

CITY of TACOMA
TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE
MEETING SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: **April 10, 2024**

Members Present: Pamela Wrenn (Chair), Troy Serad, Jordan Rash, Ruben Casas (Alternate)

Visitors:

Agency Partners: Tina Lee (PT), Darin Stavish (PT)

Staff Support: Wesley Rhodes (COT/PDS), Carrie Wilhelme (COT/PW), Grayson Reim (COT/PW), Mary Crabtree (COT/PDS)

CALL TO ORDER

Pamela Wrenn called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

1. Review of Meeting Notes of March 13, 2024 and Revised Notes of February 14, 2024

Meeting Notes were approved.

2. Review of Public Comments


There were no public comments.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Discussion: Spokane Transit Authority and City of Spokane Debrief

The Group compared information shared by Spokane Transit Authority and the City of Spokane against the particulars of the City of Tacoma in relation to Pierce Transit and Sound Transit. Reuben Casas mentioned he was able to visit Spokane’s Central Hub and was very impressed by it. Chair Wrenn noted that some of the successes of Spokane may not be replicable in Tacoma. Troy Serad added that the presence of both Sound Transit and Pierce Transit adds complexity to the local transit context. The Group inquired about the attendance at the TOD Taskforce by Sound Transit and wanting to understand the interagency coordination between the City of Tacoma, Pierce County, WSDOT, Pierce Transit, and Sound Transit and expressed a desire for that coordination to be strong.

Additionally, the group discussed the proper order and coordination between improved transit service and density including the need to understand the level of transit indicated by the Home

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in Tacoma Environmental Impact Assessment to mitigate for the additional growth and density and what the next steps would be to create that level of service. Tina Lee from Pierce Transit offered information from their Transit Restoration Plan explaining some of the service they have resumed to pre-pandemic levels as well as the new Stream Community Line service while also acknowledging that funding and staffing remain a challenge to increasing levels of service. She also mentioned the new Destination 2045 that will be looking at how to increase service but will require sources of new revenue. Troy Serad questioned whether Sound Transit funds that Pierce County pays into could be used across the range of transit serving the County, including Pierce Transit, to best serve the City of Tacoma.

2. Current Transportation Policy in the Transportation Master Plan and Comprehensive Plan

Chair Wrenn discussed a methodology to conduct a Policy Audit of existing transit policy against the vision statement created by the TOD Taskforce. Carrie Wilhelme suggested that the consultants at Nelson/Nygaard can help the Taskforce as they work through the updates on the Transit Modal Element for the Transportation Master Plan. Additionally, there was robust discussion about how to best coordinate the City's likely increased VMT and necessary need for mode shift with the City's Land Use policies and Zoning.

Pierce Transit affirmed its willingness to share data as well as some of the information they plan to include in the updated Destination 2045 Plan.

COMMUNICATION ITEMS

1. Future Agenda Items

The group anticipates a workshop with Nelson/Nygaard regarding the Transit Modal Element for the Transportation Master Plan update at its May meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.