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MEMORANDUM

To: Transportation Commission

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

Date: September 4, 2024

Subject: Draft Transportation Strategic Plan (TSP)

RECOMMENDATION

The Transportation Commission should provide feedback on the Transportation Strategic Plan (TSP) Draft Plan in preparation for the September 25th Transportation Commission public hearing on the draft TSP.

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Commission has been working on the TSP with staff for over a year and a half and provided valuable feedback along the way. All input received from the Commission and community on the TSP has now been incorporated into a draft TSP (see Attachment A). The document is a critical element for how the City plans and invests in the transportation system. It covers a 20-year planning horizon and outlines the needed capital investments to support the envisioned land use to 2044, but also addresses new technologies, multimodal transportation, and so much more. It will guide staff work plans for years and position the City as a regional leader in transportation.

DRAFT TSP

The TSP is a detailed document that includes the essential components of the Comprehensive Plan's Transportation Element but with more context, analysis, and mapping. At the July 24, 2024 meeting, the Transportation Commission reviewed early drafts of several components that will be included in the TSP such as performance measures and narratives for curb management, neighborhood greenways, and the transit strategy. The comments received from Commissioners at that meeting have been applied to the text in the Draft TSP.

The Draft TSP caps off the nearly two-years of work with the Transportation Commission, during which goals and policies were developed, an updated 20-year project list was identified and prioritized, and existing conditions were updated.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND LEVEL OF SERVICE

Monitoring TSP implementation is a core component to the Plan. This includes measuring levels of service (via level of completion) as well as measures that help the City monitor implementation on achieving the TSP goals. The Commission provided input on the updated performance measures in the April, June, and July 2024 meetings.

One major theme in the feedback from the July 24th meeting was to include measures related to the quality of bicycle and pedestrian facilities (the conversation focused primarily on sidewalks) in addition to network completion. After discussion with City leadership, it has been determined that evaluating and measuring sidewalk quality is a level of effort above and beyond the capacity of existing staff and financial resources. The recommendation is to address this through a Legislative Request Memo (LRM) for the City Council's consideration as a future work plan item.

However, an additional measure was added to track all-ages and abilities bicycle facilities. The following table outlines the proposed level of completion as well as additional performance measures for the draft TSP (and notes recent changes).

Multimodal Level of Completion Measurements			
TSP Priority	Measurement	2044 Level of Completion	Council Edits from Transportation Element Draft
Walk: School walk routes	% of streets on school walk routes with sidewalks on at least one side.	100%	
Walk: Sidewalks on arterial streets and transit routes	% of arterial streets and all-day service transit routes with sidewalks or pedestrian walkways on at least one side of transit	100%	Clarified this is for all-day transit service routes and that pedestrian walkways, such as those on Juanita Drive, would count toward this measure (based on Council comment)
Walk: Crosswalks	% of crosswalk improvements complete that are identified in the TSP	50%	Removed reference to policy R-33 (based on Council comment)
Bicycle: On-street network	% of planned bicycle network complete as identified in the TSP (excluding greenways)	80%	
Bicycle: Greenway network	% of planned greenway network complete as identified in the TSP	25%	
Transit: Passenger environment	% of transit stops with lighting and shelters on frequent service routes	50%	
Auto: ITS	% of investment allocated to Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Capital Projects as identified in Table 4-1 in the Kirkland ITS Plan	100%	
Auto: Pavement Condition Index (PCI)	Citywide PCI.	PCI of 70	

Based on Commission feedback, there are additional performance measures to include in the TSP to monitor its implementation.

The regular evaluation of the City's progress toward meeting the goals outlined in the Plan is an important element of the implementing the TSP. In addition to the Multimodal Level of Completeness evaluation outlined above, the following additional performance measures will be evaluated every one or two years, depending on the measure.

These additional performance measures provide a more complete monitoring program for the City to continue to check-in on implementation of the TSP goals.

Additional Performance Measures			
TSP Goal	Performance Measure	Performance Measure Evaluation	Edits based on Transportation Commission comments
T-1: Safety	Annual totals of fatal, serious injury, and bicycle/pedestrian related crashes. Analysis of priority locations and leading contributing factors reported every two years with the Local Road Safety Plan.	Monitor trends. Summary level crash data will also be continuously available with a website dashboard dynamically connected to a police report database.	
T-2: Active Transportation	Annual totals of bicycle and pedestrian volume counts on the CKC	Monitor trends. Data collected by tube, infrared, and camera sensors and potentially crowdsourced data.	
	Percentage of all-ages and abilities network complete as identified in the TSP	Network completion summary	New measure based on TC's ask to evaluate quality of facility
T-3: Public Transportation	Annual total ridership numbers on all-day routes in Kirkland.	Monitor trends and/or link to Metro's ridership dashboard.	Removed service hours as that is better evaluated more comprehensively in the Transit Strategy (compared to other cities, by route, route changes, etc.). Too detailed for this report card.
T-4: Vehicle Network Management	Narrative summary of annual progress towards completing ITS Implementation Plan	Narrative	

T-5: Technology and Emerging Practices	Narrative summary of new technologies and the implementation of improvements that support future technologies such as Smart Cities Initiative, fiber optic connectivity, parking technologies, and other infrastructure upgrades	Narrative, reported every two years.	
T-6: Maintenance	Percentage of maintenance program and/or project funding in the capital improvement program	% of funding levels	Clarification that we're comparing the Capital program with capital dollars, not operations.
T-7: Equity	Narrative summary of CIP Equity Tool scores of completed projects.	Narrative	
T-8: Sustainability	Percentage of funds spend per transportation mode in the CIP Link to the Sustainability Strategic Plan monitoring of the 7 goals and 21 actions under Land Use and Transportation	% of funding levels, reported every two years Link	
T-9: Link to Land Use	Narrative summary of project updates that support land use goals (transit, centers, etc.). Grant updates included.	Narrative	
T-10: Partnerships	Narrative summary on Kirkland's partnerships if any for that year (K line example)	Narrative	

KEY QUESTIONS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The purpose of this meeting is to have a workshop on the Draft TSP so that staff can prepare a final draft for Commission consideration at the September 25th public hearing. The project team is seeking feedback from the Transportation Commission on the following topics:

- Performance Measures and Multimodal Level of Completion Measures
- Open discussion for feedback on the draft TSP, including:
 - Narrative sections
 - Mapping

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

- September 25th – Transportation Commission Public Hearing and Commission Recommendation
- October 1st – City Council Draft TSP Review
- November 6th – City Council Draft TSP Review
- November 19th – City Council TSP Adoption
- December 10th – Comprehensive Plan Adoption (Transportation Element)

NEXT STEPS

Staff will review and include Transportation Commission input on the draft TSP for inclusion in the final draft TSP for the September 25th public hearing. A recommendation from the Commission at the September 25th meeting will conclude the Commission's work on the TSP as it will go through a legislative review process with the City Council, leading to adoption at the end of the year.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: Draft Transportation Strategic Plan (TSP)