



**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
JULY 18, 2022**

PRESENT: Andrea Smith, President  
Tim Reid  
Rosie Ayala  
Michael Liang

EXCUSED: Aaron Pointer, Clerk

IN THE CHAIR: Andrea Smith

PLACE: MPT Headquarters 4702 S. 19<sup>th</sup> St.

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

There was a motion to excuse Commissioner Pointer; seconded and passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

July 6, 2022 COW Minutes

Commissioner Reid moved adoption of the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Ayala and passed unanimously.

**COORDINATING THE DISTRICT-WIDE STRATEGIC PLANNING & GUIDING PRINCIPALS**

Debbie Russell began the discussion by outlining the areas of emphasis for tonight's conversation as: why MPT is unique, MPT strategic planning framework, opportunities for policy enhancements, and then general discussion.

Alisa O'Hanlon Regala, Strategic Planning Manger was then introduced. Ms. O'Hanlon Regala reminded the Board of why the District is unique as it is mission driven, community focused, responsive & engaged, CAPRA & AZA accredited, and offers a very diverse portfolio of programs, facilities and attractions. Staff highlighted the fact that MPT is also very unique amongst park agencies. Ms. O'Hanlon Regala cited that a 2022 NRPA Performance Report comparing 800 agencies reinforces that Metro Parks Tacoma has larger breath of facilities amongst its national peers. The following data points were highlighted:

- 98% operate and maintain park sites; 94% provide recreation programming and services

- 35.7% operate, maintain golf courses
- 32.3% operate, maintain indoor swim facilities/water parks
- 22.4% maintain or manage beaches
- 11% operate, maintain marinas
- 36.3% operate, maintain tourism attractions
- MPT has 2 accredited Zoos & Aquarium
- MPT has an accredited History Museum

The Board was then informed about how *One Tacoma*, the City's Comprehensive Plans meets the objectives as outlined in RCW 36.70A.070. Staff commented that it is essential that coordination with the City of Tacoma is not solely because of desire and good government practice, but there is State law that requires the relationship.

A chart showing the construct of the District's planning framework was shared with the Board. Staff noted that this was developed in 2018 and has 3 components, to be updated every 2 years. Ms. O'Hanlon Regala commented that COVID disrupted the scheduled updating of plans as the Mission Led Comprehensive Program Plan (MLCPP) expired June 2022. She also commented that RCO requires an updated plan every 6 years.

Staff commented that in an effort to update and consolidate the District is looking to revise the planning framework to create a MPT Comprehensive Master Plan that combines the 2018 Master Plan, the MLCPP, and the Level of Service Plan and their associated action plans into one document.

Several graphics depicting how MPT plans connect to City plans, State RCO plans, transportation and capital plans were then reviewed and briefly discussed.

Staff commented that a System Comprehensive Plan will include: a statement of vision/mission & values, where the District needs to be focused and how the Board verifies these items. The Board was informed that these items are then implemented through: a strategic plan, a MLCPP, a Level of Service Plan and a biennial budget. Ms. O'Hanlon Regala further commented that there will be upcoming policy topics that the Board will need to address as the System Comprehensive Plan is being developed including the following:

- Extension of MLCCP
- Growth & Development in Tacoma
- Community Issues/Priorities—(JMAC)
- Climate change/planning for resilience
- LOS—land/amenities
- 5th Planning Area, Boundary Adjustments
- Park Impact Fees
- MWBE Policies
- Land Acquisition / Real Properties

A proposed system planning schedule was then briefly discussed. Staff noted milestones between the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024 as this work is being completed.

Commissioner Laing commented that transparent plans that are accessible to the public help to hold the District accountable. He suggested progress reports of the activities set forth in these planning documents be made available to the public.

Commissioner Ayala commented that ongoing improvements and their processes must include equity in all that is done.

Commissioner Reid commented that he looks at the plans from a high level making sure what is being planned will always improve the quality of life for the citizens of Tacoma.

Commissioner Laing stated he is interested in how to close the gap of when & how community can participate and influence policy before the Board makes policy decisions and changes.

President Smith commented that she is curious to find out how the MLCPP might change as our community emerges from the pandemic and all the changes over the past few years.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, Commissioner Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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President

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Clerk

Submitted by:  
Jennifer Bowman, Secretary