



CITY OF KIRKLAND

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MEMORANDUM

To: Transportation Commission

From: Kim Scrivner, Transportation Planner – Public Works
Victoria Kovacs, Transportation Planner – Public Works
Julie Underwood, Director of Public Works

Date: July 26, 2023

Subject: TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE WORKSHOP

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Transportation Commission discuss and provide feedback on the update to the goals and policies in the Transportation Master Plan.

BACKGROUND:

Transportation Master Plan Update

The City of Kirkland is in the process of updating the Transportation Master Plan which is part of the larger [Comprehensive Plan Update](#) process. The Transportation Commission held two retreat workshops in their May and June meetings. At the May retreat, the Commission received an overview of the K2044 Comprehensive Plan update, a review of the Transportation (TMP) Master Plan elements and a preview of the Transportation and Land Use survey results. Previous meetings have included briefings of the public engagement process.

At the [May retreat](#), the Transportation Commission then offered feedback through an activity and discussion about the TMP guiding principles and through a review and discussion of the [goals and policies](#) in the TMP and how to update them. At the June retreat, Fred Young and Erin David of Parametrix provided a presentation on the proposed goal revisions to the Transportation Master Plan (TMP). Goals and Guiding Principles were discussed by Commissioners and referred back to staff and the consultant team for further development prior to the next Transportation Commission meeting. Both meetings were not recorded due to the retreat style format.

Guiding Principles

Guiding principles were used in the development of the [2015 TMP](#) to guide the goals and policies. For the 2024 TMP update, these guiding principles were revisited with the TMP update focus group and with the Transportation Commission. The original guiding

principles can be found in the [2015 TMP](#) on page 9 (vii). The updated guiding principles based on the focus group meetings and feedback from the Transportation Commission are below:

- **Create a More Equitable and Multimodal Transportation System for All Users:** Improve travel options that are inclusive for people of all ages and abilities while reducing reliance on single occupancy vehicle trips. This includes investing in safe and connected walking and bicycling infrastructure, connections to transit and activity centers, advocating for increased transit service that connects locally and regionally and encouragement programs that reduce trips and increases education about travel options. Support innovative transit services such as local shuttle services, ride share services and micro-mobility options through advocacy, supporting new innovative services and assessing curb space management policies.
- **Safety:** Ensure the safety of people using the transportation system, particularly those walking and bicycling who are the most vulnerable. This includes sidewalk connections and maintenance, providing more connected and protected bike lanes as well as separating people walking and bicycling from each other on pathways and trails, and assessing vehicle speeds. Ensure people who are aging in our community and people with disabilities have safe infrastructure to get around without encountering barriers or having to drive.
- **Sustainability** includes both sustainability of our environment and sustainability of our systems. Environmental benefits of walk/bike infrastructure and reducing the number of car trips are not just for personal health but support improved air quality, reduced greenhouse gases and reduced congestion. System sustainability involves ensuring proper maintenance of our transportation system such as ensuring we have budget and staff to properly repair sidewalks, sweep bike lanes, maintaining our trails and general roadway and pavement maintenance.
- **Innovation and Electrification:** With new technologies and innovative transportation solutions as well as more people are using electric bikes and electric vehicles, investment in infrastructure should support these uses with increased access to charging stations (for all vehicle types), increased awareness, and support for innovative services. This includes policy and regulations that regulate shared use environments between e-bikes and pedestrians, infrastructure for locking/storage, parking polices, etc.

These guiding principles are meant to start the conversation and the process for identifying what is important. The goals and policies should align with these guiding principles.

Goals and Policies Update

The proposal for updating the goals and policies is included in Attachment A. This outlines a proposal to condense the goals and rearrange and update the various policies to fit the updated structure. This proposal is based on the feedback from the May and June Transportation Commission discussions. More information will be provided about these proposed changes during the meeting.

NEXT STEPS:

Staff is seeking the Transportation Commission's final feedback on the goals and policy structure to bring this to Council for their study session in the fall. Staff then plans to return to the Transportation Commission in September to discuss other elements to the plan update and will host a joint meeting with the Planning Commission in October.

Attachments:

1. Attachment A: Goals and Policies Update Proposal
2. Attachment B: Plan Review of other Cities matrix