



City of Tacoma Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee Minutes

733 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 16

August 22, 2018

4:30 PM

Chair Ryan Mello, Vice Chair Anders Ibsen,
Chris Beale, Conor McCarthy, Lillian Hunter (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Mello called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Present: 4 - Beale, Ibsen, McCarthy and Mello

Approval of Minutes

1. [18-0967](#) Approval of the minutes of the August 8, 2018 meeting

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Ibsen moved to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2018 meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member McCarthy.

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

Ayes: 4 - Beale, Ibsen, McCarthy and Mello

Briefing Items

2. [18-0964](#) Air Monitoring
[Craig Kenworthy, Executive Director, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency]

At approximately 4:34 p.m., Craig Kenworthy, Executive Director, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA), made opening remarks about the current air quality in regards to the smoke, including when it is expected to clear, the direction it is flowing, level of air pollution, and the sources. He then provided a briefing on air quality, including topics to be covered; factors to consider; monitoring air quality; fine particle pollution, noting the small

size and cardiac and respiratory effects; annual average of benzene potential cancer risk at Beacon Hill; overall air quality, including Pierce County meeting current federal standards, particulate matter (PM) 2.5 and diesel PM, smog, and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions – low carbon fuel standard; and described actions taken to bring Tacoma/Pierce County from nonattainment to attainment status, including enhanced burn ban enforcement, public information and outreach and stakeholder process, and wood stove changeouts. He concluded by reviewing efforts to improve air quality, a summary, and provided web links to PSCAA for further information.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the air quality southeast of the Olympic Peninsula, if the west side of the Olympics will receive as much smoke as the Puget Sound, and health impacts. Discussion continued on efforts to improve air quality; what the potential regional low carbon fuel standard would be, why it was reviewed at the regional level and not the statewide level, and if there will be more public hearings and public meetings; and how the City has supported the actions taken to bring Tacoma and Pierce County from nonattainment to attainment, what else the City can do to help support the actions, and if the wood stove changeouts are funded by federal or state. Discussion concluded on the low carbon fuel standards, regarding what percentage of air pollution in the state is caused by motor vehicle exhaust and if it is one of the most effective policies for reducing air pollution; challenges with setting up an appropriate infrastructure in neighborhoods near an industrial port for air monitoring, what can be done with the information collected, and what the best approach is to receive more actionable information; and PSCAA's decision on the GHG emissions and its impact on the Puget Sound Energy Liquefied Natural Gas Facility project.

Chair Mello stated Item No. 4 All Things Sidewalk will go before Item No. 3 Co-Mingled Recycling.

4. [18-0966](#)

All Things Sidewalk

[Mark D'Andrea, Engineer, Public Works]

At approximately 5:28 p.m., Mark D'Andrea, Engineer, Public Works, provided information on the All Things Sidewalk program, including an overview; background of the estimated sidewalk inventory and new sidewalk construction; issues, noting alternative sidewalk delivery; background of the Sidewalk Maintenance program, noting what core city and state codes are based off of, it is complaint based, and program funding; and issues with managing and planning the program without a consistent funding source, noting options of taking no action, enforcing the code, or have a middle ground. Mr. D'Andrea further described issues, including 2019 and 2020 budget requests and the Low Income program, noting the prior 2004-2011 program and the new 2018 program. He concluded by reviewing a comparison

chart to other cities, noting the city, sidewalk maintenance funding, new sidewalk funding, and program notes.

Discussion ensued regarding the Puyallup Sidewalk Link Program, use of the Tacoma Streets Initiative funds, 2019 and 2020 budget requests, the 2018 Low Income Program, prevalence of permeable and if it will be an issue with cost allocation for materials, if the complaints drive the process of which sidewalks are fixed and how much is spent on litigation, and when the last time an ordinance was passed that required property owners to fix their sidewalks. Discussion concluded on clarification on the proposed Low Income Program.

3. [18-0965](#)

Co-Mingled Recycling

[Lewis Griffith, Solid Waste Division Manager, Environmental Services]

At approximately 6:00 p.m., Mike Slevin, Director, Environmental Services (ES), made opening remarks and introduced Lewis Griffith, Solid Waste Division Manager, ES. Mr. Lewis played a news clip that described Co-Mingled Recycling. He further presented an overview; a timeline of United States (U.S.) exports to China of scrap plastics and mixed paper; background of the recycling industry, recycling in other jurisdictions, legal requirements, and impacts on Tacoma; and reviewed financial implications, noting cost impacts to Tacoma. Mr. Griffith presented a chart showing net revenue and cost per ton to market co-mingled recycling in correlation with the U.S. exports to China of scrap plastics and mixed paper; proposed actions, noting short-term actions, including using surplus revenues to cover cost of recycling in the next nine months, promoting the “Recycle Right” message, and removing marginally recyclable items from curbside collection; and proposed actions, noting long-term alternatives, including lowest cost, limited recycling; partial recycling; and maintain full curbside recycling. He concluded by presenting the health, equity, and sustainability analysis with focus on equity and sustainability; outreach; and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding cost impacts and if it would be practical to create a local recycling industry, marginally recyclable items, and if the recycle surcharge in the long-term alternative of maintaining full curbside recycling option is per month or every other month. Discussion concluded on pros and cons of moving out of co-mingled recycling, outreach, Environmental Services being a valuable partner on discussions of the subarea planning process for the Tideflats, and next steps.

Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Beverly Bowen-Bennett, 4329 South Alder Street, speaking on All Things Sidewalk.
2. Yvonne McCarty, Northeast Tacoma Neighborhood Council, speaking on All Things Sidewalk and Air Monitoring.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5. [18-0971](#) September 12, 2018 - Cancelled
September 26, 2018 - Cross Laminated Timber; Green Building; and Healthy Homes, Healthy Neighborhoods

Rebecca Boydston, Committee Liaison, stated the September 12, 2018 meeting is cancelled and the meeting of September 26, 2018 will include cross laminated timber; green building; and Healthy Homes, Healthy Neighborhoods.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Public Comment

Public Comment was heard earlier in the meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Ryan Mello, Chair

Jessica Jenkins, City Clerk's Office