



**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
October 19, 2020**

PRESENT: Aaron Pointer, President
Tim Reid, Clerk
Andrea Smith
Erik Hanberg
ABSENT Jessie K. Baines, Jr.

PLACE: Remote Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Reid at 5:30pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

May 18 3, 2020

It was moved and seconded to adopt the minutes as presented; approved unanimously.

2021/2022 CAPITAL PROGRAM

Debbie Terwilleger commented on the agenda items for the presentation including an overview of the CIP process, reviewing what has been done thus far, how equity is driving the next CIP, 2-year and 6-year CIP plans, and public art.

Erwin Vidallon then reviewed the overall process for developing the CIP and Budget through 2020. He noted several milestones in each month beginning back in January that allowed for budget planning, development of strategic priorities, financial planning in the spring, budget planning this past summer, continued budget development with community engagement and outreach this fall, and budget hearings and adoption planned for November and December. Mr. Vidallon reminded the Board of the specific budget timeline that began with staff and the Board in July; he noted touch points along the way with both the community and the Board as well as future opportunities through December.

Staff then reviewed several slides that outlined the 2014 Bond issuance model. Staff noted that of the \$158 M, \$40 M remains with homeowners paying \$166 per month (combined 2005/2014 bond). The Board was then reminded of the 2014 Bond spending classifications and categories that District committed to when the bond was passed. Staff then presented what has been spent in each category thus far: Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium \$61M, Regional Parks & Attractions \$96M, Neighborhood Parks, natural areas & recreation facilities \$50M.

Mary Stump was introduced and spoke about the capital activity in 2019-2020. He noted that during the biennium there were 48 active projects equating to \$21M in capital spending. Maps highlighting the areas of town where projects occurred was discussed.

The following projects were noted as being completed in 2019/20: Oak Tree Park Landscape • Titlow Park - TOA Demolition • PDZA Infrastructure • Kid Zone Improvements • Rocky Shores Elevator • Systems Filtration & Mechanical • Admin Bldg Renovation • NW Trek Eagle Exhibit • NW Trek Bear Viewing • Manitou Park Fence/Guardrail • Meadow Park Bldg Foundation Reconstruction • Waterwalk Restroom at Pt. Ruston • & Play Area Charlottes Blueberry Park Gardens • Seymour Conservatory Restrooms • TECH – District-Wide Metasys Control Systems • Major Maintenance • Peoples Ctr HVAC, Shops Roofs, Norpoint Lockers

Mr. Stump then commented on the projects still currently in progress as follows:
MPT Headquarters Facility Upgrades • First Creek Community Space (Play and Picnic Area) • Center at Norpoint Roof • Point Defiance Park Waterfront Phase 1 Signage

Mr. Stump also reviewed the projects in design as being:
Browns Point playfield improvements Point Defiance Park Sanitary Sewer Lift Station, Point Defiance Park Loop Trail and overlooks, Fort Nisqually Historic Structures Renovation, Foss Central (Melanie's Park) Meadow Park Golf Course Bridge, NW Trek Station, NW Trek Water Systems Improvements, Tacoma nature Center Building & ADA Improvements, Tacoma Public Schools Green Schoolyards Program, Portland Avenue Playfield (demo phase), Gas Station Park

Staff then listed projects now out for bid for construction as follows:
Point Defiance Park- Owen Beach Improvements • Point Defiance Park- Marina Renovations – Conservatory Rehabilitation • Dickman Mill Improvements- Historic Headsaw • Swan Creek Park Phase II Improvements

Debbie Terwilleger then commented on the 21/22 CIP Plan priorities, which include: Racial Equity, Access & Inclusion, Conservation, Partnerships, Engagement, and Health & Wellness. Ms. Terwilleger commented on additional adaptations being applied to the bond program to ensure an equity focus. She commented on the new tools available such as the city's equity index. She also noted the District's commitment to expanded outreach to underrepresented populations, more focus on MWBE outreach, and fine tuning the Districts' planning area configuration from 4 to 5 areas.

Staff then reviewed several maps using GIS layers to show where completed and planned projects are in Tacoma as they relate to the city's equity index.

After viewing graphs that highlighted areas of town where bond funding was being spent, staff and the Board engaged in conversation about equitable spending in the city and how COVID and economic hardships are affecting our populations in different ways and are thereby resulting in different needs. Staff commented that the most recent District survey is showing a demand for activities such as outdoor exercise for adults, walking/ trail amenities for all ages, and court lighting. Acknowledging the community's input and changing needs, and focus on equity, staff then commented that with all they are proposing that the 21/22 CIP program emphasis will be on the continuation for projects in progress, neighborhood & community parks in priority areas, critical infrastructure projects, planning projects and upcoming leveraged projects. This 2-year plan will include approximately 44 projects in progress, 39 new project scopes, with capital spending estimated at about \$48M (\$30M from the bond and \$18 from other sources). Maps showing the areas in town where these proposed projects would be occurring were presented.

Ms. Terwilleger commented that along with the 2- year CIP the District is also continuing work on the 6- year CIP direction (21-26). She commented on the many challenges and opportunities associated with that planning such as, finishing the 2014 bond project, changing community needs due to COVID, M & O demands, preparing to assimilate City of Tacoma park assets, and perhaps preparing for a new bond.

Staff then took an opportunity to comment on the public art plan priorities & focus for 21/22 including completing current projects, equity and diversity of location, artists & content, leveraging opportunities, and capacity building.

The Board then engaged in discussion about the need for the District to greater address equity in the capital plan.. Commissioner Hanberg commented he would like to see increasing equity by reallocating the spending plan . The staff and Board also had conversation about the 2014 bond project commitments as laid out in the 2014 bond brochures.

Commissioner Baines commented that he would like to see more basketball courts added and improved in the CIP moving forward. He noted that he'd also like to see a greater effort on creating a more equitable way to provide more equitable access to all parks and facilities. Commissioner Hanberg requested that staff bring the Board up to speed on the Ruston Way planning effort.

The Board requested additional time to have deeper conversation and less presentation at upcoming budget board meetings and COW meetings to discuss some of the issues raised by Board members this evening.

The presentation concluded with reminder to the Board of upcoming Budget meeting schedule.

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

President Reid requested this presentation and discussion be moved to the October 26th Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, President Reid adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

APPROVED:



President

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Clerk

Submitted by:

Jennifer Bowman, Secretary