

DRAFT
CITY OF SHORELINE

SHORELINE PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

July 7, 2022
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present

Vice Chair Julius Rwamashongye
Commissioner Leslie Brinson
Commissioner Janelle Callahan
Commissioner Christopher Mosier

Commissioners Absent

Chair Pam Sager
Commissioner Andy Galuska
Commissioner Mei-shiou Lin

Staff Present

Rachel Markle, Planning Director
Nora Daley-Peng, Sr. Transportation Planner
Andrew Bauer, Planning Manager
Julie Ainsworth-Taylor, Assistant City Attorney
Carla Hoekzema, Planning Commission Clerk
Nytasha Walters, Transportation Services Mgr.
Kendra Breiland, Principal at Fehr & Peers

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Rwamashongye called the regular meeting of the Shoreline Planning Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Hoekzema called the roll.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of June 16, 2022 were accepted as presented.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathleen Russell, on behalf of the Save Shoreline Trees Advisory Board, expressed concerns about the ranking of “climate resiliency” from community feedback and where it ranks in the Transportation

Element/TMP Update. According to the community responses on page 6 of the staff report “climate resiliency” received 185 survey points, which qualifies it for position 3, yet in the Staff Draft Recommendation on page 9, “climate resiliency” drops to the bottom of the list. She requested that a footnote be provided confirming that the returned survey responses indicate that “climate resiliency” received a high score by Shoreline resident.

STUDY ITEM: TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT/TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE: DRAFT PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

Senior Transportation Planner Nora Daley-Peng presented on the draft project prioritization for the Transportation Element (TE)/Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Update. She introduced Nytasha Walters and Kendra Breiland, Principal of Fehr & Peers. Ms. Daley-Peng reviewed the project timeline and a summary of recent outreach efforts (Outreach Series 3). Outreach Series 3 was conducted between April 19 and May 16, 2022 to share what the City has heard from the community to date and to get feedback on the draft modal plans for walking, biking, taking transit, using shared use mobility hubs, and driving in the City. The team also asked for feedback on the draft prioritization metrics and performance measures. Overall, staff engaged with 427 people who took the survey. Ms. Daley-Peng reviewed efforts to engage underrepresented community members. While there was a wide range of opinions on the appropriate level of accommodation for each of the modes, most of the participants felt that the draft modal plans would provide the right amount of improvements for each mode. The survey participants responded to the importance of six goals and ranked them in the following order: safety (253), connectivity (205), climate resiliency (185), equity (157), multimodality (150), and community vibrancy (142).

Becoming an anti-racist community is a Council goal that requires taking actionable steps toward equitable outcomes. Over the past several years, the City has reoriented its efforts to seek equity and social justice in Shoreline. This emphasis is reflected in the approach to the TE/TMP updates. From the beginning of the process the focus has been on equity including how to move beyond the status quo and ensure that all people, especially those whose needs have been systemically neglected, are well served by the transportation investments identified in the TE/TMP updates. Ms. Daley-Peng reviewed a composite map of Equity Priority Areas showing where underserved communities live in Shoreline based on age, race, income, disability, and languages. The map shows where projects may be prioritized for equitable access for the people most in need.

Ms. Daley-Peng reviewed the draft project list creation and refinement process. There are over 175 projects identified which are categorized into project types: Intersections, Multimodal Corridor Projects, Unimproved Right-of-Way, Trail Along the Rail, Trail Connection, Bridge Project, and Shared-use Mobility Hubs. She reviewed a draft Project Prioritization Map that shows the location of the projects. The draft Prioritization List shows preliminary scoring results for each project. She explained how the projects were weighted using staff recommendations and input from the public related to the six goals of safety, connectivity, climate resiliency, multimodality, equity, and community vibrancy.

Next steps will involve getting estimates for project costs, refining the draft Project Priority List, preparing the Preliminary Draft of the TE Update, and returning to Planning Commission in August for an update and feedback.

Comments/Questions:

Commissioner Callahan commended the work done by staff. She asked what types of projects would be included in the unimproved right-of-way projects. Ms. Daley-Peng explained that these are often informal paths that connect streets and are used by the community as ways to get around. In some cases, they provide connectivity to schools and trails and an alternative to walking on busy streets. As part of the sidewalk prioritization plan development there is about 78 miles of planned sidewalk for the City of Shoreline. Some of those projects include improvements to unimproved right-of-way. The draft Pedestrian Plan brings it all together. The unimproved right-of-way was coded into two groups – those that have been associated with planned sidewalks and those that are not. Staff received quite a bit of feedback during Outreach Series 2 about people’s interest in improving unimproved right-of-way.

Commissioner Brinson asked for an overview of the top projects that are showing up at the top of the list. Ms. Daley-Peng discussed the project prioritization map and explained that part of staff’s analysis in developing the draft prioritization list was looking at modeling of the city’s future travel demand. This allowed them to identify where there are intersections and corridors that are going to require improvements to accommodate future growth. Some projects she highlighted as top projects were improvements to the intersection of 1st Avenue and 155th; the 185th corridor project which is a multi-modal corridor project; the 148th non-motorized bridge which will be a connector to the 148th Street light rail station; multiple sidewalk projects including the 20th Avenue sidewalk/street corridor project which connects to Saltwater Park; and a neighborhood-scaled shared use mobility hub.

Commissioner Callahan asked about the next step for the financial analysis. Will they be looking at grant opportunities? Ms. Daley-Peng replied they are developing very high-level cost estimates for the projects so they can get order of magnitude costs for each of the projects and align this with available funding. It will make sense to look at projects that have risen to the top in terms of need.

Vice Chair Rwamashongye thanked staff for the presentation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Planning Manager Bauer reported that the annual Planning Commission retreat is tentatively scheduled for August 4. Commissioners should inform staff of any specific topics or ideas they want to cover.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

4a. Draft Minutes from July 7, 2022

Staff reviewed the agenda for the next meeting which is scheduled for July 21, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Julius Rwamashongye
Vice Chair, Planning Commission

Carla Hoekzema
Clerk, Planning Commission

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