

City of Tigard



Transportation Advisory Committee [TTAC] MINUTES

Wednesday, January 6, 2010, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Tigard Library, 2nd Floor Conf. Room - 13500 SW Hall Blvd, Tigard, Oregon

Members Present (7)

Members Basil Christopher; Cam Gilmour; Christopher Warren; Dennis Mitchell; Jennifer Stanfield; Jeremy Vermilyea; and Joe Schweitz

Members Absent (1)

Anthony Rivano

Others Present (1)

Council liaison Gretchen Buehner

Staff present

Susan Hartnett, Assistant Community Development Director; Gus Duenas, Development Engineer; Toby LaFrance, Director of Finance; Michael McCarthy, Sr. Project Engineer; Doreen Laughlin, Sr. Administrative Specialist; Carissa Collins, Sr. Management Analyst; Darren Wyss, Sr. Planner; and Judith Gray, Sr. Transportation Planner

1. Welcome and Introductions

Susan Hartnett, Assistant Community Development Director, facilitated this meeting. She opened up the meeting by introducing the new Senior Transportation Planner, Judith Gray, who is the new staff liaison to this committee from this point forward. They went around the table and everyone introduced themselves and said a little bit about their backgrounds and why they were here.

The committee agreed that the synopsis/action minutes were accurate and approved them as submitted. Hartnett briefly went over the new Council goals. She mentioned that Council had formally ended the previous Transportation Task Force.

2. Update on Street Maintenance Fee

Sr. Project Engineer, Mike McCarthy, went over some of the specifics of the Street Maintenance Fee and described the events and resulting changes since the majority of the Transportation Financing Strategies Task Force recommended the initial increase last fall. He spoke about the cost per unit for residential and per minimum required parking space for non-residential units. He noted the increase will be implemented as a 3-part phase in – the first being January 1, the second April 1, and the third January 1st – including adjustments for inflation starting with the second phase. He said the increase wasn't as much as originally proposed as it ended up being a compromise. He went over some of the ramifications of the fee being lower; however, he said this compromise is intended to keep Tigard's pavement from getting worse.

3. Overview of 2011-16 CIP Process

Sr. Management Analyst, Carissa Collins, gave a "high level" general overview of the Capital Improvement Plan [CIP] process. She said the CIP team has taken all of the funded and unfunded projects and is in the process of re-ranking and re-evaluating them. She informed the group that the CIP team is made up of directors from Community Development, Public Works, and Finance. They will make the decisions as to what gets funded [recommended] in the CIP plan. She noted that they will take into account the way these projects interact with Council goals. It was noted this is a very robust set of criteria – ranking from 1 – 5 and that it's quite complete and extensive. It also takes into account what is considered to be important to the public. The financial forecast for the revenues is in the process of being done. Grants, funding, etc. are also put into the mix. It was noted that this year's CIP process will be a bit abbreviated due to the changes in reorganization. Collins said they will be working with the Neighborhood Network programs and will try to incorporate them into the CIP process; and that this is a whole new way of doing things. She said she believes people will like the final product and how it progresses through the year.

Collins said the TTAC and the Budget Committee will review the CIP at the same time. They anticipate a draft for these groups to review by the beginning of February. Hartnett noted the TTAC February meeting will devote quite a bit of time to the aspect of transportation financing. This group will be looked at to review the CIP from the community's point of view.

4. Overview of Tigard TSP Update Process to Date

Senior Planner, Darren Wyss, gave a general overview/update of the Tigard TSP. He went over the advantages of providing the community with an updated version. He said that the consultants are Kittelson & Associates, Inc. He went over their scope of work which included, among other things, a series of reports that will be condensed, reviewed, and eventually become the final presented plan.

The reports include:

- *Existing Conditions Report*;
- *Needs & Deficiencies Report*; and
- *The Transportation Systems Solutions Report*.

These reports, along with their findings, were condensed into an initial draft TSP document. This draft is currently being reviewed by the TSP Transportation Advisory Committee, the TSP Citizen Advisory Committee, and City Staff. The next formal opportunity for the community to comment will be January 27th from 6:30 – 8:30pm in the Library Community Room in the form of an open house.

The TTAC will be put on the “interested party” list so they will be included in any upcoming TSP communications. At the February meeting they will talk more about the specifics of the plan. There was some discussion as to the difference between the TTAC and the Planning Commission roles. Jeremy Vermilyea (Planning Commission liaison) said the PC had already weighed in on the projects.

5. Major Transportation Project Overviews (continued from December meeting)

Item # 8: “Burnham Street/Ash Avenue Improvement Project” was up on the agenda as where they left off the month before. Mike McCarthy had a map of Burnham Street and invited the committee members to look at it as he went over various aspects of the project. He noted most of the work already done had been done underground. The target completion date is June of 2011; the contractor says it may be sooner than that.

Item #9: “Main Street Green Street Retrofit Project” was up next. McCarthy noted they anticipate making the Downtown a nicer place. He spoke about there being plans for pedestrian amenities, stormwater planters, a “green street” – and spoke a bit about how to best use the space we have. He went over a few different options that would be open for consideration. They would also take into consideration the different groups using the space (i.e. cyclists, pedestrians, vehicles, businesses, etc.). He added there will be multiple opportunities for the TTAC to discuss this project in detail in the spring/summer time. They will definitely be looking to this group for input.

Item #10: “Hwy 217 Interchange Management Study.” Gus Duenas, Development Engineer, spoke about this project. First, he spoke about the actual long-term plan for Hwy 217 (widen to 6 lanes with interchange improvements, at a cost approaching \$1 billion dollars) and the fact that funding for this plan is not feasible at this time or in the foreseeable future. He spoke about this project being a technical study to identify a realistic project that can be constructed in the next few years. He spoke about funding (earmark & MTIP) and said that

various options had been looked at - mostly to reduce traffic conflict, in a relatively cheap, less invasive way.

Item #11: “High Capacity Transit.” Mike McCarthy went over the subject of High Capacity Transit (HCT). He spoke about the history of the idea and that this has been in the plans since the mid-80s; there were 55 corridors nominated, 20 - 25 were considered viable sometime within the next 20 years. Portland City Center to Sherwood (Barber/Hwy 99W Corridor) is considered the number one priority. The planning will start (relatively) shortly but it will actually be about 20 years before this comes into reality. Lots of planning will be going on – many thoughts on where (which way) it goes. There will be many future discussions as to how to get over (or through) the mountain – will there be access to OHSU – and other questions. McCarthy spoke of possible connections. There was some discussion as to whether it’s a commuter rail or a commerce rail. These and other questions will be looked at in the coming years. ODOT has said it won’t give up a travel lane. The City is supporting light rail as the HCT of choice.

Staff will try to keep the TTAC updated as time goes by. Any questions should go to staff and if necessary, could be placed on a future agenda.

6. Committee Leadership

Due to the lateness of the hour, this agenda item was pushed to the beginning of the next meeting.

7. Wrap Up and Next Meeting

Sean Farrelly, Downtown Project Manager, will be coming to speak about the Downtown Circulation Plan at the next meeting; however, Committee Leadership will be at the top of the list.

8. Adjournment

Hartnett adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.

The next TTAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3, at the Tigard Library 2nd Floor Conference Room, 13500 SW Hall Blvd. from 6:30pm – 8:30pm.