

**Summary Notes**  
Pierce County  
Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC)  
Thursday, September 27, 2018  
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**Call to Order:** 9:04 a.m.

**Roll Call:** 9:05 a.m.

**Voting Members Present:** Deryl McCarty, Paul Lubbesmeyer, Scott Jones, Liz Kaster for Bob Myrick, Kurt Wilson alternate for Jeremiah LaFranca, Jason Kennedy,

**Absent:** Brian Devereux, Don Swensen, Tom Pierson

**Non-Voting Members Present:** Dennis Hanberg, Hugh Taylor, Toby Rickman, Kevin Clegg for Rob Allen

**Absent:** Rob Allen

**Staff:** Brian Stacy, Rory Grindley, Shawn Phelps

**Absent:** Jesse Hamashima

**Guest(s):** Amy Cruver, PC County Council Assistant; Chuck Sundsmo, MBA

**Approval of Meeting Notes:** 11:00 a.m. - Liz Kaster, 2<sup>nd</sup> Scott Jones

**Presentations:**

**A. Update on Legislative progress of TAC's TIF Proposal**

Submitted to Council and Executive late August. Will be going to the Community Development Council on October 1<sup>st</sup> for Study session – limited presentation time with at least 45 minutes and last on agenda; then onto the hearing on October 15<sup>th</sup> – better opportunity for TAC to present public testimony; final will possibly be late November after budget.

**B. Mission and Goals Review – Dennis, Hugh, Deryl**

The future of what the Commission is and does. What is the Commission responsible for after the TIF? What is expected from the Council and Department from TAC? Commended for the TAC's work on TIF. Commission upcoming tasks: Active Transportation Plan/Non-Motorized Plan Updated; Transit service to unincorporated area – potential service enhancements; Rapid Transit System; Break over the holidays; Priorities will be left to the TAC. Other topics that the TAC may consider: Urban vs. Rural road standards; Red Tape Reduction; Transportation Safety – Always talk about, but rarely discussed; Safety trends need to be updated. Road funding – what is spent on maintenance and operations, fish passage, level of service.

A lot of discussion to be had especially with the talent in the room – diversity of groups represented in the TAC. Transportation Benefit District – been a bit of a recess, once the TIF has been settled, anticipates that TBD will reconvene in 2019.

\*Corridors and Connectors plan needs to be updated – consider for one of the next topics.

Would this have to go to the Planning Commission for review or does the TAC have enough authority to bring to review? It is a good topic either way for review. Right of Way – Utilities, reasonable outcome.

Should identify two to three priorities; comeback after presentations; work program in coming year. Take a poll of ideas and get them to the chair. Work on getting a plan together. Write the ideas down

### **C. Copenhagen – Dennis Hanberg & Liz Kaster**

Week long Master Class – 2 hours a day in lectures and discussion with different officials, throughout the area, heads of state, mayors, etc. Modes of transportation: Pedestrians, Cars and Bikes.

**Why and Who:** Who is walking and bicycling in our community and why the projects matter.

**Walking:** People of color walk at a significantly higher rate than Whites. On average people of color walk 50% more than Whites. Higher rate of student walkers in lower income communities than in higher income communities. Projects throughout Pierce County, particularly in Tacoma – Safe Routes to School focused on students with free or reduced lunch, students of color and number of bicycle/pedestrian crashes.

**Biking:** Native American, Alaskan Native, and Latino communities are more likely to bike to work while White folks are in the middle and the Asian and African American community members are in the lower end. Interesting looking at the percentage of biking by income. When people think of the typical bicyclist general image of MAMIL (Middle Aged Man In Lycra) or someone who is experiencing homelessness.

The data pretty much indicates that everyone participates in walking and biking.

Research done in various cities in the nation. Study in Tacoma – large disparities. As people that can move forward on making policy recommendations, this is information that should be kept in mind because the disparities can be perpetuated or trying to address them.

Goes beyond infrastructure – racial profiling. People of color are more likely to die while bicycling and walking.

It was found that 33% of Tacoma residents say they ride a bike; 57% of residents say they would ride a bike if there were safe and convenient infrastructure available.

**Tacoma to Puyallup Regional Trail Connection Project:** This is a paved corridor for people walking and rolling that is physically separated from traffic. Safe for all people of all ages and abilities. The goal of this project is to provide safe access to houses, schools, parks, regional centers, etc. A cohesive network between Port of Tacoma, Puyallup Tribal Institutions, Schools, Downtown Puyallup and beyond.

Currently there are some missing key connections. Hoping to create a cohesive network.

If the main alignment were completed today it could provide: Approximately \$1.4M in health benefits; \$3.225M in transportation benefits; \$93K in environmental benefits; \$120.5M in one-time property value benefits for an approximate total of \$13M in total benefits. There is great community support for the Tacoma to Puyallup trail connection. Overall, it would greatly benefit the community to have the trail completed. It is in the Transportation Improvement Plan (T.I.P.); just need to build it.

**How to get there** – Sponsored by Scan Design- brought together leaders from PWI, Downtown on the Go, and other organizations to work collaboratively on this project through a Master Class leading to a trip to Copenhagen for collaborative learning. Looked at shared goals, start to look at potential routes, figure out path forward for advocacy. Route design and selection reporting to funders on progress. Leverages projects many opportunities WSDOT reroute of

SR167; Army Corps of Engineers – Puyallup River; Sound Transit – Light Rail bridge; Pierce County - Canyon Road Crossing Bridge over 71<sup>st</sup>.

Lessons learned: Copenhagen – Cycle Superhighways; they look at it the same way as the we think about car travel here; not just as local routes, but you’ve got your arterials, highway, interstate. Connects cities together. Traffic does not stop at Municipal borders.

**Four elements in planning a cycle superhighway:**

**Accessibility** – connecting residential, educational, business, public transportation, and areas that people want to go. Connection to transit is a huge part of their network. Traffic Gardens – small children learn the traffic system.

**Wayfinding** – Directions – should know where you are going

**Comfort** – Upright, simple bikes to get to where they need to go

**Safety** – Rails to rest; stations along the route to fix minor issues; safety for all ages.

Physical separation between traffic and bicyclists. Clearly marked areas.

Designing for moving people through streets not just cars.

Copenhagen is a disciplined area – people know the rules of the road. Amsterdam not so much.

Terrain of Copenhagen has changed. Copenhagen felt like Seattle and Malmo like Tacoma.

Nothing on ADA. Pedestrian and Bicyclists do not occupy the same lanes. Bike trails do about

50K bikes a day. Kid parks everywhere. Lots of infrastructure for the parks. Designing for climate change – stacked apartments. Repurposed areas.

Very interesting trip and learned a lot from it. We are on the right track with Centers and Corridors. Differences between here and Copenhagen – not as hilly over there. Electric bikes helpful in hilly terrain. Topographical differences between regions - our variable terrain can create difficulties over here.

Funding for trail – meeting with mayors and tribal leaders; needs to be done by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Open to discussion, but needs to happen sooner than later. Regarding SR167 - Active plan between Tacoma and Puyallup to make it part of 167 plan.

**D. Active Transportation Plan – Shawn Phelps**

Postponed to October 25<sup>th</sup> TAC Meeting

**Public Comment: 11:01 a.m.**

**Shawn Phelps:** Bus Rapid Transit would be a good topic to discuss; Rory agreed to have a continued discussion – will know more after Council.

**Jason Kennedy:** FTA Project: 1<sup>st</sup> mile last mile partnering; partnering with Lyft Sound Transit, trying to increase ridership; go onto website; fill gaps with current system; subsidized Lyft ride to a transit stop till dollars run out. 6 zones – spread to friends, family, and business.

**Next meeting:** October 25, 2018

**Adjourned:** 11:05 a.m. – Liz Kaster, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Kennedy; Scott Jones