

DRAFT

Notes from the August 19 2019 Meeting of the Transit Orientated Development (TOD) Advisory Committee (Note that this Committee was formed by City Council Resolution #40303 and is subject to the Open Meetings Act)

Members present: Ryan Givens, Ben Ferguson, Cathy Reines, Imad BahBah, Josh Jorgensen, Janice McNeal, Rick Semple, David Daniello, Bedier, James Ceccanti, and Evette Mason

Visitors present: Jim Rich, Jim Jones, Kerri Hill, Tracy Wiegman, Alex Mather, Rosa McLeod, Austin Neilson, Sue Comis, Adam Cook, Stephen Childers, Rebecca Japhet, and Jori Atkins

City Staff Support: Pat Beard (Community & Economic Development), Dana Brown (Public Works), and Ian Munce (Planning & Development Services)

1. The meeting was called to order at 4pm in Room 243 of TMB by Councilman Robert Thoms. Those present, both members and visitors introduced themselves. It was noted that the Resolution forming the Committee and the Background Memorandum from staff to the Planning Commission on appointments, procedures, and tasks has been posted to the City web page for this project:
https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/committees_boards_commissions/transit_oriented_development_advisory_group
2. Councilmember Thoms explained that the Council adopted this resolution, to form a TOD Advisory Group to provide a multiparty venue for the discussion of the project details from the Tacoma Dome LINK Extension and the Bus Rapid Transit projects. The group would be somewhat comparable to the earlier Amtrak Station Citizen Advisory Committee that helped make recommendations about design considerations, routing, and how to leverage the transit to promote Transit Orientated Development (TOD) in

the Dome District. TOD Advisory Group meetings would be public and subject to the Open Meetings Act.

3. Councilmember Thoms then introduced State Representative Jake Fey, Transportation Committee Chair, who described the usefulness of having additional citizen input into the design of these major transit projects and how this input could help shape future transportation funding decisions.
4. City staff highlighted a comment that the City Council made recently in their comments to Sound Transit: “If we want transit-oriented development around these facilities then we must ensure we are building ‘development-oriented transit’ - the types of investments that don’t just connect places but help create urban places that people want to live.”
5. City staff then walked through a power point prepared by consulting firm VIA Architecture, a power point showing the TOD development potential in the Tacoma Dome area both under current zoning and under zoning changes that would allow more high-rise structures. This power point is posted to the City’s TOD Advisory Group web page.
6. City staff reported that an Urban Land Institute Technical Advisory Panel will be analyzing the Dome District opportunities in September. This work will be informed by the VIA analysis, by extensive stakeholder interviews, and site visits by Panel members.

The Committee then decided on the following next steps:

- The Committee will meet on the third Monday of each month from 4-6pm.
- Initially the meetings will be held in Room 248 of the Tacoma Municipal Building.
- The September 16 meeting of the Committee will have presentations from Sound Transit and Pierce Transit on their projects, followed by Committee discussion and work directed at identifying priorities and work plan items.