

Citizen's Transportation Advisory Committee
Meeting 6 - Summary
April 26, 2011

Welcome

Public Comment

- Deborah Jaquith – Sidewalks West Crown hill
 - Please support their request for sidewalks in West Crown Hill. It is a project that was evaluated by the BTG Levy Oversight last summer and included in the 2012 Endorsed City Budget.

Co-Chair Report

- Establish possible framework for \$20 VLF
- Review schedule for upcoming meetings and possible options
 - What, if anything, do we want to take to the voters?
 - We need to sort out the \$20 VLF before moving on to possible ballot measures
 - Clearer path forward may emerge from that discussion/decision
 - We may have enough transit information to make decisions before the TMP is complete and could move forward with something for the November ballot.
 - Right side of the decision agenda seems to be a logical way to proceed. How do we best proceed? What are our priority projects?
 - Needs assessment compared to the goals?
 - We need to hear from the public, lots of good information out of the last TMP meeting
- Prioritization of projects – the only thing we received were the options presented by SDOT at the last meeting. Is there another way, something more fine grained?
- Do we need to revisit the process? Our mission/mandate may be different than SDOT's.
- Not comfortable just giving SDOT money without a plan. Need to establish some boundaries/guidance (O&M)
 - The allocation of the VLF is less political as it doesn't go to the voters. A ballot measure is will be more political.

Transit Master Plan Update

- Phase I complete – Briefing book
- End of June will see priority investments for identified corridors
- Are we looking at, keeping open, the option to purchase additional service hours or are we just looking at capital investments?
- As the team reviews the 15 corridors are we also reviewing the downtown corridors just as quickly?
- Streetcar network – we are looking at what has been planned and taking it into account

- East/west connections – challenging, but being looked at as part of the process
- Rail – Mayor has noted that this is his preferred option in some corridors, how is this impacting the process and how does it relate?
 - Rail is one of the options being looked at for some corridors, everything is on the table. We are collecting data and will compile everything before making a recommendation. Mayor is deferring to the planning process
- By June, we will have cost estimates at the planning level for 15 corridors and more detailed information for 5 of those corridors (design standards and cost estimates)

CTAC 3 Survey Results

- Important to remember that this survey is one method for gathering information. It is a sample not in-depth
- When will cross tabs be complete and available?
 - Close to being done, putting them into a useable format
 - Also, clustering the information to see how the information relates – clustering is exploratory and in early stages of development
 - We are seeing lots of relationships in what was said, however, may not provide definitive answers
 - We will have neighborhood specific data as well
- Question about “Protecting the Environment” – was this an open ended question or a choice from a list? It was not open ended. Online survey should provide us with some additional information as responders can make comments
- Survey shows that folks are inclined to support BTG in 2015, but concerns expressed about voter tolerance and memories
- Focus groups will allow us to ask more pointed questions, test messages, and pull additional information out of folks

Advisory Board Recommendations

- Letters from Freight Board, Bike Board and Pedestrian Board
 - Freight – Jobs, better signage, need plan
 - Bike – updated list to master plan, new things have come up
 - Pedestrian –balance between new projects and maintenance of existing infrastructure, reference pedestrian Master Plan and use its recommendations

\$20 Vehicle License Fee Allocation

- Dot exercise – provides a starting point, place dot on the percentage amount for Maintenance you’d like to see allocated
- Results
 - 60% - as maintenance is completed, complement with complete streets projects

- 100% - maintenance needs are so huge, repairing road benefits everyone, \$6.8 million is not a lot of money for new projects without bonding (not in favor of that option), view this as step one. Fix it now, add exciting projects after
 - 25% - seems like needs are so great that this money would have no impact – be invisible, if handled correctly some very nice projects could be completed (neighborhood greenways), projects could have a direct impact on livability and future success – don't want to lose the opportunity
 - 30% - concerned about this money being supplanted with cuts to SODT's general fund contribution, need projects that make city wonderful (surprises), projects that inspire creativity, sparkle projects like McGraw Square
 - 50% - clearly a need for maintenance, need to establish a frame work for funding to address the needs of freight, bikes, pedestrians, and transit
 - 33% - need a balance between maintenance and new projects
 - 40% - need a balance, as the cost of gas continues to rise we need to invest in alternative transportation modes, people need options
 - 75% - such a small amount of money we can't dot the big stuff, we can keep up with what we have (new bike lanes aren't being restriped), let fix the problem before adding to it
 - 50% - build constituency around the VLF, dedicate a small amount of funding to each group
- A straw poll of the group indicated they were leaning toward eventually sending a recommendation to Council and the Mayor that they give something to the voters
 - VLF doesn't have to solve all the issues
 - Important to have a sparkle project
 - Are we going to define what we want in regard to maintenance? How do we get there from here?
 - What are core services? Potholes, signals, snow and ice, items that keep the system going from day to day
 - O&M bucket title change – preserving and maintaining our infrastructure as ID'd in the ordinance
 - Currently VLF is peanut buttered across the department, prefer big buckets that people can relate (no -encampment, yes -potholes)

Next Steps

- Schedule a sub-committee meeting prior to our next full committee meeting on May 12, use conference call if necessary
- Send draft recommendations out to all committee members in advance
- Show street film about neighborhood greenways

Next meeting: May 12, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m., Seattle Municipal Tower (SMT) Room 1610