M-13, Mobility Chapter, Draft Hilltop Subarea Plan, December 2013]
4. The practicality of access, or the ease of accessibility, to transit stations, especially for the physically challenged, can affect the ridership in a more profound manner than normally expected. It should be carefully examined along with other ridership-influencing factors, such as the walking distance, topography, density and intensity of the area, and roadway and traffic conditions.

The Tacoma Link Expansion is one of the most significant transportation investment projects to be realized in the South Puget Sound Region in the foreseeable future. The Planning Commission received a briefing from Sound Transit staff on the project on January 8, 2014. Based on the information received, the Planning Commission decided to focus our deliberation of recommendations, not on specific route alignments that should be selected for environmental review purposes, but on the principles and criteria for the selection of alignments. We respectfully submit the above recommendations for your timely consideration.

Sincerely,

Sean Gaffney
Chair



City of Tacoma
Transportation Commission

Commissioners

Jane Ann Moore, Co-Chair
Justin Leighton, Co-Chair
Gary Hofmann
Michael Hutchinson
Judi Hyman
Yoshi Kumara
Jacki Skaught
Andrew Strobel
John Thurlow
Kristina Walker

Staff

Jennifer Kammerzell,
Public Works

Joshua Diekmann,
Public Works

January 24, 2014

Ryan Mello, Chair
Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Council Committee
747 Market Street, Suite 1200
Tacoma, WA 98402

Re: Commission Recommendation on Sound Transit Link Expansion

Dear Chair Mello,

The Tacoma Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to provide a recommendation to the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Council Committee (IPS) on the preferred route alignment for the Sound Transit Link Expansion project. On December 18, 2013 the Transportation Commission held a joint meeting with the Bicycle & Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG); representatives from Sound Transit presented proposed route alignments and staff evaluation for the Tacoma Link Expansion project.

During our January 15, 2014 meeting, the Commission, understanding that the City Council will make a decision on preferred route alignments in the near future, chose to discuss this topic hoping to provide valuable guidance in the City Council's decision.

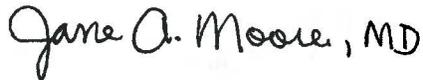
After a thoughtful discussion of the proposed route alignments and considering input from the BPTAG, the Commission is providing the following recommendations.

1. The Commission recognizes the importance of choosing one alignment to evaluate in order to provide for an expedited timeline and access to more grant funding opportunities that will help fund the overall project.
2. The preferred route alignment connecting downtown Tacoma and the Stadium Business District is Stadium Way (A1). In the overall scope of the project, this alignment appears to meet most of the community's needs. The Commission recognizes the pedestrian and accessibility challenges provided with this alignment and urges Sound Transit to work with the City to include access mitigation measures to address those challenges.
3. The preferred route alignment serving the Hilltop neighborhood is MLK (B1), which does *not* include the couplet. This alignment provides the best opportunity for an affordable and cost-effective project, as well as provides an opportunity for future expansion. Additionally, this alignment coincides with the Hilltop Subarea Plan.

4. The Tacoma Link Expansion must extend to South 19th Street to provide service to the underserved community of the Hilltop neighborhood and Hilltop Business Association. Fiscal responsibility will be important in ensuring that the expansion reaches South 19th Street, a major transportation corridor that connects neighborhoods and serves the whole of the Hilltop.

The Transportation Commission recognizes that the Tacoma Link Expansion is one of the most significant transportation projects in Tacoma. We are a fairly new Commission and are proud to say this is our first official action. We strongly feel this is a positive step towards achieving a multimodal transportation system that efficiently and equitably moves people and goods with optimum safety, maximizes the conservation of energy and economic development, and minimally disrupts the desirable features of the environment. We respectfully submit these recommendations for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jane Ann Moore
Co-Chair



Justin D. Leighton
Co-Chair

cc: Mayor Marilyn Strickland
Tacoma City Councilmembers
Tacoma City Manager
Sean Gaffney, Planning Commission Chair
Chelsea Levy, Sound Transit

**City of Tacoma 2013-2014
City Council Forecast**

Date	Meeting	Subject	Department
2014			
January 28, 2014	Study Session	Pierce Co Community & Tech Colleges Legislative Initiatives	5 College Presidents
		Tacoma Link Expansion	ST/GRO/PW/PDS
		Closed Session - Labor Negotiations	HR
		Executive Session - Pending and Potential Litigation	CAO
	City Council Meeting		
February 4, 2014	Study Session	Legislative Update	GRO
	Committee of the Whole	Tacoma Link Expansion (tentative)	ST/GRO/PW/PDS
	City Council Meeting		
February 11, 2014	Study Session		
	City Council Meeting		
February 18, 2014	Study Session	Tacoma Smelter Plume Cleanup Update	WSDOE/PDS
		Legislative Update	GRO
	Committee of the Whole		
	City Council Meeting		
February 25, 2014	Study Session		
	City Council Meeting		
March 4, 2014	Study Session	Legislative Update	GRO
	Committee of the Whole		
	City Council Meeting		
March 11, 2014		CANCELLED	
March 18, 2014	Joint Utility Board Study Session		
	Committee of the Whole		
	City Council Meeting		
March 25, 2014	Study Session	Legislative Update	GRO
		Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability	
		Two-Year Workplan and Vision	CMO/EPS
	City Council Meeting		
April 1, 2014	Study Session		
	Committee of the Whole		
	City Council Meeting		
April 8, 2014	Study Session	Legislative Update	GRO
	City Council Meeting		
April 15, 2014	Study Session		
	Committee of the Whole		
	City Council Meeting		
April 22, 2014	Study Session	Legislative Wrap-up Report	GRO
	City Council Meeting		
April 29, 2014	Study Session		
	City Council Meeting		
May 6, 2014	Study Session		
	Committee of the Whole		
	City Council Meeting		
May 13, 2014	Study Session		
	City Council Meeting		
May 20, 2014	Study Session		
	Committee of the Whole		
	City Council Meeting		
May 27, 2014		CANCELLED	

Council Committee Report

(Subject to Change)

Economic Development Committee	
Committee Members: Campbell (Chair), Boe, Walker, Mello, Alternate -Thoms	2nd, 4th, and 5th Tuesdays
Executive Liaison: Nadia Chandler Hardy; Staff Support - Anita Gallagher	10:00 a.m. Room 248
CBC Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;">• Tacoma Arts Commission <li style="width: 50%;">• Foss Waterway Development Authority <li style="width: 50%;">• Greater Tacoma Regional Convention Center Public Facilities District <li style="width: 50%;">• City Events and Recognition Committee
January 28, 2014	
Future:	
February 11, 2014 One-Stop Permitting Center Fourth Quarter 2013 Financial Indicators Report (tentative)	Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services Elly Walkowiak, Business Development Manager, Community and Economic Development
February 25, 2014 Tacoma Dome Art (tentative) City Events and Recognitions Committee Report Applicant Interviews for City Events and Recognitions Committee	Roslyn Smith, Chair, City Events and Recognitions Committee Doris Sorum, City Clerk

Government Performance and Finance Committee	
Committee Members: Lonergan (Chair), Campbell, Thoms, Strickland, Alternate- Lopez	1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays
Executive Liaison: T.C. Broadnax; Staff Support - Reid Bennion	4:30 p.m. Room 248
CBC Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;">• Public Utility Board <li style="width: 50%;">• Audit Advisory <li style="width: 50%;">• Board of Ethics <li style="width: 50%;">• Civil Service Board
January 29, 2014 CANCELLED	
Future:	
February 5, 2014 Tax and License Code Changes Title 6 (Tentative) End of Year Report	Danielle Larson, Tax and License Manager Reid Bennion, City Manager's Office
February 19, 2014 Tacoma 24/7 and Budget Book Performance Measures (Tentative) Tacoma Water Code Changes Regarding Fees and Charges (Tentative)	Tadd Wille, Budget Officer, Office of Budget and Research Tony Lindgren, Tacoma Water

Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee	
Committee Members: Mello (Chair), Boe, Walker, Ibsen, Alternate-Campbell	2nd and 4th Wednesdays
Executive Liaison: Nadia Chandler Hardy; Staff Support - Carmen White	4:30 p.m. Room 16
CBC Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;">• Sustainable Tacoma Commission <li style="width: 50%;">• Board of Building Appeals <li style="width: 50%;">• Planning Commission <li style="width: 50%;">• Transportation Commission
February 12, 2014 Construction and Demolition Waste Services Environmental and Sustainability Management System Planning Commission 2013 Accomplishments and Proposed Work Plan for 2014	Mike Slevin, Director, Environmental Services Mike Slevin, Director, Environmental Services Lihuang Wung, Senior Planner, Planning and Development Services
Future:	
February 26, 2014 Transfer of Development Rights Transportation Commission 2013 Accomplishments and Proposed Work Plan for 2014	Ian Munce, Special Assistant to the Director, Planning and Development Services Jennifer Kammerzell, Engineer, Public Works
March 12, 2014 Complete Streets Quarterly Update Board of Building Appeals 2013 Accomplishments and Proposed Work Plan for 2014	Jennifer Kammerzell, Engineer, Public Works Sue Coffman, Division Manager, Planning and Development Services

Council Committee Report

(Subject to Change)

<i>Neighborhoods and Housing Committee</i>	
Committee Members: Walker (Chair), Boe, Ibsen, Lonergan, Alternate-Woodards	1st and 3rd Mondays 4:30 p.m.
Executive Liaison: Tansy Hayward; Staff Support - Christina Watts	Room 248
CBC Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 45%;">• Landmarks Preservation Commission <li style="width: 45%;">• Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority
February 3, 2014 2013 N&H Annual Report Committee Work Planning	
Future:	
February 17, 2014 PRESIDENT'S DAY March 3, 2014	

<i>Public Safety, Human Services, and Education Committee</i>	
Committee Members: Woodards (Chair), Campbell, Lonergan, Strickland, Alternate-Melio	2nd and 4th Thursdays 4:30 p.m.
Executive Liaison: Tansy Hayward; Staff Support - Julie Stoltman	Room 248
CBC Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 45%;">• Citizen Review Panel <li style="width: 45%;">• Commission on Disabilities <li style="width: 45%;">• Human Services Commission <li style="width: 45%;">• Library Board <li style="width: 45%;">• Human Rights Commission
February 13, 2014 Joint Meeting with Library Board of Trustees (confirmed)	Julio Quan, Chair, Library Board of Trustees; Susan Odenratz, Tacoma Public Library Director
Future:	
February 27, 2014 Joint Meeting with Human Rights Commission (confirmed)	John Wallace, Chair, Human Rights Commission
March 13, 2014 Joint Meeting with Human Services Commission (tentative)	Becky Fontaine, Chair, Human Services Commission; Kelly Crouch, Contracts and Program Auditor, Neighborhoods & Community Services



City of Tacoma
Tacoma Fire Department

Memorandum

TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: James P. Duggan, Fire Chief *D*
SUBJECT: Oil Transport and Emergency Preparedness
DATE: January 23, 2014

The City of Tacoma's preparations for a potential oil train derailment build upon our existing preparedness for a large-scale flammable liquid spill or fire. Those existing capabilities include:

1. A hazardous materials plan that includes procedures for rail incidents
2. A hazardous materials team on duty at all times.
3. A cache of firefighting foam for suppressing large-scale petroleum-based fires
4. Two trailers staged at our Training Center, each containing 800 feet of spill-containment booms.
5. Annual training for all firefighters on hazardous material incidents
6. Routine training exercises with Tacoma Rail
7. Routine training exercises with U.S. Oil
8. Ability to request immediate assistance from U.S. Oil, Joint Base Lewis McChord, and Seattle Fire for additional firefighting foam.

In the event of a significant train derailment within our jurisdiction, the City of Tacoma's Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) would be activated to ensure coordination among the various City departments. For example, Environmental Services would provide their sewer expertise and cleaning to help prevent a spill from reaching Puget Sound. The ECC would also coordinate the City's efforts with the appropriate state agencies, such as the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Should a significant rail derailment occur outside of the Fire Department's service area, we anticipate that our resources would be requested through existing mutual aid or inter-local agreements. (In February 2011, Fireboat *Commencement* and Engine 17 assisted West Pierce Fire & Rescue for a freight train derailment on the banks of Puget Sound about 13 miles south of Tacoma.)

Currently, two to three oil trains pass through our jurisdiction destined for the Port of Tacoma. Those trains range from 100 to 110 railcars, with each railcar containing approximately 28,000 gallons of oil. In light of this significant increase in rail traffic and the potential for further increases, the Fire Department is working to improve our awareness of the quantity and frequency of shipments. We are also working to enhance our existing preparedness by developing training and exercises specifically tailored to the hazards of crude oil being shipped from the Bakken region, which may be more flammable than traditional heavy crude oil according to the safety alert issued earlier this month by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

If you have further questions, please contact me directly.

JPD:mw
c: Members of the City Council