



TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services Department
COPY: Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee
SUBJECT: Ruston Way Visioning Project
DATE: October 25, 2017

SUMMARY:

At the October 25 meeting of the Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee, City and Metro Parks staff will provide an update on the Ruston Way Visioning Project including information about the project kick-off, direction, and timelines.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Tacoma and Metro Parks Tacoma are jointly embarking on an effort to plan for future improvements and enhancements along Ruston Way. This project, titled Tacoma's Waterfront: Envision our Future, will robustly engage the public and concurrently evaluate existing conditions and realities. The final project will be a vision and action plan for Ruston Way that contextualizes it within the entire Tacoma Waterfront, has broad public and stakeholder input, and has a clear path for implementation.

The Project Stakeholder Steering Committee is planned to convene in November-December 2017. The 2018 timeline includes a design charrette in January or February of 2018, continued stakeholder meetings, citywide public engagement and outreach, with a final plan produced in the fourth quarter of 2018.

ISSUE:

Metro Parks Tacoma and the City of Tacoma are taking a deep look at the community's waterfront. Equity, access, and the need for infrastructure improvements are driving the process. Ruston Way already is a premier recreation destination for Tacoma. It is also in need of critical upgrades. This project will provide a forum for planning and public input for the envisioned look and feel of Tacoma's waterfront.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only. There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing only. There is no recommendation.