

**Kirkland Transportation Commission**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**Wednesday, March 27, 2019**

An audio recording of the meeting is available on the [Transportation Commission Page](#) of the City website.

**Call to Order**

Chair McConnell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.

Members Present:

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kurt Ahrensfeld | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brayden Brackett | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Dueker     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faith DeBolt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Jacobson   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry Marpert    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa McConnell | <input type="checkbox"/> John Perlic             |

Kirkland Staff Present: Kathy Brown, Joel Pfundt, Kari Page, Kathy Robertson and Kimberly Scrivner, Public Works Department

**Review of past meeting notes**

Notes from the February 27, 2019 meetings were unanimously approved with requested amendment to meeting notes.

**Items from the Audience**

None.

**2019 Neighborhood Safety Program**

Kari Page, Senior Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator, presented the 2019 Neighborhood Safety Program (NSP) project recommendations. The presentation outlined the goals, schedule, process and scoring criteria used to evaluate the projects suggested by the neighborhood associations. The presentation then provided a map and short summary of each project, as well as which projects are recommended for funding by the Neighborhood Panel.

Kathy Robertson, Neighborhood Traffic Control Coordinator, then presented on the status of implementing the Neighborhood Street Light Program, which was funded with \$190,000 in onetime funding. The presentation described the technical criteria used to identify high priority sites to improve street lighting at pedestrian crossings, and the progress being made to upgrade existing street lights, or install new street lights. The ongoing use of the technical criteria has been supported by the Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods.

The Commission asked questions about the collection of speed data for the NSP evaluation process. Staff indicated we use available speed study data, which is available for many locations around the City. If data is not available, City staff use the posted speed limit as a surrogate.

The Commission also asked about the increase lighting levels that come from upgrading existing street lights and any opposition from neighbors. Staff stated there have been a few complaints and when possible, shields can be placed on street lights as long as it does not reduce the lighting level on the street and crosswalk. The Commission also asked about light pollution levels and if upgrading street lights has impacts on efforts to preserve dark skies.

The Commission was supportive of the NSP recommendations and continued implementation of the Street Light Program.

**Eastside Rail Corridor Branding**

Kari Page, Senior Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator, provided a presentation on four proposed logos for the Eastrail, which is the new name for the Eastside Rail Corridor. The Commission provided their feedback and generally preferred Direction 1 and Direction 3. They also preferred the Eastrail tag lane "Let's connect".

**Active Transportation Plan Update**

Kimberly Scrivner, Transportation Planner, presented the Commission with information regarding the update to the 2009 Active Transportation Plan (ATP). This is a process that is just beginning, and the presentation included background information on 2009 ATP and 2015 Transportation Master Plan (TMP). The updated ATP will build on the goals and policies laid out in the TMP, and will focus on our Vision Zero commitments, creating a high-quality network for all ages and abilities, and emphasizing access to transit. The presentation also outlined key considerations to keep in mind during plan development, and emphasis areas and trade-offs. The new plan will also be based on up-to-date existing conditions and detailed analysis for both bicycling and walking.

The Commission discussed the importance of messaging in these programs and decreasing the use of jargon, for example "high-quality network" was not a term the Commission felt communicated the desired message. The Commission suggested words like "comfortable, enhanced or improved" may be more descriptive. Also, they asked that best practices be used when defining what this network would look like. They also suggested a glossary of terms.

The Commission commented on the importance of explaining how the ATP fits with other plans, and that it be based on existing goals and policies in the TMP and Comprehensive Plan. The Commission also wanted to make it clear that this plan supports all active transportation trips, not just commuting trips. The plan update should also consider how the growth in electric-assist bikes, as well as other technological innovations, will change how people will bike and walk around Kirkland.

Finally, Commissioners requested that the plan identify specific capital project improvements, as well as address operational needs, such as maintenance, parking and construction zone management.

#### **Updates from Commissioners/Staff**

Staff reported on the following:

- TMP Progress Report – Presented final draft, received comments.
- Bike Share – Pilot approved by Council on 3/19/2019, scooter share is next.
- Kirkland Transit Implementation Plan – Approved by Council 3/19/2019.
- School District Speed Enforcement – Moving forward for 9/2019 implementation.
- DSTT Closure – DSTT closed to all buses on 3/23/2019.
- Congratulations to Kurt Ahrensfield on his reappointment to the Transportation Commission.

Commissioners reported on the following:

- Jacobson – Correction on page two of handout provided as part of ATP Update, correct miles to feet on page 2.
- Ahrensfield – Attended grand opening of Maydenbaur Bay Park in Bellevue on 3/16/2019. Very nice. Suggested vehicle parking could be an issue.
- McConnell
  - Attended Sound Transit Board of Directors Expansion Committee meeting on 3/14/2019 to advocate sidewalk connectivity to the NE 85<sup>th</sup> St 405 BRT Station.
  - Attended 3/19/2019 City Council meeting to support car-free Sundays on Park Lane.
  - Excited to see the wraps that depict historical scenes on the two signal cabinets in downtown Kirkland.

**Meeting adjourned** unanimously approved to adjourn at approximately 8:15 PM.