Kirkland Transportation Commission Meeting Notes Wednesday, June 28, 2017

An audio recording of the meeting is available on the <u>Transportation Commission Page</u> of the City website.

Call to Order

Chair Perlic called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Members Present:

<u>Kirkland Staff Present</u>: Joel Pfundt – Public Works Department.

Others Present: Julie Paone, King County Metro; Juan Higuera and Michael Couvrette, Sound Transit; and Jeanne Acutanza, Acutanza STS.

Review of past meeting notes

Notes from the May 24, 2017 meetings were unanimously approved.

Items from the Audience

None.

City Email Archiving

Anja Mullin, Deputy City Clerk, described how City email archiving works and provided a handout. She also briefly described the relationship of email archiving to public disclosure rules. Archiving will take effect with the Commissioner's City of Kirkland emails on August 31, 2017 and you can contact the Deputy Clerk with any questions.

SR 520 Transit Route Restructure

Julie Paone, King County Metro, and Juan Higuera, Sound Transit, provided a presentation on phase II of outreach for the Link Connections: SR-520 project. The provided an overview of the project and a project timeline. They also summarized the results of Phase I outreach. They then described the three Service Concepts developed for phase II of the outreach process: Option A - Existing Service, Option B – Frequency, and Option C – New Connections. These three Service Concepts were intended to illustrate three different approaches to allocating transit service hours to get people where they want to go. Metro and Sound Transit staff then summarized how these Service Concepts would affect the Kirkland market and also travel times between Evergreen Point Station and the International District Station.

Jeanne Acutanza, President, Acutanza STS, and consultant for the City then presented on the latest status of the WSDOT SR 520 "Rest of the West" projects. She also summarized Kirkland's assessment of the three Service Concepts and how they would serve various markets that Kirkland residents might want to get to by transit. She also summarized staff's recommendations around how any potential transfer must perform in order for the City to support requiring people to transfer to get to Downtown Seattle. Finally, she presented a series of questions staff had regarding the service, as well as initial observations on what would best serve Kirkland.

Six of the seven Commissioners preferred the Option B Service Concept and one Commissioner slightly preferred the Option C Service Concept for Kirkland. Commissioners particularly liked the added connections between the South Kirkland Park and Ride, and South Lake Union; and all-day connections to UW. There were some caveats to their support. The Commission was in agreement that changes must be made to the transfer environment at the Montlake Hub before implementing any option that requires a significant increase in the number of transfers between bus and rail. It was also important to maintain good transfers at the Montlake Freeway Station. Also, there was concern about the movement of buses along SR 520 and Montlake Blvd and support for more capital investment, or at least flexibility on where people could get on and off the bus, in both Seattle and Kirkland in order to increase the reliability and convenience of transit. There was also support for staff's recommendation of how to define a convenient transfer. And concern by the Commission that transit riders who pay cash are penalized for having to pay for both legs of their trip. There was support for identifying a way to take more advantage of the ST 540 service, by it not simply providing redundant service to the 255. The Commission also was supportive of the Option A – Existing Service option for North Kirkland.

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Finn Hill Neighborhood Plan Connection Map

Joel Pfundt, Transportation Manager, presented on the policy support, draft map and draft list of potential new transportation connections on Finn Hill. This of connections will reviewed and commented on by the Transportation Commission, Planning Commission, Finn Hill Neighborhood and City Council. The final version will be incorporated into the Finn Hill Neighborhood Plan. Commissioners asked questions about particular connections and provided overall support for considering the proposed list of connections for inclusion in the neighborhood plan.

Updates from Commissioners/Staff

Staff reported on the following:

- Reported on schedule for completing on 6th Street Corridor Study
- Briefly described Regional Transportation System Initiative
- Reminder: No August meeting and November-December meeting will be on December 13.

Commissioners reported on the following:

- Dueker report asked for comments
- Discussed letters included in document Concern about SR 520 Restructure, Dow Constantine Concern, Railroad Ave and Kirkland Way Concern
- Dueker asked the status of the Kirkland Transit Implementation Plan
- Perlic requested that staff share a copy of the scope for the Kirkland Transit Implementation Plan
- Fiss asked for a briefing on how community can be involved in suggesting new project ideas and voicing concerns

Meeting adjourned unanimously approved to adjourn at approximately 8:50 PM.