

**Kirkland Transportation Commission
Meeting Notes
Wednesday, February 28, 2018**

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 approximately 6:00 PM.

Members Present:

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kurt Ahrensfield | <input type="checkbox"/> Ken Dueker | <input type="checkbox"/> Xander Fiss | <input type="checkbox"/> Grace Guerrero |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry Marpert | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa McConnell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Perlic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Snow |

Kirkland Staff Present: Joel Pfundt and Kathy Brown – Public Works Department. Dorian Collins – Planning Department.

Others Present: Barrett Hanson, Diana Giraldo, Evenlyn Pao and Carryn Vande Griend - WSDOT. Paul Cornish and Cynthia Padilla – Sound Transit. Jeanne Acutanza – Acutanza STS

Review of past meeting notes

Notes from the January 24, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

Items from the Audience

None.

I-405 Projects Update

Barrett Hanson, Diana Giraldo and Carryn Vande Griend, WSDOT, provided the Commission with a presentation regarding the I-405/NE 132nd St Interchange Project. They first provided an overall review of the I-405 Master Plan, as well as the many regional projects associated with I-405 that will be taking place in the Totem Lake area. These include the interchange, I-405 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) at NE 128th St, Kingsgate Park and Ride Expansion and transit oriented development (TOD). Next they presented specifics about the scope, schedule and budget for the interchange project and presented a proposed concept that consisted of replacing the two existing signals with two roundabouts. The team reviewed the multiple reasons why the roundabout solution is being proposed at the interchange.

The Commission provided a number of comments and questions. Specifically they encouraged the team to more fully explain how they arrived at the roundabout concept, including explaining what other design alternatives were evaluated and how they compared to the roundabout concept. The Commission voiced concerns about the existing traffic queues on NE 132nd St, the visual impacts of the large amount of retaining walls included in the project, pedestrian/bike circulation and crossings, having a sidewalk on one side of NE 132nd St under the overpass and how these roundabouts will function in an urban center environment. The Commission also emphasized the importance of street lighting for pedestrians and signage at roundabouts. The Commission expressed the need to be involved in these processes early on in order to make sure they can provide meaningful input to the process.

Paul Cornish and Cynthia Padilla, Sound Transit, then provided a brief overview of the I-405 and SR 522 BRT program, which will provide fast, frequent and reliable transit service in the corridor. This will be a new line of business for Sound Transit that is separate from the Regional Express buses and will meet BRT best practices. Sound Transit staff also summarized the progress so far around defining a new BRT station at NE 85th St. The Commission stated they were interested in being involved in this project as it moved forward and mentioned a few areas of particular focus, including wayfinding signage, providing areas for pick-up/drop-off of transit riders, managing construction impacts and connectivity to downtown Kirkland/NE 85th St corridor.

Totem Lake Transportation Study and Enhancement Plan

Joel Pfundt and Dorian Collins presented the findings of the Totem Lake Urban Center Enhancement and Multimodal Transportation Network Plan. They summarized the draft report that has been prepared, which includes an introduction; existing conditions and planned improvements; information gathering and analysis; recommendations; and prioritization and next steps. The study recommends wider and enhanced sidewalks for pedestrians, increasing separation from traffic for bicyclists, more pedestrian and bicycle connections, implementation of transit plans, new local street connections, unifying wayfinding features (particularly on the Circulator), and placemaking enhancements at key opportunity nodes. The report also includes street typologies for key streets in Totem Lake.

The Commission discussed crossings and the low quality of the pedestrian environment at the Athene apartments, creating seamless connections around Totem Lake, and the need for placemaking along NE 128th St. It was suggested that the Circulator could use a better name and that each corner of the Circulator could represent a different quadrant of Totem Lake. The Commission also supported the idea of a theme but was not sure that the Totem theme was appropriate.

2018-19 Work Plan

Joel Pfundt presented a summary of the comments provided the City Council at their February 20, 2018 Study Session to discuss the Commission’s Draft 2018-2019 Work Plan. The Commission discussed the comments. The Chair and Vice-Chair will meet with staff to review all of the comments and develop a recommendation for the Commission to consider in March.

Updates from Commissioners/Staff

Staff reported on the following:

- Downtown Pedestrian Access Study – Draft list of suggested projects is complete. Staff will provide the final report.
- SR 520 Transit Route Restructure – This process will be restarting in March-April timeframe. Service restructure will take place in September 2019.
- Proposed Nov-Dec Meeting Date – **Dec 5, 2018 (CONFIRMED WITH COMMISSION)**

Commissioners reported on the following:

- None.

Meeting adjourned unanimously approved to adjourn at approximately 9:00 PM.