

Kirkland Transportation Commission
Meeting Notes
Wednesday March 25, 2009

Call to Order

Jon Pascal called the meeting to order at 6:04. Members Present: Don Samdahl, Norm Storme, Sandeep Singhal, Roland White, and Dani Ferrigno. Kirkland Staff present: Dave Godfrey, Daryl Grigsby, Ray Steiger Public Works Department; Others present: Jim McElwee, Tom Neir, Mike Miller, Morgan Hopper.

Approval of Meeting Notes

Meeting notes from the February meeting were approved, moved by Storme, seconded by White.

Comments from the Public

Jim McElwee thanked the Commission for their work on the Active Transportation Plan. Chair Pascal invited each of the incoming Commissioners (Hopper, Miller and Neir) to briefly introduce themselves. The current Commissioners each introduced themselves as well.

Central Way improvements

Ray Steiger presented information about moving grant money from Totem Lake to an intersection widening project at 6th/Central. The Commission asked questions about the financial responsibilities of the Parkplace developer to improve the intersection and about how the intersection will operate. The Commission was interested in using the grant money to supplant other funds that the developer might be contributing to the project.

Update on Metro Service

David Hull of King County Metro presented. He reported on the system statistics (ridership, productivity etc) and the predicted financial shortfall in 2010. Hull described the process by which Metro will consider service cuts and the various factors that must be balanced to determine an optimal network with fewer service hours. These trade-offs include core network versus coverage, peak versus all day service, commitments to Transit Now versus existing service and others. In April and May, Metro will develop 3 scenarios and have public comment in June and August. The RTC will be expected to make a recommendation to the King County Council in September and service changes will be put in place in February 2010. The Commission asked to get regular updates on the process so that they can make a recommendation to council when appropriate.

Recognition of Norm Storme, Roland White and Dani Ferrigno

This being their last meeting, the accomplishments of Mr. Storme, Mr. White and Ms Ferrigno were celebrated by the Commission and staff.

Transportation Conversation

The Commission reviewed a draft document and commented on it. The Commission requested that a list of the topics be sent out to members along with questions that might be used to organize the topics. It was suggested that larger issues be identified –challenges, principles important items from the Comprehensive Plan, and that these be used to organize the separate topics.

Commission Work Plan

Commission reviewed the second draft of the work plan. It was suggested that follow up from the Active Transportation Plan and Metro service cuts and SR 520 eastside projects be added to the work plan.

Updates from Commissioners/Staff

Commissioners did not have any comments. Staff updated Commission on production of the Active Transportation Plan, BNSF right-of-way acquisition and the King County Ferry district.

Motion to Adjourn made by Samdahl, seconded by Singhal at 8:38. Approved unanimously.