



**Jurisdiction:** City of Tacoma Planning Commission

**Date:** October 20, 2021

**Observer:** Jessica Trujillo

**Meeting called to order at:** information not provided on recording

**Present:** Anna Petersen (Chair), Christopher Karnes, Andrew Strobel, Ryan Givens, BrettSanthuff, Alyssa Torrez

**Absent:** Carolyn Edmonds (*it's difficult to tell from the recording because the present members aren't named. It is only indicated if there's a quorum and it's only possible to tell who is present if they speak.*)

**Others present:** Lihuang Wung, Kristin Lynett, Lauren Hoogkamer

**Approval of agenda.**

**There are no meeting minutes to approve.**

**PublicComments:** Comments on Discussion Items #1 and #2 are accepted and must be submitted by 12:00 noon on the meeting day; e-mail to [planning@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:planning@cityoftacoma.org).

**Disclosure of Contacts:** None

**Discussion Items:** Presentations

## 1. Climate Action Planning Update

**Description:** Review the draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plans and consider providing a letter of comments.

**Action:** Feedback; Approval of Letter

**Staff Contact:** Kristin Lynett ([Kristin.lynett@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:Kristin.lynett@cityoftacoma.org))

Kristin Lynett presented the plan. The city council declared a climate emergency about two years ago. Transportation is the number one source of emissions, before industrial emissions. The plan is going to city council study session on November 9. The tentative date for city council consideration is November 30. There will be state funding, through recent legislation, to support some of the work. There will likely be federal funding depending on the actions Congress takes.

Commissioner Karnes asked if, since a substantial portion of emissions are from transportation, there will be language to ensure that some of the projects might be

funded by the Tacoma Streets Initiative or the Transportation Benefits District.

Commissioner Santhuff had a question about whether Tacoma will adopt its own energy code like Seattle or consider amendments to the state energy code to meet targeted policies for the community.

Commissioner Givens indicated a need for the plan to specify more concrete actionable items.

Commissioner Petersen indicated that the plan's transportation goals are a source that can be cited in the findings of fact when making future recommendations on projects to council.

Kristin Lynett responded to questions: There is a specific action in the plan to develop a sustainable transportation funding package. Having local match money will be important to leverage state and federal funding. Even if Tacoma did not take independent action, there may be new state building codes in July 2023 that would ban most new fossil fuel use. With regard to detailed actionable items, they have received similar comments before and will try to add more detail and specific actions. Also, the appendix to the plan includes more detail.

The motion to forward the current draft of the letter with comments by commissioners to be added into the letter to be sent on the next morning passed unanimously.

## 2. **Neighborhood Planning Program**

**Description:** Review the concept, framework, and development status of the program.

**Action:** Feedback

**Staff Contact:** Lauren Hoogkamer (lhoogkamer@cityoftacoma.org)

Lauren Hoogkamer presented. The program was funded by the City Council in response to feedback from the commission and public to provide more equitable city services and to respond directly to citizen concerns. A neighborhood will be defined as the business district and surrounding residential community. This will be a shorter planning process compared to the regular comprehensive plan, focused on implementation within the calendar year. Objectives will be community based. The program has focused on outreach to community partners who may not always be part of the discussion. They plan to launch the website and social media in November and the goal is to seek City Council approval for projects in January 2022. The original budget request called out Proctor and McKinley Hill.

Commissioner Karnes asked about the budget per neighborhood.

Commissioner Givens volunteered to be a resource for this program and asked about the process for how a neighborhood gets prioritized for projects.

Commissioner Santhuff asked about the engagement strategies for collection of data or mapping and visioning with the community, mentioning UWT.

Commissioner Petersen asked if this will encompass all land in the city or just land that is a certain distance from business districts and about the criteria for calling something a business district.

Commissioner Torrez asked if the criteria includes information from the equity index, focusing on neighborhoods where that index is lower.

Lauren Hoogkamer responded to question: There isn't an implementation budget yet, but there is funding for consultant dollars. Criteria are being developed to look at the needs for each neighborhood. A neighborhood's readiness for projects and the energy going into projects already are considerations. They have been in contact with student groups at UWT and looking at online engagement and as many in person events as possible. They are involving the Mayor's Youth Commission and engaging school groups. Neighborhood boundaries will be defined by what is currently considered to be part of a neighborhood and a business district will include mixed use centers. Regarding equity, it is a strong factor in choosing neighborhoods to focus on. City Council chose McKinley Hill based on equity issues.

#### **Upcoming Meetings (Tentative Agendas)**

- (1) November 3, 2021 – Potential Cancellation
- (2) November 17, 2021 – 2022 Amendment Check-In, and Review of Other Projects
- (3) December 1, 2021 – Potential Cancellation
- (4) December 15, 2021 – Year-In-Review and 2022 Outlook, and Review of Other Projects

#### **Communication Items**

- (1) Debriefing of the Equity Pilot Training that was held on October 11, 2021
- (2) Sound Transit South Tacoma & Lakewood Station Access Improvements – Online Open House is available through October 26, 2021 at <https://soundersouth.participate.online>.
- (3) Status Reports by Commissioners – TOD Advisory Group, Housing Equity Taskforce.
- (4) IPS Agenda – The Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.; the agenda (tentative) includes: Brewery Blocks Place naming request, Electric Vehicle Action Plan updates, and the Home in Tacoma project. (Webinar Link: <http://www.zoom.us/j/86227234162>, Passcode: 614650)

**Meeting adjourned** at 6:26 pm