

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

May 3, 2022

Time: 4:01 – 7:12 p.m.

Location: Convened telephonically, no in person attendance

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (00:13)

The May 3, 2022 meeting of the Transportation Mobility Commission was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Chair Eduardo Ramos.

Present: Chair Eduardo Ramos, Vice Chair Mario Raia, Commissioners Connor Godsil, Corey Grandstaff, Mike Paine, Derya Ruggles and Ken Williams

Absent: Jeananne Edwards, Alexander Hubert, and Leah Jackson

Motion by Commissioner Williams, second by Commissioners Ruggles, and carried unanimously to excuse the absences of Commissioners Edwards, Hubert, and Jackson.

ACTION ITEMS

ADOPTION OF MINUTES (02:48)

Motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Paine, and carried unanimously to approve the April minutes as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Connor Godsil | Yes |
| Corey Grandstaff | Abstain |
| Mike Paine | Yes |
| Derya Ruggles | Abstain |
| Ken Williams | Yes |
| Mario Raia | Yes |
| Eduardo Ramos | Yes |

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS (08:35)

Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Director of Community Development, introduced new Commissioner Corey Grandstaff. Commissioner Grandstaff is filling the TMC position reserved for an individual with a disability or mobility challenge. The TMC annual retreat is scheduled for May 21. Staff are planning for the first in person meeting of the Commission in June.

Transportation and Mobility Commission | Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2022

Page 2 of 5

WORKSHOP ITEM (12:00)

C-TRAN Annual System Plan Update (Taylor Eidt, Planning Project Manager, C-TRAN)

Rebecca Kennedy introduced the workshop on the C-TRAN Annual System Plan Update. C-TRAN is an important partner to the City, and both agencies work together closely to plan and provide transit services to the City.

Taylor Eidt presented an overview of the C-TRAN system and the types of services provided, including The Current, their new on-demand micro-transit service.

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

- The service area for The Current, including service to Portland and the airport. C-TRAN staff responded service for the Current is limited in Vancouver. There are fixed routes that cross the bridges to serve Portland destinations.
- How to book a ride on The Current. Staff responded there is information on the website under Routes. There is also an app, and information is available online at <https://book.ridethecurrent.com>.
- How long has The Current been in service? The Current launched weekday services on January 10, 2022 and expanded to weekend service on April 6, 2022.
- How many riders per day? C-TRAN staff responded ridership is steadily growing and in the range of 70 people per day, and will continue to grow with additional outreach and communications.
- Accessibility testing of the app for the Current. C-TRAN staff responded there were baseline requirements for accessibility with the app. They continue to work with the app developer to make the app more accessible and enhance the functionality.

Staff continued the presentation, covering the fixed-route service, transit planning, factors that impact transit, service standards, service performance management, and upcoming service changes.

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

- Process to evaluate services provided and potential changes. C-TRAN staff indicated they use several methods to determine what changes are needed, including industry-wide adopted standards and metrics. They also consider public input and outreach to those who will be affected by service changes.
- How route 105 has been affected by bus on shoulder. Staff explained the section of the route and conditions for when the bus can use the shoulder of I-5. There is dramatic time saving when the shoulder is in use. Traffic has not been as heavy as it was pre-pandemic, so it hasn't been used as frequently as initially expected. There are other routes that use the shoulder on I-205, and that has been used more frequently.
- Efforts to communicate regarding bus stops that have moved due to construction. Staff responded they are in the process of improving those communications, including translation of materials into additional languages. They are also working on more effectively using online tools to communicate those changes.

The presentation concluded with C-TRAN's current projects, including the Mill Plain Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line, Highway 99 BRT, the Fourth Plain BRT Extension, and the ways the City and C-TRAN coordinate to support high quality and reliable transit via the Transportation System Plan.

Transportation and Mobility Commission | Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2022

Page 3 of 5

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

- How C-TRAN communicates with riders who don't have mobile phones or access to the internet. Staff responded they are working to ensure construction crews have resources if someone were to ask for assistance. C-TRAN has a language access plan, which lays out how we connect with and inform populations that speak a language other than English.
- With the likely extension of light rail into Vancouver, are there anticipated changes to routes of BRT to cleanly intersect with the terminals. C-TRAN staff responded they are planning the BRT routes independently of light rail now, to ensure it's functioning for the community today. They are also considering the impacts of the Interstate Bridge Replacement Project and how to make changes to the system to connect with the transit service the bridge will bring over.

WORKSHOP ITEM (1:05:29)

2023-2024 Preliminary Pavement Program (Ryan Miles, Street Operations Program Manager)

Rebecca Kennedy introduced the workshop on the Pavement Program and opportunities for feedback on the planned projects.

Ryan Miles reviewed the topics that were brought up at the March TMC workshop, the 2022 pavement management project schedule, and pavement project opportunities.

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

- Use of diagonal pedestrian crosswalks. Staff responded they would look into this option, and it would be site specific. There are not any implemented yet in the City, and there is not yet a policy for this type of crossing, but the City is updating its pedestrian crossing policy as part of the TSP and will review this as an option to include.
- On Evergreen Boulevard, a center turn lane that services a low use parking lot and wondering if this is an opportunity to repurpose the space. Staff responded it depends on the location and what other use is planned. Staff can look at the area to assess and determine what might be the best use of the space.
- Traffic speed on Brandt between Mill Plain and Fourth Plain is high- what are the types of traffic calming to be implemented in this location? Staff responded that there is a process through the Neighborhood Traffic Calming program to address issues like this, including assessing the appropriate type of traffic calming for a given street location. On Brandt, the hill limits what can be added to the road.
- Noticed an increase in speeding in the last few years. Staff agreed there has been shifts in traffic and are planning to start including a monthly report on severe and fatal traffic collisions that occur in the City in the Commissions materials.
- Use of traffic cameras to issue citations. Staff responded that they believe these are only allowed in school zones in Washington State.

Staff continued the presentation, covering the 2023 preliminary pavement projects and 2024 preliminary pavement projects.

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

- When a street with speed cushions is resurfaced, do they need to be removed as part of the project? Staff responded it depends on the type of work. If it's just a resurfacing, they can

Transportation and Mobility Commission | Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2022

Page 4 of 5

typically be kept. If the asphalt is replaced, it would need to be removed to repave under the devices.

COMMUNITY FORUM

There were no members of the public present to provide comments.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEM (2:12:20)

2023-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (Chris Malone, Public Works Finance and Asset Manager)

Rebecca Kennedy introduced the hearing item and provided an overview of the hearing process. The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is updated annually, and workshops for this TIP started in November 2021.

Chris Malone presented background information on the Transportation Improvement Program that is updated for 2023 to 2028. There were several changes included in the annual TIP update this year, including updates to the categories for scoring, updates to scoring criteria to be consistent with the City's equity index map, updates to active transportation improvements, and the addition of a member from the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) to the project scoring committee. Additional public outreach was conducted, including an online dashboard to review projects, and requested feedback from stakeholder groups via the Be Heard website.

Commissioner Paine left the meeting.

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

- What type of feedback was received from the stakeholder groups and how that was incorporated into the TIP? Staff responded the feedback came through the Be Heard website, which does not require the respondent to identify an affiliation. Staff noted it has always been challenging to get feedback on the TIP document because it's a list of projects that may or may not be funded. Given all the other competing priorities for participation in City projects, they find that people generally find a greater connection with more specific projects. Staff acknowledged there is room for improvement to engage with the public and observed that public feedback is much greater during the design phase of a project that is in their neighborhood or an area that affects them more directly.

Public Testimony

- Glen Yung discussed the process of choosing projects in the TIP, would like to know more about the selection process, and argued for it to be citizen driven. He would like to see the projects that will be completed no matter what be taken out of the ranking process. Examples included new streets that will be built in new developments. He would like to see more on safety, specifically more information and data on accidents and include that information in the ranking. On public outreach, he suggested sending traffic plans to affected neighborhood associations who could provide valuable feedback. He also urged greater funding for Fourth Plain.

Transportation and Mobility Commission | Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2022

Page 5 of 5

Commission Deliberation/Discussion

- Commissioner Ruggles was supportive of advancing the TIP document to City Council and acknowledged the efforts of staff to respond to Commission and public feedback, as well as encouraged staff to continue to improve the public outreach process.
- Commissioner Williams agreed with Commissioner Ruggles statement and encouraged future versions of the TIP to be more readable and user friendly for the public to understand and engage with the process.
- Commissioner Raia noted the TIP was well researched and planned and covers several areas that need improvement. He appreciated efforts to secure grant funding to address clear community needs.
- Chair Ramos agreed with the statements and feedback of the Commission and encouraged staff engagement with all community members in Vancouver.

Motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Grandstaff to recommend to City Council to adopt the 2023-2028 Transportation Improvement Program as provided for in the staff report and attachments.


ROLL CALL VOTE:

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|------------------|-----|
| Connor Godsil | Yes |
| Corey Grandstaff | Yes |
| Derya Ruggles | Yes |
| Ken Williams | Yes |
| Mario Raia | Yes |
| Eduardo Ramos | Yes |

COMMISSION COMMUNICATION

There were no communications from the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT 6:46 PM

DocuSigned by:

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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.

To request other formats, please contact: Julie Nischik | 360-487-7813 | TTY: 360-487-8602 | Julie.Nischik@cityofvancouver.us