



MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 7, 2023
TO: Transportation Commission
FROM: Amanda Mansfield, TDM Program Manager, 425-452-7917,
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SUBJECT: 2024 – 2033 TDM Plan Update Informational Memo

DIRECTION Requested

Action
 Discussion/Direction
 Information

In preparation for Transportation Commission study session presentations on April 11 and June 13, 2024, this memo provides the Commission with a reminder of previous Commission discussion, regarding the 2024-2033 Transportation Demand Management Plan Update and notes the steps staff will pursue in the coming months. No action is requested of the Commission at this time.

Relationship to Previous Commission Discussion

At the May 11 and June 8, 2023 Commission meetings, staff presented an overview of the TDM program and the existing 2015-2023 Bellevue TDM Plan; the TDM Plan’s relationship to the Comprehensive Plan, including mode share targets for commute trips; an outline of the 2024-2033 TDM Plan Update; the plan’s purpose; the timeline for its completion; and the process for its development, including prior and upcoming public outreach efforts.

TDM Program Definition

TDM is defined as activities that encourage people to choose and facilitate their choice to use transportation modes other than driving alone, such as transit, carpool, vanpool, walking, biking and telework. Through TDM, the city can reduce traffic strain on roadways and achieve greater efficiency in the transportation system. In Bellevue, as in other jurisdictions in this area, TDM is conducted through both regulation and encouragement.

Regulatory Components

Key regulatory components are Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) required through state law and city code and Transportation Management Programs required as a condition of development permitting for large buildings, primarily office. CTR requires larger employers (those with 100 or more employees) to offer commute trip reduction programs for their employees and to conduct mandatory measurement and reporting related to the program’s progress. Since the start of the CTR program in 1991, the drive-alone rate at CTR companies has decreased by nearly 19 percentage points. (This performance is for measurements taken pre-pandemic. When results of the 2022-2024 survey cycle become available from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), numbers will likely show an even greater reduction in drive-alone commuting.)

Non-Regulatory Components

Non-regulatory components of Bellevue TDM include marketing and promotion to individuals through the [Choose Your Way Bellevue](#) travel options brand and website, including a trip logging and rewards program. In addition, Choose Your Way Bellevue Business Services assists and encourages employers and property managers to provide commute programs for employees at their worksites. In 2022, Bellevue launched the Choose Your Way Bellevue mobile app, making the information and tools on the website more convenient. TransManage, a service of the Bellevue Downtown Association, provides professional services for trip reduction in support of these activities.

Purpose of the Update

The 2015-2023 Bellevue TDM Plan has reached the end of its intended plan period and is being updated in 2023 and 2024 for the next ten-year period of 2024 through 2033. The plan update, which was originally scheduled for completion in December 2023, is now slated for completion in June 2024 to allow time to develop mode share targets for the plan update period that are in keeping with the Comprehensive Plan.

The Bellevue TDM Plan is not a policy plan and therefore is not adopted by City Council. Rather, it is an administrative plan that guides TDM staff in working toward achieving Comprehensive Plan goals, policies and targets related to TDM. The TDM Plan Update will support the preferred land use scenario selected for the city's 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update, also currently under way.

Staff has sought and will be seeking Commission input and, ultimately, endorsement of the TDM Plan over several study sessions across 2023 and 2024. The TDM Plan will be shared with Council for information purposes following Commission endorsement.

Next Steps

In February and March 2024, staff will post a "public review draft" of the TDM Plan Update on the Engaging Bellevue website and via additional city outlets to solicit public feedback. Staff will post on the website key public comment themes and staff responses. Staff will also incorporate public input into the plan update where appropriate and document the public outreach effort for the Commission.

The Update is next scheduled to be brought before the Transportation Commission on April 11, 2024, at which time staff will present a final draft for review and comment. Staff will also bring to that meeting responses to the questions and comments that the Commission shared at the June 8, 2023 meeting.

Staff will revise the plan update based on Commission feedback provided at the April 11 study session. Staff will then, anticipated on June 13, 2024, present to the Commission a full final version of the plan update, including proposed drive-alone mode share performance targets (based on the city's Comprehensive Plan drive-alone mode share targets), and proposed implementation strategies. After this, TDM staff will submit the final TDM Plan Update to City Council as part of a Management Brief.

At a future point, TDM staff anticipate release of the U.S. Census's Census Transportation Planning Package (CTPP) downtown worker drive-alone mode share data for 2017-2021. Downtown worker drive-alone mode share is one of the three performance targets for both the 2015-2023 TDM Plan and the 2024-2033 plan update; but as of this writing, the most recent CTPP data are for 2012-2016. Upon its release, the new downtown worker data will be included in an Amendment to the TDM Plan Update.

The TDM Plan's other two performance targets are citywide resident and citywide worker drive-alone mode share. These data are scheduled for release by the Census Bureau by the end of 2023 for the period

2018-2022 and will be included in the version of the TDM Plan presented to the Commission for endorsement in 2024. As of this writing, initial indications are that the city has made good progress toward the targets in the 2015-2023 plan and will have met or nearly met all three targets.