

# 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 · Alexander Hubert · Leah Jackson · Mike Paine · Mario Raia · Eduardo Ramos · Derya Ruggles · Ken Williams

# April 5, 2022

Time: 4:30 - 6:46 p.m.

Location: Convened telephonically, no in person attendance

### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (00:08)

The April 5, 2022 meeting of the Transportation Mobility Commission was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chair Eduardo Ramos.

Present: Chair Eduardo Ramos, Vice Chair Mario Raia, Commissioners Jeananne Edwards, Connor

Godsil, Alexander Hubert, Leah Jackson, Mike Paine, and Ken Williams

**Absent:** Derya Ruggles

**Motion** by Commissioner Williams, second by Commissioners Edwards, and carried unanimously to excuse the absence of Commissioner Ruggles

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES (03:03)**

Commissioner Williams requested a clarification to the March minutes during the TSP discussion about e-scooters. He clarified that on-demand commercial scooters have a short life span and are not reparable but stated that this does not apply to personal e-scooters.

**Motion** by Commissioner Edwards, seconded by Commissioner Paine, and carried unanimously to approve the March minutes with the amendment from Commissioner Williams.

# **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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

#### **STAFF COMMUNICATIONS (06:56)**

Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Director of Community Development, provided administrative updates to the Commission. The annual retreat is scheduled for May 21 at 9:00 am at City Hall. The newest Commission member, Corey Grandstaff, will join the first meeting in May. Commissioner Herman informed staff that he has resigned from the Commission due to an emerging conflict. Staff thanked him for his time and contributions to the Commission. Staff are targeting June for the beginning of hybrid in-person and virtual meetings. Lastly, Jennifer Campos has accepted another position with the Regional Transportation Council after 23 years with the City. Staff acknowledged the work and accomplishments that Jennifer has contributed to the community and thanked her for her time with the City and this Commission.

#### **WORKSHOP ITEM (16:19)**

Complete Streets Fourth Plain Safety and Mobility Study (Jennifer Campos, Principal Transportation Planner; Ryan Farncomb, Parametrix)

Rebecca Kennedy introduced the presenters for the workshop on the Fourth Plain Safety and Mobility Study. Jennifer Campos introduced the workshop.

Ryan Farncomb presented an overview of the project, how community input will be incorporated into the project, and definitions and examples of different types of lane reconfigurations. He provided an overview of the existing conditions analysis of the corridor, and several potential lane reconfiguration alternatives that the project team is currently exploring. He described the traffic results summary and the implications for alternatives that are under consideration.

The bullets below summarize the Commissions questions and staff responses to the presentation:

- The analysis focuses on automobiles, but improvements will affect people who bike or walk.
   Staff explained that concurrency standards require maintaining a certain level of traffic mobility, and that the project will need to meet those standards while also improving the safety and mobility of all other users.
- Analysis of large intersections after projects are completed. Staff responded there isn't typically
  an analysis done after projects are completed. It is possible to change striping, but that is not
  done very frequently.
- For comparison's sake, what is the busiest street in Vancouver with the three lane configuration. Staff responded a good example is Fourth Plain west of F street, which was previously converted from a four-lane section with two travel lanes in each direction to a three-lane section with one travel lane in each direction, a center turn lane, and bicycle lanes on each side.
- Impacts to BRT stations on the corridor. Staff responded the BRT stations will stay the same, but there are options for bus only lanes or bus and turn (BAT) lanes to improve transit travel times.

Staff continued the presentation, discussing new uses for lane space including transit and biking infrastructure, and possible corridor configurations for those uses.

The bullets below summarize the Commissions questions and staff responses to the presentation:

- Support for bike lanes on the corridor, given that it is one of the only relatively flat east-west routes through the City.
- Concern with sharing lanes for bus and biking. Staff agreed that typically works best in situations where the frequency of buses is less than 15 minutes. There are several options and various

tradeoffs to consider when determining what potential future configuration will best accommodate all users, including transit users and cyclists.

The presentation concluded with next steps, noting there are a lot of projects going on in the area right now and the project team will start to reach out to the public for their input on the corridor in the next month.

#### **WORKSHOP ITEM (1:11:09)**

Complete Streets SE 34<sup>th</sup> Street (Jennifer Campos, Principal Transportation Planner; Kara Hall, Fehr & Peers)

Jennifer Campos introduced the workshop and provided an update since the last workshop on this project.

Kara Hall presented an overview of the project, the project goals, design considerations, and a review of the corridors existing operations, safety, infrastructure, and potential impacts of lane reductions.

The bullets below summarize the Commissions questions and staff responses to the presentation:

- Pressure points to encourage people to use a mode of transportation other than a car. Staff
  responded there are a number of factors that play into that, including incentives and
  disincentives as well as the availability of other transportation options.
- If the modeling included an auxiliary lane for the back up from cars merging onto SR14 westbound from SE 164<sup>th</sup>. Staff indicated the model has focused on 34<sup>th</sup> Street and hasn't expanded to account for upstream or downstream impacts like what was described.

Staff continued the presentation, covering the findings of the analysis, the community engagement process, and next steps in the project.

The bullets below summarize the Commissions questions and staff responses to the presentation:

- Corridor is a critical link in the multi-modal network, and one of the few ways to get to Camas on bike.
- Consideration for two left turn lanes south to SR 14 at 164<sup>th</sup> and 192<sup>nd</sup>.

#### COMMUNITY FORUM (1:41:36)

Glen Yung was present to provide comments on the Fourth Plain project. The area includes some of the City's most marginalized and diverse communities and we owe special attention to this area. He shared his experience of bike commuting in Germany, where bike traffic was always separated from other traffic. This model should be considered for Fourth Plain. On outreach for this project, he expressed concerns for reaching the people that live in this neighborhood, and not just people from other areas who have the time to engage in the process.

Don Steinke was present to provide comments on the City's goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He was supportive of recent local and state programs to reduce overall emissions, including Clark Public Utilities recent decision to invest in smart meters. He was also supportive of housing density to improve transit.

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## **COMMISSION COMMUNICATION (1:52:30)**

Commissioner Hubert asked about electric vehicle charging stations in apartment complexes around the City. Staff responded the land use and building codes require new developments to have the infrastructure for charging stations but do not require them to install the chargers and encouraged those who are interested in the topic to engage in the Climate Action planning work that is being led out of the City Manager's Office. Subsequent to the meeting, the following link was distributed to the existing online engagement platform for the Climate Action Plan project: <a href="Vancouver Climate Strategy">Vancouver</a>

ADJOURNMENT 6:46 PM	
	Eduardo Ramos. 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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