

**Kirkland Transportation Commission
Meeting Notes
Wednesday, April 25, 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 6:05 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 type="checkbox"/> Xander Fiss | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry Marpert | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa McConnell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Perlic |

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

Others Present: Barrett Hanson, Diana Giraldo, Denise Ceiri - WSDOT. Cynthia Padilla – Sound Transit.

Review of past meeting notes

Notes from the March 28, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

Items from the Audience

None.

New Commissioner Welcome and Introduction

The Commission welcomed new Commissioners Faith DeBolt and Brayden Brackett to their first meeting.

I-405 Projects Update (NE 85th St Bus Rapid Transit Station and Interchange)

Commissioner Ahrensfeld began this topic by providing a summary of the April 2018 Design Charrette, which he attended along with Councilmembers Arnold, Asher and Pascal.

Cynthia Padilla from Sound Transit, and Barrett Hanson and Diana Giraldo from WSDOT presented the design concept for the I-405/NE 85th St Interchange and Inline Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Station. The presentation described and outlined the process that was undertaken to develop 24+ initial design concepts. These concepts were classified into six groups, which were described to the Commission. The presentation then provided a more detailed description and summarized the results of an evaluation of the two most promising concepts (Representative Concept (Modified) and Separated Transit Interchange Concept). The evaluation was based on six items of importance: transit connectivity, non-motorized mobility/connectivity, Kirkland vision, compatibility with Master Plans, traffic operations & I/C performance, and cost.

Commissioners were generally supportive of the Separated Transit Interchange Concept. They had questions about operations on the transit station/express toll lane direct access ramp level, and how the various modes would interact. It was important to the Commission that this level be comfortable for pedestrians and cyclists and prioritize transit operations. The Commission emphasized the importance of connecting the station to surrounding neighborhoods for walking and biking access, as well as ensuring that the project does not create new barriers for people walking and biking to and from the station. Of particular concern was the proposed roundabout at the NE 85th St and 114th Ave NE intersection. The Commission also suggested that without vehicle parking, loading zones for kiss-and-ride or transportation mobility companies (e.g. Uber, Lyft) are important to incorporate into the design. There were also questions about the operation on the bottom level of the interchange.

SR 520 Rest of the West

Denis Ceiri, WSDOT SR 520 Program Administrator, provided a briefing on the SR 520 Program. She provided an overview of the SR 520 program, including the recently completed West Approach Bridge North. She also provided an overview of the remaining three phases in the Rest of the West project (1- Montlake, 2 – Portage Bay and 3 – Montlake Cut Crossing), as well as a general timeline. The final part of the presentation was more detail on the phasing timeline, key project elements, and transit and vehicle operations during construction for the Montlake Phase. She then provided contact information on how to stay informed about the project (www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr520bridge, sr520bridge@wsdot.wa.gov, 206-770-3500).

The Commission asked primarily about how transit service would operate during and after construction of the Montlake Phase of the project. The Commission asked about providing a priority to bus transit accessing the UW Link Station from SR 520 but WSDOT staff indicated that there was no room to do so during construction. The Commission also emphasized the importance of providing transit lanes as part of the Montlake Cut Crossing phase. Ms. Ceiri said that this conversation will restart around the end of the year and she will make sure to include City of Kirkland. She also highlighted the creation of a HOV direct access ramp to the reversible express lanes as part of the Portage Bay Phase. It was suggested that 255 transit service might be split so that every other bus goes to the University of Washington.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update

Rod Steitzer, Capital Improvements Supervisor, presented to the Commission the draft 2018-2023 TIP. His presentation included a description of how the six-year TIP relates to the Capital Facilities Program and Capital Improvement Program. The six-year TIP is a state required document that must be adopted by the City Council each year after a public hearing. It is primarily used to ensure that the City is eligible grants and is consistent with previously adopted City documents. The presentation then summarized major changes to the TIP between 2017 and 2018. It also described the timeline and next steps.

The Commission made the observation that this information helps determine the city's status on maintain transportation concurrency and asked if this is being tracked. Staff responded that it is and said that the next month they will be back with more information. It was also suggested that acronyms be spelled out and explained.

Updates from Commissioners/Staff

Staff reported on the following:

- 2018-2019 Transportation Commission Work Plan – Approved April 17, 2018 Council meeting.
- Transportation Impact Fees and Concurrency – Will be an agenda item in May.
- 6th St Corridor Study – There is now a Webpage (http://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/Public_Works/Transportation_and_Traffic/6thStCS.htm).
- Totem Lake Transportation and Enhancement Plan – Reviewed by Planning Commission, Public Works/Parks/Human Services Committee and Planning and Economic Development Committee after Transportation Commission. Headed to Council for action on May 15, 2018.
- SR 520 Transit Route Restructure – Restarting process.
- Bike Share – Staff is preparing a right of way use permit for potential operators.
- Walk Friendly Communities – Kirkland was recognized recently as a bronze level community.

Commissioners reported on the following:

- Ahrensfield – APWA Management and Public Administration Committee event – 5/23/2017, 11:15AM -1:30 PM, Puget Sound Regional Council, 1011 Western Ave #500, Seattle WA 98104, [register](#).
- DeBolt – May is Bike Everywhere month. Kirkland is planning a series of events.
- Brackett – There is a need to complete sidewalk connections around Lake Washington High School. Existing sidewalks get too crowded and people end up walking in the street. Kirkland is planning on implementing Neighborhood Greenways on NE 75th St and 128th Ave NE.

Meeting adjourned unanimously approved to adjourn at approximately 8:45 PM.