



# Transportation & Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2022  
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM  
\*\* Hybrid Meeting \*\*

Members:	Present:	Absent:	Commence: 4:35 PM Adjourn: 5:37 PM
Peter Kwon, Chair	X		
Jake Simpson	X		
Takele Gobena	X		

Other Councilmembers participating:

Staff Coordinators: Will Appleton, Public Works Director; Florendo Cabudol, City Engineer

Other Staff Participating: Gwen Voelpel, Deputy City Manager

Public Comment	No Public Comment was submitted
1. Approve Prior Meeting's Minutes	June 16th minutes were approved
2. Memorial Markers in the Right of Way	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Public Works Director Will Appleton presented the discussion topic of memorial markers in the Right of Way.</p> <p>Staff is bringing the topic forward for discussion due to a recent pedestrian vehicle fatality, and community interest in placing some type of marker near the scene of the accident as a memorial.</p> <p>Staff is asking for a program (if Council is agreeable) that is implementable, consistent, addresses costs and maintenance; considers city funding and whether it benefits the public or places the burden on loved ones who want the memorial to fund.</p> <p>A program used by WSDOT was presented as an example that allows signage that has a safety message (like Don't</p>

Drink and Drive; with a marker In Memory Of beneath it). Costs are born by the requesting party.

Discussion ensued. Topics raised included: City Council considered this topic a few years ago when Council Member Ahmed was killed due to a vehicle accident in the city.

Committee members are favorable toward some type of program, that considers costs, a time limit for the memorial so that they are not there for too many years (maybe 5 years?); consider how many markers can be placed in a particular area at one time.

Concern was raised about too many signs in specific areas where multiple accidents have occurred and what that would say to the traveling public about our safety record. Instead, the Committee member felt identifying dangerous areas and planning imminent improvements was a better way to encourage the public. Projects underway that were noted were improvements being implemented at the areas of highest accidents, such as 2022 Overlays at South 188<sup>th</sup> near the Airport Tunnel where several fatalities have occurred. Also improvements currently being planned at the hair pin turn location, due to ongoing safety concerns. Also, the recently completed Military Road South and South 152<sup>nd</sup> Improvements that include a mid-block enhanced cross walk was noted.

Staff noted that the location of the most recent fatality near S 182<sup>nd</sup> and International Blvd, that an improvement has been made to the pedestrian crossing interval; several streetlights have been repaired that were reported out. The location meets the federal standard for the length of the crosswalk. One more streetlight is waiting for parts to be repaired.

A comment about memorial markers being offered through the Adopt A Street program, whereby loved ones could adopt a street with a free sign stating "In Memory Of." Committee members felt that this was one acceptable idea, but that not all grieving loved ones would want to Adopt a Street to remember their loved one.

A question was asked about how many fatalities have occurred in the city. City Engineer Florendo Cabudol looked up a few statistics for the Committee. Between 2015 and 2018, 136 vehicle/pedestrian collisions were reported, 65% of them along the International Blvd. corridor. These were collisions, not fatalities.

A question was raised about Pedestrian overpasses being installed along International Blvd. The city recently studied this possibility as a part of the International Blvd Safety Study.

	<p>It was concluded that the overpasses were essentially not feasible due to extreme costs and the need to purchase right of way from businesses. One location that might make sense for an ped overpass in the future, is over IB at the Tukwila Light Rail Station..</p> <p>To conclude the discussion at this meeting, Committee asked staff to research the following issues:</p> <p>How may fatalities over the last 10-20 years  What other cities are doing about memorial markers – what went well; what did not  Consider a pilot program to start with  What costs to consider; what cost to pass on to requester  What time limit to post a sign or marker  How may signs or marker in one area  What type of creative design to use for these markers  How do avoid sign fatigue?</p> <p>Staff will research the above items and return at a future T&amp;PW Meeting to bring forward the results.</p> <p>:</p>
<p>3. Public Works Department Update</p>	<p>A short Public Works update was given by Public Works Director Will Appleton.</p> <p>34<sup>th</sup> Ave South project is proceeding nicely. We anticipate substantial completion in November 2022.</p> <p>Lake to Sound Trail construction is underway.</p> <p>Next weekend – 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> – International Blvd at South 208<sup>th</sup> will be restored its original configuration, and the curved bypass road will be removed.</p> <p>The SeaTac Scrub down Event went well on the July 9<sup>th</sup>; it was a good community builder. The event is being planned again for next year.</p> <p>WSDOT land acquisition at the Des Moines Creek Park Trailhead has been finalized. Parks Department has selected an architect for the trailhead entrance expansion, and has reached 30% design choices. Please reach out to the Parks Director for further information. Could possibly be a 2023 construction.</p>
<p>5. Adjourn</p>	<p>Adjourn Meeting</p>