

City of
Bellevue



MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 8, 2015

TO: Bellevue City Council

FROM: Transportation Commission

SUBJECT: Recommendation to adopt the 2016-2027 Transportation Facilities Plan

Pursuant to Bellevue City Code Chapter 22.16, the Bellevue Transportation Commission is pleased to present to the City Council our proposed 2016-2027 Transportation Facilities Plan (TFP) and impact fee project list for your consideration. The TFP document lists the transportation improvements planned for the City of Bellevue over the next twelve years. The impact fee project list is a subset of roadway and intersection capacity projects included in the proposed TFP update.

Since last fall, in conjunction with the city's periodic TFP update process, we have been engaged with the public and Transportation Department staff in evaluating existing and candidate projects for inclusion in this year's TFP update. We presented our preliminary list of recommended 2016-2027 TFP projects to the Council on June 22, 2015. Our transmittal memorandum from that meeting is attached here and documents much of our detailed rationale for inclusion of the various project priorities.

Following the June discussion with the Council, staff conducted a programmatic environmental review to analyze the combination of land use growth anticipated by 2027 and the effectiveness of the transportation system (existing facilities plus projects in the proposed TFP) to accommodate the future needs. Having reviewed this analysis, we continue to recommend this list of 54 projects for the 2016-2027 TFP. In particular, we would like to call your attention to the following issues and observations associated with our update of the TFP:

- Forecast of transportation conditions shows all MMAs in compliance with their respective mobility targets for vehicular level-of-service in the 2027 horizon year for this plan.
- The new State transportation funding package approved in July will support several key projects in Bellevue that are identified in this TFP update. These include funding to advance the NE 6th Street Extension (TFP-211), the 124th Avenue NE SR 520 Added Access project (TFP-217), and the Mountains to Sound Greenway project (TFP-243).
- The 2016-2027 TFP project list includes 11 projects that we recommend for evaluation and prioritization via the new Pedestrian-Bicycle Implementation Initiative (PBII)

process. All 11 of these projects are carried over from the current 2013-2024 TFP and closely align with the Council-reviewed principles of the PBII. No specific funding allocations are currently identified for these projects; instead, the 2016-2027 project list includes a “Ped-Bike Implementation Reserve” line item which represents a recommended TFP revenue “set-aside” of \$22.5 million for future allocation to these Ped/Bike priorities, as may be determined through the PBII process and future Council action.

We do, however, recommend allocation of full funding for a project to install a sidewalk and bicycle facilities on SE 34th Street between 162nd Place SE and West Lake Sammamish Parkway (TFP-175). This project was previously included in the CIP, but was cut when the city capital budget became very constrained during the 2008 economic downturn. This project would address an important mobility and safety need and received very strong public support during this TFP update process.

We recommend the adoption of the proposed 2016-2027 Transportation Facilities Plan. We would be pleased to discuss our recommendations and/or any part of the 2016-2027 TFP update process in more detail at the City Council Study Session.

Attachment

1. Transportation Commission memo to City Council dated May 14, 2015 regarding 2016-2027 TFP Preliminary Project Priorities (attachments to this memo not included here).



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 14, 2015

TO: Bellevue City Council

FROM: Transportation Commission

SUBJECT: 2016-2027 Transportation Facilities Plan (TFP) Update

We are pleased to present to you our Preliminary 2016-2027 TFP Project recommendations. Since last fall, in conjunction with the city's periodic TFP update process, we have been engaged with the public and Transportation Department staff in evaluating existing and candidate projects for inclusion in this year's TFP update. A project list describing and map showing our preliminary TFP project and revenue allocation recommendations are attached for your consideration.

We recommend this Preliminary TFP Project List, which we approved on May 14th, for advancement to the next stages in the TFP update process, which include scoping and conducting the appropriate programmatic environmental review process and development of an updated Transportation Impact Fee Program Report. No formal Council action is requested at this time, but we wish to confirm that the Council is comfortable with carrying our recommended Preliminary 2016-2027 TFP Project List forward in the TFP update process. Later this year, following the environmental review, we will return with a formal recommendation to adopt the final 2016-2027 Transportation Facilities Plan.

Our development of the attached list of projects has included a thorough consideration of current transportation system needs as well as the localized and system-wide benefits provided by various candidate projects. We have refined and utilized a set of evaluation criteria to rank candidate projects based on needs and relative benefit in the categories of safety, vehicle level of service, transit service/facility enhancement, pedestrian & bicycle system improvement, and the potential for attracting outside grant funding. We solicited and considered public input at three TFP Open House events, via an online survey and interactive project map, and at numerous Transportation Commission meetings.

The 54 projects in our Preliminary 2016-2027 TFP Project List fall into four general categories, discussed below.

- **Projects fully funded in the adopted 2015-2021 Capital Investment Program (CIP).** Nine projects on the list are improvements which are fully funded for implementation in the current CIP. Examples include newly funded investments to construct Spring Boulevard Zone 1 - 116th to 120th Avenues NE (TFP-209) and Newport Way Non-Motorized

Improvements - Somerset Blvd to 150th Avenue SE (TFP-255). Six projects in this category qualify as transportation impact fee projects.

- **Priority projects not funded for full implementation in the 2015-2021 CIP.** There are 18 projects on our list recommended because they scored well according to our evaluation criteria, garnered significant public support, and/or have had significant prior investment in project development. Seven of these projects are included in the 2015-2021 CIP, funded for less than full implementation. Recommended funding allocations in the TFP vary from limited, placeholder funding to full funding for project implementation. Projects in this category include Spring Boulevard Zone 2 – 120th to 124th Avenues NE (TFP-259), the Bellevue College Connection (TFP-252), and a third phase of improvements to West Lake Sammamish Parkway (TFP-257). Four projects in this category qualify as transportation impact fee projects.
- **Projects to be implemented when feasible or as opportunities arise with private development or outside agencies.** There 16 projects in this category; all are carried over from the current 2013-2024 TFP. These projects fall into three subcategories:
 - **Downtown impact fee projects** – These six projects are primarily anticipated to be implemented in coordination with adjacent private developments. Projects include 110th Avenue NE between NE 6th and NE 8th Streets (TFP-110) and five intersection locations, including NE 8th Street/106th Avenue (TFP-219) and NE 8th Street/Bellevue Way NE (TFP-223).
 - **Other development coordination projects** – These six projects are recommended for continued inclusion in the TFP in order to facilitate the city's effective coordination with private development – primarily through the implementation of specific street frontage improvements. Examples include NE 2nd Street in Downtown – Bellevue Way to 112th Avenue NE (TFP-190) and 130th Avenue NE in Bel-Red – NE 20th Street to Bel-Red Road (TFP-218).
 - **Projects associated with freeway access** – There are four projects in this category, and each will likely need to be closely coordinated with the Washington State DOT. Examples include the NE 6th Street Extension (TFP-211) and the 124th Avenue NE SR 520 Added Access project (TFP-217).
- **Pedestrian-Bicycle Implementation Initiative (PBII) Reserve projects.** The list includes 11 projects that will be further evaluated and prioritized via the recently initiated PBII process. All carried over from the current 2013-2024 TFP, these projects closely align with the Council-reviewed principles of the PBII. No specific funding allocations are currently identified for these projects; rather, we recommend the prioritization and funding allocations be addressed through the ongoing PBII process. The project list includes a line item “Ped-Bike Implementation Reserve” which represents a recommended TFP revenue “set-aside” for future allocation to these Ped/Bike priorities.

For the purposes of developing the preliminary TFP project allocations, the Commission assumed the forecast of available transportation revenue to include the general and dedicated CIP revenue sources, including impact fees, in the adopted 2015-2021 CIP extended through the out years of the TFP period, 2022-2027. We also assumed a reasonable stream of future state and federal grant awards to supplement local funding sources.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide you with these recommendations. If you have questions about our recommendation or the TFP update process in general, please contact Scott Lampe, Transportation Commission Chair or Eric Miller, Capital Programming Manager, at 425-452-6146 or emiller@bellevuewa.gov.

Attachment A – Preliminary 2016-2027 Transportation Facilities Plan Project list

Attachment B – Preliminary 2016-2027 Transportation Facilities Plan Project map