



Bellevue Planning Commission

June 22, 2022

PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT

Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) to amend policies in the Transportation Element and Downtown Subarea Plan related to curb management. File No. 22-103136 AC

STAFF CONTACT(S)

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POLICY ISSUES

Transportation-related policies are proposed to be modified in support of the ongoing Curb Management Plan. This effort is identified as a 2022 Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) workplan.

DIRECTION NEEDED FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION

ACTION

DIRECTION

INFORMATION ONLY

Staff introduced draft policy concepts and information regarding the ongoing Curb Management Plan at the March 9th Planning Commission study session. At the June 22, 2022 study session, staff will review the Transportation Commission's policy recommendations for curb management.

Staff requests the Planning Commission to set a public hearing date of September 14 for the CPAs to the Transportation Element and Downtown Subarea Plan.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Under the Growth Management Act (GMA), the Bellevue City Code allows the Comprehensive Plan to be amended once a year through a two step process – Threshold Review and Final Review. City initiated amendments go directly to Final review. The amendments are reviewed by the Planning Commission and acted upon by the City Council through the Final Review process set forth in the Land Use Code at LUC 20.30I. Final Review evaluates the merits of proposed amendments included in the annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment work program. Final Review evaluation and decision includes staff review, a Planning Commission public hearing and recommendation by resolution, and City Council action by ordinance.

Curb Management Plan – Policy Approach

On November 15, 2021, the City Council approved a consultant contract and scope of work for the Curb Management Plan (CMP). This CMP effort seeks to establish more deliberate policies, practice, and guidance on how curb areas should be design, maintained, and operated over time.

On February 14, 2022, the City Council provided direction to initiate a 2022 Comprehensive Plan Amendment workplan in support of curb management.

The Transportation Commission has developed initial policies and transmitted recommendations to Planning Commission for consideration as part of the 2022 annual CPA process. The Transportation

Commission reviewed, discussed, and debated material regarding the 2022 CPA workplan during three study sessions between April and June. At the meeting on June 9, 2022, the Transportation Commission voted unanimously to approve policy recommendations that support curb management in Bellevue.

Transportation Commission Policy Recommendation

Existing policies in the Transportation Element and Downtown Subarea Plan provide some direction on Bellevue’s high-level approach to curb management. However, as discussed in previous meetings, existing management structures are insufficient to keep up with accelerating growth seen in Bellevue’s urban core neighborhoods. Policy amendments, as recommended by the Transportation Commission, provide clearer guidance to consider a variety of curb designs, demand allocation strategies, and tools to better respond to growth and new curb uses. Additionally, some policy amendments allude directly to the Curb Management Plan, with the intent to ensure that the plan is tied to policy and is actionable long-term.

During study sessions, the Transportation Commission juxtaposed historic curb management practices to existing policies. Additionally, the Transportation Commission made a determination to edit, repeal, or add policies as needed to create policy support for enhanced curb management approaches.

Specific policy recommendations from the Transportation Commission are in Table 1 below. Attachment A contains the policy recommendation “crosswalk”, including staff notes, commission discussion points, and rationale to add, repeal, or modify certain policies.

Table 1 – Transportation Commission Policy Recommendation

Policy	Transportation Commission Final Recommendation – June 9, 2022
TR-126	Provide flexible curbside space within public right-of-way to accommodate parcel delivery and passenger loading through development review and curb operation changes as designated in the Curb Management Plan.
TR-139	Add electric vehicle charging stations in designated curbside zones as required through development review.
S-DT-157.1	Create curbside zones for on-street parking as designated in the Curb Management Plan.
S-DT-157.2	Add on-street parking spaces in travel lanes for use during off-peak hours.
S-DT-157.6	Designate permanent or off-peak curbside queue areas for rideshare vehicles, taxis, and employer shuttles in strategic locations.
S-DT-157.3	<i>(Repeal policy)</i>
S-DT-157.4	<i>(Repeal policy)</i>
S-DT-157.5	<i>(Repeal policy)</i>
S-DT-157.7	<i>(Repeal policy)</i>
New-1	Designate curb uses, curb typologies, and modal priorities as outlined in the Curb Management Plan.
New-2	Implement a pay-for curb use program as recommended in the Curb Management Plan.
New-3	Identify and create regulated passenger loading zones for taxi and rideshare use, primarily within the Type 1 Performance Management Areas as defined in the Mobility Implementation Plan.
New-4	Promote the use of curb technology solutions that enhance safety and efficiency of the curbside environment.
New-5	Create mobility hubs in alignment with King County Planning Policy guidance.
New-6	Create designated curbside zones to allow for vendor and food truck activity as outlined in the Curb Management Plan.
New-7	Create activated curbside zones, such as on-street dining areas, parklets, and other placemaking solutions as outlined in the Curb Management Plan.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will incorporate Planning Commission direction into the staff report that will be prepared for the September 14 Final Review public hearing.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Policy Crosswalk Table