

**Kirkland Transportation Commission
Meeting Notes
Wednesday, March 22, 2017**

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

Call to Order

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

Members Present:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kurt Ahrensfeld	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Dueker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grace Guerrero	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa McConnell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Neir	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Pendergrass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Perlic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Snow

Kirkland Staff Present: Kathy Brown, Joel Pfundt, Kari Page, Marius Eugenio, Stephen Padua – Public Works Department.

Others Present: Julie Paone & Tristan Cook, King County Metro; and Michael Couvrette & Juan Higuera, Sound Transit.

Review of past meeting notes

Notes from the February 25, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved.

Items from the Audience

None.

Link Connections: SR 520

Staff from King County Metro and Sound Transit provided a presentation on their project to evaluate changes to how bus transit that crosses Lake Washington on SR 520 is routed. Staff provided an overview of the project, along with project context and objectives. They also provided background information, other key considerations, and conclusions and next steps.

Staff also outlined the outreach and planning process. Phase one of outreach and planning process begins with rider input, and establishing a Sounding Board and Interagency Team (current phase). The second phase will be developing draft service concepts and the third phase will be presenting a draft proposal. The final recommendation will be approved by the Sound Transit Board and King County Council in the fall of 2017 or early 2018. The changes will be implemented in September 2018, at the earliest.

Comments from the Commission encouraged Sound Transit and Metro to look at how to best serve both the Eastside and Seattle markets using existing SR 520 transit service. There was a great deal of concern from the Commission on how reliable and convenient the connection between SR 520 and the UW station would be and the potential difficulty of transferring between buses and light rail, especially for people who do not do it routinely or have difficulties getting around. The Commission wanted to see a detailed comparison of the trade-offs between service concepts that require a transfer at UW Station and service concepts that provide a one-seat ride to downtown Seattle. The Commission also had a number of specific recommendations on how transit could be improved. There was also an emphasis on how transit could be improved to serve intra-Eastside trips as part of this project with more frequency and longer spans of service.

Walkable Kirkland

Kari Page, Senior Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator, and Marius Eugenio, Project Engineer, presented on the status of the Walkable Kirkland initiative. The initial part of the presentation described how projects are identified, evaluated and selected for the Neighborhood Safety Program, Crosswalk Improvements and School Walk Routes. The presentation then described the process by which the City responds to neighborhood safety requests, improves the uncontrolled crosswalks and completes missing school walk routes. It was also described that there is still much to do and that additional unfunded projects have been identified.

The Commission suggested specific approaches that could be implemented, such as moveable speed radar signs. There was also a desire for better data, such as more pedestrian count data, improving pedestrian crash reporting, using and improving Walkscore data, and monitoring walk to school rates to see if they are increasing. The Commission also recommended that walkways that use extruded curb should not be consider as a completed network segment.

Neighborhood Greenways

Stephen Padua, Transportation Planner, presented an introduction to the project to implement neighborhood greenways in Kirkland. This is an Action in the Transportation Master Plan. There is strong community support for making Kirkland more connected for people getting around by walking or biking. Neighborhood greenways are planned to eventually provide new nonmotorized connections throughout the City. This is done by making modifications to low volume, low speed streets with the strong support of the community. The first two greenways to be implemented will be through South Rose Hill and through North and South Rose Hill along 128th Ave NE. A technical task force has been established for the project and the Transportation Commission will be involved as the project moves forward through design. The goal is to construct both of these greenways in 2018.

The Commission was very interested in the process and wanted to find out more information about the task force.

Updates from Commissioners/Staff

Staff reported on the following:

- Kirkland Transit Implementation Plan status
- Chair Perlic, City staff and other commissioners recognized the many contributions to the Commission of both Tom Neir and Tom Pendergrass to the betterment of transportation in Kirkland as this was their last meeting as Commissioners.

Commissioners reported on the following:

- Dueker requested data about permits by year, by neighborhood and demolitions

Meeting adjourned unanimously approved to adjourn at approximately 8:58 PM.