



Item #6.

Staff Report 188A-19

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Eric Holmes, City Manager

DATE: 1/6/2020

SUBJECT Establishment of a Transportation and Mobility Commission

Key Points

- The City has experienced increasingly complex transportation projects and competing uses of the public right-of-way.
- There are no existing boards or commissions tasked with citywide transportation policy and implementation.
- During their 2019 policy setting retreat, City Council identified the need for establishing a transportation commission that would look at comprehensive transportation issues.
- Council held a public hearing on second reading of the ordinance on December 16, 2019, at which time a scriveners error was discovered. The item was returned to staff and a second reading and public hearing for the correct ordinance was set for January 6, 2020, at that time.

Strategic Plan Alignment

Goal 1: Ensure our built urban environment is one of the safest, most environmentally responsible and well maintained in the Pacific Northwest.

Goal 1, Objective 1.1: Develop and maintain a safe, balanced and innovative transportation system that will meet the needs of future generations.

Present Situation

The City of Vancouver is experiencing significant growth, which has led to increases in both the number and complexity of the transportation challenges it must address. Given competing demands for limited right-of-way space and the need to evolve the transportation system to more efficiently move people throughout the City, there is a need to develop a new citizen oversight function to advise staff and the City Council on transportation programs, policies and projects.

Within the City of Vancouver, there are no existing boards or commissions tasked with advising

City Council on transportation policy and implementation or providing guidance on citywide transportation issues. At their 2019 retreat, City Council directed the creation of a Transportation and Mobility Commission that would be responsible for making recommendations on transportation matters affecting the public right-of-way.

The proposed commission will utilize diverse representation and experience to provide advice to City Council, the City Manager and City staff on programs, policies, and large capital projects related to the public right-of-way. The Transportation and Mobility Commission will also provide ongoing feedback and guidance on the development of citywide transportation policy through the update to the Transportation System Plan that is currently underway.

Advantage(s)

The proposed Transportation and Mobility Commission will advise City Council, the City Manager, and staff on complex and technical transportation issues.

Disadvantage(s)

None.

Budget Impact

The Transportation and Mobility Commission will have a budget of \$10,000 per year to cover meeting costs, training activities, and capacity building.

Prior Council Review

- [March 1, 2019 Council retreat](#)
- Council workshop on [November 25, 2019](#)
- First reading of ordinance on [December 9, 2019](#)
- [December 16, 2019](#) ordinance presented and returned to staff due to a scriveners error.

Action Requested

On Monday, January 6, 2020, subject to second reading and public hearing, approve the ordinance.

Shannon Williams, Active Transportation Planner, 487-7898; Jennifer Campos, Principal Transportation Planner, 487-7728

ATTACHMENTS:

- Ordinance
- Presentation

12/09/19
01/06/20

ORDINANCE NO. M- 4290

AN ORDINANCE establishing a Transportation and Mobility Commission under Title 11 of the Vancouver Municipal Code; adding a new Chapter 11.75; and providing for severability and an effective date.

WHEREAS, the City is experiencing significant growth which has led to increasingly complex transportation projects and competing uses of the public right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes the need to balance competing demands for the public right-of-way and the need to evolve the transportation system to more efficiently move people throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, City Council has recognized a need to develop a Transportation and Mobility Commission, comprised of members of the community with diverse interests, experiences, and transportation needs, with the purpose of providing advice to City Council on transportation programs, policies and projects.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

Section 1. A new Chapter 11.75 is added to the Vancouver Municipal Code to read as follows:

Chapter 11.75

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY COMMISSION

Sections

- 11.75.010 Establishment and Purpose**
- 11.75.020 Representative Membership**
- 11.75.030 Authority and Responsibilities**
- 11.75.040 Meetings and Voting**

11.75.010 Establishment and Purpose

- A. ***Establishment.*** A Vancouver Transportation and Mobility Commission is hereby established, comprised of eleven (11) members in accordance with VMC 11.75.020.
- B. ***Purpose.*** The Transportation and Mobility Commission will advise and make recommendations to City Council and/or the City Manager as authorized under VMC 11.75.030 for the purpose of ensuring that transportation policy and projects adhere to the Transportation System Plan, the Vancouver Strategic Plan, and Vancouver's Complete Streets Policy. The Transportation and Mobility Commission shall provide informed decisions that are based on a review of information including competing transportation and mobility needs and concerns, with a goal toward developing a transportation system that is one of the safest, environmentally responsible, and well-maintained in the Pacific Northwest.

11.75.020 Representation and Membership Terms

A. ***Representation.***

- (1) The Transportation and Mobility Commission shall consist of eleven (11) volunteer members, who are residents of the City or Vancouver Urban Growth Area. No more than two members of the Transportation and Mobility Commission may represent the Urban Growth Area.
- (2) Membership representatives shall include the following:
 - a.
 - i. Youth – between the ages of sixteen and nineteen
 - ii. Person with a disability
 - iii. Person 65+ or older
 - iv. Member of an active neighborhood association
 - v. Person with expertise or experience with the movement of freight
 - vi. Person with expertise or experience in the transportation field, such as in transportation planning or engineering
 - vii. At large member

b. The remaining members shall use the listed mode of transportation as their primary mode of transportation:

- viii. Transit
- ix. Cycling
- x. Walking
- xi. Driving

(3) In selecting members for appointment to the Transportation and Mobility Commission, the mayor and City Council shall seek to encompass a diversity of perspectives concerning transportation and mobility interests, including geographic and socio-economic diversity.

B. ***Membership Terms.***

(1) ***Initial Board.*** When the Transportation and Mobility Commission is first established, the Mayor, with City Council approval, shall appoint members with terms as follows:

- (a) Four members shall serve a one-year term, which shall include the Youth Appointment;
- (b) Four members shall serve a two-year term; and
- (c) Three members shall serve a three-year term.

(2) ***Subsequent Appointments.*** All subsequent appointments shall be for three years, with the exception that the Youth Appointment shall serve for only one year. All members may serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms. If a Youth Appointment Member no longer qualifies for a Youth Appointment following the first term, he or she may apply as a non-Youth Appointment Member and may serve for an additional two consecutive terms (for a maximum of seven consecutive years). A member may reapply for appointment after not being on the Transportation and Mobility Commission for at least one year.

(3) ***Vacancies.*** Vacancies that occur before the expiration of a term will be filled for the remainder of the term.

(4) ***Member Removal.*** Members may be removed by the Mayor with the concurrence of City Council for any reason.

11.75.030 Authority and Responsibilities

A. ***Role of the Commission.*** The Transportation and Mobility Commission shall act in a policy advisory capacity to the City Council and/or the City Manager in order to support efforts to create and maintain a transportation system that enhances the economic, social and environmental quality of life in Vancouver now and into the future.

- B. ***Recommendations.*** The Transportation and Mobility Commission shall provide recommendations to City Council and/or the City Manager concerning:
- (1) Amendments to Title 11 of the Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC).
 - (2) The Transportation System Plan (TSP) and Amendments to the Complete Streets Policy.
 - (3) Updates to transportation programs, including but not limited to the following programs: the Six Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), sidewalk management, pavement management, transportation demand management, and transportation safety, accessibility, and mobility.
 - (4) Transportation projects in the public right-of-way that exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in estimated project costs, or projects of area-wide significance, even if the two million dollar threshold is not met.
 - (5) Other transportation-related matters as directed by City Council.
- C. ***Technical Advisory Groups.*** The Transportation and Mobility Commission may appoint technical advisory groups (TAGs) to which it may assign specific responsibilities. Such TAGs shall make no recommendations except to the Transportation and Mobility Commission as directed.
- D. ***Limitations on Responsibility.*** The Transportation and Mobility Commission is not responsible for traffic operations, street maintenance, or other activities where staff has received direction and authority from City Council.

11.75.040 Meetings and Voting

- A. ***Meetings.*** The Transportation and Mobility Commission will meet a minimum of four times per year, but may meet more frequently if needed.
- B. ***Voting.*** All actions of the Transportation and Mobility Commission shall be determined by a majority vote in a meeting at which a quorum is present. A majority of total appointed membership of the Transportation and Mobility Commission, excluding vacancies, shall constitute a quorum.
- C. ***Chair and Vice-chair.*** At the first meeting of the Transportation and Mobility Commission, and then in each December of every year thereafter, the Transportation and Mobility Commission shall appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair. The term of office for each officer shall run until the subsequent election; provided, that vacancies caused by resignation or removal shall be filled for the remaining term of office.

- D. **Bylaws.** The Transportation and Mobility Commission shall adopt bylaws that govern the transaction of its business at the first meeting of the Commission. The Transportation and Mobility Commission may thereafter amend the bylaws or repeal and replace the bylaws. The bylaws may contain any provisions for the regulation and management of the affairs of the Transportation and Mobility Commission not inconsistent with law or this Chapter. As necessary and appropriate, the City Council may amend the bylaws by ordinance.
- E. **Public Meetings.** All Transportation and Mobility Commission meetings will be conducted in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW. Written and audio records of Transportation and Mobility Commission meetings and actions shall be kept by City staff and be made public.

Section 2. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or part of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall be confined in its operation to the controversy in which it was rendered and shall not effect or invalidate the remainder of any parts thereof to any person or circumstances and to this end the provisions of each clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this law are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after final passage.

Read first time: December 9, 2019

Ayes: Councilmembers Paulsen, Lebowsky, Glover, Stober, Turlay, Hansen, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle

Nays: Councilmembers None

Absent: Councilmembers None

Read second time: January 6, 2020

PASSED by the following vote: 7-0

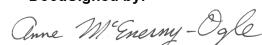
Ayes: Councilmembers Fox, Paulsen, Lebowsky, Glover, Stober, Hansen, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle

Nays: Councilmembers None

Absent: Councilmembers None

SIGNED this 6th day of January, 2020.

DocuSigned by:



58EB15C0692F403...
Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:



BCF6734E40E94AE...
Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

DocuSigned by:



9A7DC2E31F094A2...
Jonathan Young, City Attorney

SUMMARY

ORDINANCE NO. M-4290

AN ORDINANCE establishing a Transportation and Mobility Commission under Title 11 of the Vancouver Municipal Code; adding a new Chapter 11.75; and providing for severability and an effective date.

The full text of this ordinance will be mailed upon request. Contact Raelyn McJilton, Records Officer at 487-8711, or via www.cityofvancouver.us (Go to City Government and Public Records).

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City Attorney

City of Vancouver

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Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
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