



City of Tualatin

www.ci.tualatin.or.us

OFFICIAL

TUALATIN PLANNING COMMISSION -

**MINUTES OF November 15, 2012
Special meeting called to discuss
Transportation System Plan**

TPC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Riley
Jeff DeHaan
Nic Herriges
Cameron Grile
Steve Klingerman

STAFF PRESENT:

Aquilla Hurd-Ravich
Kaaren Hofmann
Lynette Sanford

TPAC MEMBER ABSENT: Bill Beers, Alan Aplin

GUESTS: Steve Titus, Kathy Newcomb, Martin & Ronaele Rupert, Jan Giunta, Sheri Richards, Heather Kibbey

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:**

Chair Riley called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm. Roll call was taken.

2. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (NOT ON THE AGENDA):**

Kathy Newcomb, 17515 SW Cheyenne Way, raised concern about the lack of diversity in the Tualatin Planning Commission. She has raised her concern with the City Attorney and will be sending in a complaint. Chair Mike Riley responded that the Commission members are not responsible for the selection process and this should be taken to the City Council.

3. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. TSP: Boones Ferry Road & 65th Avenue Refinement Areas

Kaaren Hofmann, Engineering Manager, presented a staff report and PowerPoint presentation regarding the TSP: Boones Ferry Road & 65th Avenue Refinement Areas. The staff recommends that the Planning Commission weigh in and provide a recommendation on these areas.

The Transportation Task Force was able to reach consensus for the Low Build Scenario at their November 1st meeting. TPARK reviewed and commented on these Refinement Areas at their last meeting. The TPARK & TPC recommendations will be forwarded,

These minutes are not verbatim. The meeting was recorded, and copies of the recording are retained for a period of one year from the date of the meeting and are available upon request.

along with the results of the Transportation Task Force discussion, to the City Council. The City Council will review and comment on these Refinement Areas at their November 26th meeting.

Ms. Hofmann discussed the slides from the PowerPoint presentation that included the Bicycle/Pedestrian Element, Transit Element, Major Corridors and Intersections, and Future Potential Improvements. This evening, they're looking for input on the Just Low Build scenario, 65th Avenue Extension, Boones Ferry Road Widening, and 65th Avenue AND Boones Ferry Road widening.

Ms. Hofmann went on to explain the Cost vs. Benefit Perspective slide:

65th Avenue Extension

- AM/PM peak vehicle hours traveled, 548 hours saved.
- Project cost - \$22 M
- Potential 20 year benefit - \$50.9M

Boones Ferry Rd Widening

- AM/PM peak vehicle hours traveled – 244 hours saved
- Project cost - \$17.8 M
- Potential 20 year benefit - \$22.7M

65th Ave-BFR Widening

- AM/PM peak vehicle hours traveled – 752 hours
- Project cost - \$39.8M
- Potential 20 year benefit - \$69.9M

The summary of operations and travel time findings are:

- Tualatin becomes very congested in the future
- Low Build does a fair job of mitigating intersection operations, but minor travel time changes
- 65th Avenue extension pulls traffic from Boones Ferry Road and enhances that travel time
- Boones Ferry Road widening helps enhance travel times, but creates some intersection issues in downtown
- Combination of 65th Avenue and Boones Ferry Road widening enhances travel times in North Tualatin, but has similar downtown intersection issues.

The Technical Team's recommendation was in addition to the Low Build Projects, they want to include Boones Ferry Road widening project from Martinazzi to Lower Boones Ferry Road, and to include the 65th Avenue extension as a refinement plan project.

The Task Force conclusions were a consensus with all projects in the Low build Scenario, but requested removal of the traffic calming on Tualatin Road. On 65th Avenue, seven members were in support, one member had reservations, and five members were in opposition. On the Boones Ferry Road expansion, eight members

were in support, two had reservations, and four members were in opposition.

The TPARK recommendation was consensus on the Low Build Scenario. They were opposed to the SW 65th Avenue except as a bike/pedestrian bridge, and they were opposed to Boones Ferry Road Widening.

The next steps in this process are:

- November 26, 2012 – Council deliberates on the scenarios to include
- December 28, 2012 – Notice provided to Metro & DLCD on TSP amendments
- January 8, 2013 – TPARK recommendation on the TSP & associated code amendments
- January 17, 2013 – Planning Commission recommendation on the TSP & associated code amendments
- February 11, 2013 – Council hearing on the TSP & associated code amendments.

Mr. Riley asked about the importance of widening Boones Ferry Road. Ms. Hofmann responded that it would draw additional people to downtown that would have gone 99W instead. Mr. Riley asked if someone would summarize what happened at the TPARK meeting. Ms. Giunta responded that she was in attendance. The TPARK members were concerned about the cost benefit of the 65th extension and thought that without the approval of Rivergrove, it shouldn't be included. Ms. Giunta also noted that they did not see the cost benefit of widening Boones Ferry Road. Ms. Newcomb noted that Rivergrove rejected the entire project 10 years ago.

Heather Kibbey, Mayor of Rivergrove, acknowledged that for many years she was a member of the Planning Commission and wanted to explain why Rivergrove is opposed to the bridge. Ms. Kibbey stated that the proposed bridge does not conform and is not in compliance with her ordinances. The Tualatin River flood plain goes across the whole city and there is no place for the bridge to be built in that vicinity. She also addressed the issue of massive congestion at McEwan and 65th. If a bridge was built, it would add 1200 cars during rush hour. Ms. Kibbey added that there are four homes that would have to be condemned if this bridge was built. Real estate law has changed so the property owner will have to disclose a proposed bridge and this would negatively affect the value of their property. Mr. Riley asked Ms. Kibbey if the houses in jeopardy are also on a flood plain. Ms. Kibbey responded that they were. Mr. Herriges asked Ms. Kibbey what the alternative locations are for a bicycle and pedestrian bridge. Ms. Kibbey responded that two of the locations were between Pilkington and 65th, but was unsure if it was possible due to the flood way. A brief discussion followed.

Sheri Richards, City Manager and City Recorder of Rivergrove, wanted to bring to the Commission's attention the commute times that are reduced and increased with the 65th extension. She did not see the benefit with spending millions of dollars building a bridge that did not result in significantly reduced commute times. She also mentioned the traffic light at McEwan and Boones Ferry is already congested and it may be overwhelmed with the additional traffic. Ms. Richards also mentioned that she has

received an overwhelming amount of letters and emails from citizens of Rivergrove, Lake Oswego, Tualatin, and the unincorporated areas who are in opposition to the bridge.

Mr. Klingerman asked about the increase in rail traffic in the future and if it will affect the traffic studies. Ms. Hofmann responded that the City has no control over freight traffic

Mr. DeHaan stated that he was strongly in favor of Scenario 5-Future “low build” with Boones Ferry Road widening as recommended by the Technical Team. He believes we need greater passage throughout the Tualatin area.

Ms. Giunta commented on the Boones Ferry Rd. widening and had some comments from the work groups. She mentioned the Task force had concerns about the negative impact on downtown. She also mentioned that when there’s an accident on I-5, the traffic empties into downtown.

Mr. Herriges stated he is in favor of the 65th Avenue extension project since there is no way to get from the East side of Tualatin to the North other than traveling on the freeway. He wishes there was a better area to build this as to not negatively impact neighborhoods and Rivergrove. Mr. Herriges completely support bike and pedestrian bridge at some point East of the freeway.

The Planning Commission members voted on the following scenarios:

Low Build alone:
All 5 in favor

65th Refinement Plan:
2 in favor, 3 opposed

Boones Ferry Widening –Low Build Scenario
All 5 in favor

Boones Ferry Road and 65th
2 in favor, 3 opposed

5. COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF:

None

6 FUTURE ACTION ITEMS:


None

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PLANNING COMMISSION COMMUNICATION

None

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY Riley SECONDED by DeHaan to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm MOTION PASSED 5-0.



_____ Lynette Sanford, Office Coordinator