

## Summary Notes

Pierce County  
Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC)  
Thursday, July 23, 2020  
9:00AM to 10:21AM

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Call to Order:** 9:00AM

**Roll Call:** 9:04AM

**Voting Members:** Deryl McCarty, Paul Lubbesmeyer, Shelly Schlumpf, Scott Jones, Jessie Gamble for Jeremiah LaFranca, Tom Pierson, Jane Moore, Lindsey Sehmel, Steve Gordon. There is a quorum.

**Absent:** Jeremiah LaFranca, Brian Devereux, Katie Wilcox.

**Non-Voting Members:** Dennis Hanberg, Hugh Taylor.

**Pierce County PPW Staff:** Brian Stacy, Rory Grindley, Jesse Hamashima, Clint Ritter, Letticia Neal.

**Pierce County Non PPW Staff:** Councilmember Dave Morell, Councilmember Marty Campbell, Amy Cruver (County Council Office), Judy Hurley (County Council Office), Kimberly Freeman (Parks & Recreation), Brianne Blackburn (Parks & Recreation).

**Other:** Maxine Herbert-Hill (SR-162 Community Group), Larry Laveen.

### Approval of Agenda:

**Councilmember Guidance:** Councilmember Campbell thanked the Board for their work. Councilmember Morell appreciates the work of the Commission. He grants the Commission the wisdom to get through the tasks and to get proper guidance from staff.

**Pierce County PPW Staff Clarification:** Clint Ritter clarified that the \$15M diversion to Sheriff's were voter approved in late 1980s. That was not part of the recommendation. What was part of the recommendation was the \$3M traffic transfer which does not require voter approval; just Council approval.

REET 2 was not to take funding away from Parks. REET 2 was to rebond after sunset date expires. Meeting members wanted to know how much the bonds were and how long did the County have to pay the bonds. There are two bonds for approximately \$46M. They are 20-year bonds.

**Discussion:** It was suggested to delete the sentence:

“Since many parks projects are included with road construction anyway (e.g. bike paths or bike crossings) reverting the whole amount will add no taxes and \$4 million to the road funds.”

The members appeared to be in consensus with removing this statement.

It was also suggested to consider removing sunset and to rebond. The \$4M we looked at last month was for removing sunset and rebonding.

Members were concerned with suggesting diversion of Sheriff funding. Feels it should be studied more. There were concerns with increasing taxes within the next six months due to the unknown of the pandemic.

Uneasiness was voiced with the following paragraph:

“In the meantime, our work on the Commission is only half done as directed by R2019-133. Because of COVID-19 we have yet to consider the prioritization of projects to include determining a transparent road evaluation program, a rank order of capacity building, and even a way to determine how the county focuses its engineering and roadbuilding skills to start and complete a project or projects and then move to the next.

This paragraph gives the appearance that the County isn't transparent when the County is transparent.

The Chair noted that he was trying to let the Council know that the Commission has been working but needs more time. We wanted to convey the items that we have looked at.

There was some difficulty in understanding the prioritization of projects which is an aspect of the Resolution.

We need to try to convey to the taxpayers how we choose these projects. Staff clarified that the task of the Commission is to find different funding solutions and with that funding how much should go with which projects to assist the County to move forward.

It was suggested to reword Item A regarding the annual diversion. Change *stop annual diversion* to *look into annual diversion*. If the letter can state by improving traffic, we can decrease the incidents requiring Sheriff response.

The letter can state to consider biannual percentage reduction so that the funding is decreased a little bit at a time. This should decrease the instant disruption. We can use this letter to start the conversation in reducing Sheriff's diversion.

**Conclusion:** In going forward, we need to indicate what the Traffic Advisory Commission has been working on.

Delete "Since many parks projects are included with road construction anyway (e.g. bike paths or bike crossings) reverting the whole amount will add no taxes and \$4 million to the road funds."

Reword the Sheriff's diversion so that it states decreasing funding overtime.

Delete or rewrite the paragraph regarding transparency.

Add how we would prioritize projects.

If we come up with funding amounts, state which projects should go with this funding.

The Chair will make changes to the draft letter and send out to Commission for approval. After approval, it will be sent to Council.

**Phase 2:** Would like the Traffic Advisory Commission voting members to brief the EIDC in August via a Zoom meeting. The committee clerk will send a link.

Suggested to take August off. This will also give enough time for staff to prepare presentations for moving forward.

**Summary Notes Approval:** June's summary notes were approved as written. 1<sup>st</sup> Scott Jones. 2<sup>nd</sup> Shelly Schlumpf. No oppositions for approval of summary notes.

**Next Meeting:** September 24, 2020

**Public Comment/Other Comments:** Maxine Herbert Hill (SR-162 Community Group) stated that she appreciates that we will suggest gradually decrease Sheriff's diversion so that the Sheriff's department can have time to come up with other options for increasing their funds.

Lindsey Sehmel reported that the Board of Pierce Transit approved decreasing service 10 percent due to COVID-19. Services will be available Monday to Friday, resuming normal services on Saturday. Sunday services will be hourly.

**Adjourn:** 10:21AM; 1<sup>st</sup> Shelly Schlumpf; 2<sup>nd</sup> Scott Jones. No opposition for adjourning.