

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Transportation Advisory Board – Special Meeting

6:00 PM
 March 29, 2023

MINUTES

Tibbetts Manor
 750 17th Ave. NW, Issaquah

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Board members:

Cynthia Krass, Chair
 Julian Mydlil, Vice Chair
 Dave Waggoner
 Kristi Tripple
 Jeri Bernstein (remotely)
 Erika Boyd (*Excused Absence*)
 Micah Zeitz-Chua (*Excused Absence*)

Administration/Staff:

Emily Moon, Public Works Director
 John Mortenson, Senior Transportation
 Manager
 John Larson-Friend, Transportation Program
 Coordinator
 Thomas Valdriz, Senior Transportation
 Planner

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of February 22, 2023 were approved with no edits
- b) Minutes of Special Meeting on February 16, 2023 were approved with no edits

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were provided.

REGULAR BUSINESS

- a) **Transit Plan Update (I)**
Presented by:
Thomas Valdriz, Senior Transportation Planner

Thomas Valdriz provided an overview of the Transit Study public participation efforts, including an open house held on March 21st and an online survey and mapping exercise that is open through April 6th.

The Board expressed excitement about the survey and encouraged the City to continue offering surveys in other languages. The Board inquired about outreach to employers who have transit-dependent employees. Thomas stated that outreach will continue, despite encountering challenges in connecting with businesses.

The Board discussed Thomas's outreach to residents at the Senior Center. Thomas shared that one of the things he heard was that this audience was less interested in the possibility of light rail in the future and more interested in hearing what the City could do now, in the short-term, to enhance transit options. The Board learned about the Metro with Dave program at the Senior Center, which provides opportunities, via field trips and hands-on instruction, for seniors to learn how to ride Metro.

The Board discussed some of the feedback that was received at the Open House and remarked that local transit service options were of particular interest.

Thomas relayed that the next step in the Transit Study is to perform and report out on the gaps analysis. A presentation is scheduled for TAB in May. Ultimately, the project has a 2-year duration and will culminate as an update to the City's Mobility Master Plan (the Transportation Element of the City's Comprehensive Land Use Plan), which will wrap up in Spring 2024. The Transit Study will also help inform recommendations on the Transportation Improvement Plan and the Capital Improvement Plan, and programmatic improvements. Future studies and surveys will be conducted regarding light rail. In addition, an equity analysis will be performed. The Comp Plan Update is scheduled to be adopted in the fourth quarter of 2024.

The Board discussed the importance of and desire to provide members with training on the MMP, Comp Plan and other City strategies and plans. The Board also expressed that it would be helpful for Staff to reference these plans in memos and staff reports, so that connections can be easily seen.

b) Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Criteria (I)

Presented by:

Emily Moon, Public Works Director

Emily Moon reviewed the memo Deputy City Administrator Andrea Snyder had written, which summarized the input received from the Board Summit on February 16, 2023, and how City Administration had incorporated that feedback and feedback received from City Council into the rating criteria for the selection of capital projects.

The Board discussed the changes made to the criteria. Board members voiced support for the inclusion of a criterion about safety and liked the environmental benefit criteria but asked if there might be consideration in the future for the role/option of mitigation. Board members shared that they felt the memo did a good job addressing comments made at the Summit and why feedback was or was not incorporated. The board also shared that they hoped the input about "long standing" projects' would continue to be considered by City Council.

The Board will be asked in April to provide feedback on how well the criteria has been applied to the proposed projects and if projects have been proposed that address the goals of the Mobility Master Plan. The Board will not be asked to provide suggested projects or to review the projects proposed.

The Board discussed how to ensure members are ready for the discussion in April.

REPORTS

a) Board Work Plan

John Mortenson reviewed the work plan. June will include training for the Board. Staff will meet with new members to provide some orientation training after appointments have been made.

b) Staff Report

None

c) Chair Report

Chair Krass discussed the appointments schedule and the leadership nomination process. The Board discussed Chair Krass continuing in the role until elections can occur at the May meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

03-29-23 Transportation Advisory Board Minutes

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.