



TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Vancouver City Hall – Aspen Room – 415 W. Sixth Street
PO Box 1995 – Vancouver, Washington 98668-1995
www.cityofvancouver.us

Jeananne Edwards • Connor Godsil • Matt Herman • Alexander Hubert • Leah Jackson •
Mike Paine • Mario Raia • Eduardo Ramos • Derya Ruggles • Ken Williams

December 7, 2021

Time: 4:30 – 6:49 p.m.

Location: Convened telephonically, no in person attendance

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (00:20)

The December 7, 2021 meeting of the Transportation Mobility Commission was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by Chair Mike Paine.

Present: Chair Mike Paine, Jeananne Edwards, Connor Godsil, Matt Hermen, Alexander Hubert, Leah Jackson, Mario Raia, Eduardo Ramos, Derya Ruggles, Ken Williams

ACTION ITEMS

ADOPTION OF MINUTES (01:56)

Motion by Chair Paine, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, and carried unanimously to approve the November minutes.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Jeananne Edwards	Yes
Connor Godsil	Yes
Matt Hermen	Yes
Alexander Hubert	Absent
Leah Jackson	Yes
Mario Raia	Yes
Eduardo Ramos	Yes
Derya Ruggles	Yes
Ken Williams	Yes
Mike Paine	Yes

Commissioner Hubert joined the meeting at 4:36 pm.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS (03:25)

The three new Commissioners- Jeananne Edwards, Connor Godsil, and Alex Hubert- introduced themselves to the Commission and the public.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS (07:46)

Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Director of Community Development, reviewed the new meeting structure being implemented today, which includes a standard 6pm-6:30pm break and a time-certain Community Forum beginning at 6:30pm. The update also included information on City Council direction on how to prioritize investments using the funding the City received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The Council developed a framework for investment these funds, with a focus on generational investments in targeted areas that reflect the Council values of safety, equity, and climate action. Of the approximately \$40 million available, \$10 million will be dedicated to the Main Street corridor, from 45th Street to the water. This includes an investment in infrastructure on lower Main 15th and 5th Streets, as well as the future Highway 99 BRT corridor. This will be on the TMC's workplan in the 2023-24 biennium. The other \$30 million will be dedicated to the Fourth Plain corridor and will focus on building off of substantial planning and policy work already in place. Work in both corridors will include robust community involvement to identify and prioritize community-supported investments.

WORKSHOP ITEM (13:00)

Fourth Plain Safety and Mobility Project (Jennifer Campos, Principal Transportation Planner; Nadine Appenbrink, Deputy Project Manager, Parametrix)

Rebecca Kennedy introduced the item, noting that the scope of this project may change based on community feedback related to ARPA funding that will be directed to investments in the Fourth Plain Corridor.

Jennifer Campos noted this will be the first in series of presentations to the Commission on this project, with the first looking at the existing conditions of the corridor. The consultant team conducted an analysis of the operations of the intersections from Main Street to NE Andresen Road to support potential roadway changes that will be determined through the project process and implemented as part of planned resurfacing of the corridor in 2023.

Nadine Appenbrink is the Deputy Project Manager for the consulting firm Parametrix that is working on the project, and presented the project overview, schedule and milestones, and highlights from the traffic and safety analysis conducted thus far.

The bullets below summarize the Commissions discussion around the traffic and safety analysis:

- The timing of the traffic analysis and level of service along Fourth Plain. Staff noted the traffic analysis was conducted in Fall 2021. The analysis looked at traffic levels today and in 2041, which showed minimal change over time. Staff indicated that traffic levels changed significantly in 2021 due to the pandemic but returned to nearly pre-pandemic 2019 levels by the fall 2021.
- Operational changes on the SR 500 corridor that removed signals and restricted access and the effect on traffic levels on Fourth Plain Blvd. In response to questions about how traffic patterns have changed over time, staff indicated they will provide more detailed information on to the Commission at a future meeting.
- The Commission asked if level of service information for other modes of transportation, such as biking and pedestrians. Staff noted they did not currently have that data. With biking and pedestrian traffic, it's a qualitative analysis, looking at sidewalks, bike lanes, or protection or buffers for users, for example. Staff plan to look at the level of stress on this corridor in order to lower it for all mobilities. Staff will also provide information on collisions that involve bikes and pedestrians at a future meeting.

- Baseline of vehicle speed. Staff indicated that was a revision to this report and are in the process of looking at the typical speeds throughout the corridor. Staff will report that information back to the Commission.
- Definition of the grades for level of service. Staff noted it is technical thresholds and will be provided to the Commission as a follow up to this discussion in advance of the next workshop.

Staff continued the presentation, covering upcoming community engagement opportunities, the engagement goals, and equity in the engagement process.

The bullets below summarize the Commissions ideas for the community engagement process:

- Larger signs at bus stops, Clark College, and WSU.
- Boards at parks with QR codes that link to surveys.
- Partner with library branches.
- Scheduling multiple dates/times for people to participate in the events.

The bullets below summarize the Commissions remaining questions on the presentation:

- Leading causes of pedestrian accidents after right turns. Staff noted of the 20 crashes that were identified in the report, 12 of them did not list a contributing factor, and 4 listed "other". The remaining accidents listed "did not grant right of way to pedestrian", "distraction", or "under the influence of alcohol".
- Plans for place making along the corridor in the future. Staff noted the Fourth Plain Corridor Subarea Plan and the Fourth Plain Forward Action Plan identify placemaking improvements. This project is focused on the Fourth Plain Corridor, but information gathered in this process will be integrated into the investment packages for the community to review. The street is part of place making and impacts how people feel in a space.
- A schedule of events for Commissioners to participate in. Staff will share the event schedule when it is finalized.

WORKSHOP ITEM (01:05:43)

Transportation System Plan Outreach Update (Jennifer Campos, Principal Transportation Planner)

Jennifer Campos presented an update on Phase II of public outreach process for the Transportation System Plan. This phase of outreach/engagement will focus on policies, goals, performance measures, solutions, and project lists. This process will start in March 2022, but there could be adjustments to the schedule based on other projects. By July, staff plan to have a draft of the TSP goals, draft solutions, and feedback summary.

The Commission and staff discussed the following topics:

- Who is included in the Community Based Organizations? Staff noted they have been challenged in finding formal organizations to engage with but were able to talk with several groups and committees, including people the staff have worked with in the past. Staff are open to working with more organizations, groups, or individuals as suggested.
- Gift cards for participants from businesses along the Fourth Plain corridor. Staff agreed this was a good idea for the Fourth Plain Mobility project. With the TSP, staff chose Fred Meyer because they sell so many types of products. For past projects that were focused on a specific area, staff used gift cards from businesses in that area.

Staff presented the results of the Citywide Vulnerability Index, which has updated previous versions of the baseline data for the TSP Underserved Areas analysis and includes additional criteria that are now being used in the TSP and TIP processes. The new map will help staff to identify vulnerable areas and is consistent with the work that is happening citywide. This tool will be used to help City leadership, staff and community members understand how to prioritize and target future transportation investments and apply an equity lens given limited resources.

The Commission and staff discussed the following topics:

- The frequency of updating the data to develop this map. Staff noted it is based on census data and will be updated when 2020 data is available. Going forward, it will be updated every other year.

COMMUNITY FORUM (01:34:25)

Glen Yung, Vancouver resident, was present to comment on the Fourth Plain Safety and Mobility project. He recommended reading the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan and supported considering how changes to SR 500 have affected Fourth Plain. He was in support of including the businesses along the corridor in the outreach plan. He would like to see a pedestrian and bike crossing over the Burnt Bridge Creek to increase connectivity of the neighborhoods. He was in support of focusing on pedestrian and bike safety on Fourth Plain and crossing SR 500. He noted traffic speed and access on Fourth Plain would affect the businesses, and staff should continue to include the diverse businesses in the area throughout the project to mitigate those effects.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (01:40:50)

Motion by Chair Paine, seconded by Commissioner Ruggles, and carried unanimously to elect Eduardo Ramos to the Chair position.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Jeananne Edwards	Yes
Connor Godsil	Yes
Matt Hermen	Yes
Alexander Hubert	Yes
Leah Jackson	Yes
Mario Raia	Yes
Eduardo Ramos	Yes
Derya Ruggles	Yes
Ken Williams	Yes
Mike Paine	Yes

Motion by Chair Paine, seconded by Commissioner Williams, and carried unanimously to elect Mario Raia to the Vice Chair position.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Jeananne Edwards	Yes
Connor Godsil	Yes
Matt Hermen	Yes
Alexander Hubert	Yes

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Leah Jackson	Yes
Mario Raia	Yes
Eduardo Ramos	Yes
Derya Ruggles	Yes
Ken Williams	Yes
Mike Paine	Yes

COMMISSION COMMUNICATION

There were no communications shared by the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT 6:49 PM

Michael Paine, Chair

Meetings of the Transportation Mobility Commission are electronically recorded on audio. The audio tapes are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six years.



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