



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Public Works Department

123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3001

www.kirklandwa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Transportation Commission

From: Kim Scrivner, Transportation Planner – Public Works
Doug McIntyre, Transportation Manager – Public Works
Truc Dever, Director of Public Works

Date: July 24, 2024

Subject: Transportation Strategic Plan (TSP) and Transportation Element of K2044 Comprehensive Plan

RECOMMENDATION

The Transportation Commission should receive a report on Council's comments on the Transportation Element, provide feedback to staff on the new TSP draft sections and additional TSP proposed language for some of the narrative sections

BACKGROUND

The 20-year TSP is being updated in coordination with the K2044 Comprehensive Plan Update. While the TSP is a stand-alone plan, primary components are included in the Transportation Element of the K2044 Comprehensive Plan.

The Transportation Element, as amended based on the June Transportation Commission and Planning Commission public hearing, was shared with the City Council for their July 16, 2024 Study Session. Council's comments focused on:

- Concurrency projects, including the acknowledgement that implementation of these mitigation projects is not immediate, but are to support the growth assumed in the longer term 20-year planning horizon.
- A request for more information about concurrency requirements (state and local requirements) and staff will provide an information overview of concurrency to the Council in September.
- A request for changes to the federal functional classification map to reflect growth in volumes in certain areas of the City.
- Appreciation for the new modal system maps that were provided. Council liked that the maps identify the vision. Council acknowledged that staff will prepare similar maps for the pedestrian network for a future meeting.
- Ensuring Level of Service (LOS) standards are achievable within the 20-year transportation project list.

- Revising the Multimodal Level of Service (MMLOS) crosswalk policy to incorporate language for Policy R-33 and not reference a policy that can be administratively updated.
- A request to see projects overlayed with the transit corridors that are proposed to receive additional growth (and the project status associated with them).
- A request for more information on the 124th Avenue NE widening project (between NE 85th St and NE 90th St). Staff noted that it is a complete streets project that includes protected bike lanes, transit supportive elements, and serves a growth center. Staff also noted that the widened portion of the project is only five blocks and not the entire 124th Ave Corridor.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND LEVEL OF SERVICE

Monitoring TSP implementation is a core component to the Plan. This includes both measuring levels of service as required through GMA and also through monitoring trends such as safety and collision injury rates. The Commission has provided input on the updated performance measures in their April and June meetings. This informed the Level of Service table included in the amended Transportation Element shared with Council.

Council had several comments and questions about the level of service table in the Transportation Element, which is reflected in the performance measures matrix. Attachment A includes the draft performance and level of service measures, proposed changes based on Council comments and some reference to what the previous 2015 Transportation Master Plan measure was and how those were measured.

Staff will be seeking Transportation Commission comments to finalize recommendations to these measures for incorporation in the forthcoming Draft TSP.

NEW TSP SECTIONS

The TSP includes greater detail, context, and the full vision for the transportation system expanding beyond what is included in the Transportation Element.

In order to give the Transportation Commission a preview on the expanded plan, some additional narrative components are included in Attachments B for Transportation Commission review and feedback on the following topics:

- Transit Strategy
- Curb Management
- Neighborhood Greenways

More sections will be provided in the Draft TSP at the September 4th meeting.

FISCALLY CONSTRAINED PROJECT LIST - CONCURRENCY MITIGATION

At the May Transportation Commission meeting, staff identified that concurrency projects are still being refined and finalized through additional modeling analysis. Concurrency projects are required to mitigate concurrency failures (i.e. where operations dip below established thresholds) over the 20-year planning horizon. These projects are required and not subject to prioritization; they must be accounted for to demonstrate that the City will resolve transportation system deficiencies related to

growth through 2044. As the modeling analysis continued up until recently, the Commission has not yet had a chance to see these projects until now.

The fiscally constrained project list now includes the five concurrency projects that will be required to mitigate growth and development patterns outlined in the Land Use Element of the K2044 Comprehensive Plan (see Attachment C). Costs to recommended programs were modified to accommodate these additional mitigation projects. Council review the projects at their meeting on July 16th and did not direct any changes.

KEY QUESTIONS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The project team will be seeking feedback from the Transportation Commission on the following topics:

- Performance Measures
- Additional narrative sections for the TSP

SCHEDULE

- July 24th Transportation Commission
- September 4th Transportation Commission
- September TBD Council check-in on concurrency projects
- September 25th Transportation Commission Public Hearing and Commission Recommendation
- October TBD date - City Council review
- November TBD date – TSP Adoption
- December TBD date – Comprehensive Plan Adoption

NEXT STEPS

The Transportation Commission will continue to work with the project team to refine the TSP. The Transportation Commission is slated to hold a public hearing on the Draft TSP at the September 25th meeting.

The Transportation Element will be considered by the City Council in conjunction with the rest of the Comprehensive Plan in December 2024. Council is anticipated to take action on the TSP prior to the Comprehensive Plan.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: Draft Performance Measures and Level of Service
- Attachment B: TSP Section Narratives
- Attachment C: Draft Fiscally Constrained Project List