



**MAYOR'S ADVISORY TASK FORCE ON
AT-GRADE RAIL CROSSINGS ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS
January 28, 2016
Edmonds City Hall Brackett Conference Room (Third Floor)**

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 p.m. by Co-Chair Michael Nelson in the Edmonds City Hall Brackett Conference Room, 250 5th Avenue North, Edmonds.

TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael Nelson, Co-Chair
Jim Orvis, Co-Chair
Kirk Greiner, Edmonds Resident
Cadence Clyborne, Edmonds Resident
Phil Lovell, Edmonds Resident
Joy Munkers, Community Transit

TASK FORCE MEMBERS ABSENT

Lorena Eng, WSDOT
Lynne Griffith, WSDOT – Ferries Division
Jodi Mitchell, Sound Transit
Rick Wagner, BNSF

CITY STAFF PRESENT

Patrick Doherty, Econ. Dev & Comm. Serv. Dir.
Phil Williams, Public Works Director
Rob English, City Engineer
Bertrand Hauss, Transportation Engineer
Jeannie Dines, Recorder

CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Rick Schaefer, Tetra Tech
Sandy Glover, Parametrics

OTHER GUESTS PRESENT

Deborah Young, WSDOT – Ferries Division

I. Review and Approval of January 14th Meeting Summary

Task Force Member Greiner moved, seconded by Task Force Member Lovell, to approve the January 14th Meeting Summary. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Approval of Purpose and Need Statement

Mr. Schaefer summarized revisions to the Purpose and Need Statement which was distributed to task force members via email earlier this week.

Task Force Member Clyborne moved, seconded by Task Force Member Lovell, to approve the final Edmonds Waterfront Access Study Purpose and Need Statement. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Open House Summary

Mr. Schaefer reported 79 people attended, the discussion was very positive and diverse and there was a good mix of people. One salient point that arose was, have we sufficiently defined the problem we're trying to solve. He described efforts to gather additional data such as from Fire District 1 regarding response times. It was suggested SNOCOM also be contacted for data regarding delays.

Discussion followed regarding the potential for future delays due to length and number of trains, data available from FD1, concern data was gathered in the past without the intent of accurately producing statistics in the future, variables when making projections, difficulty obtaining data, data from the Edmonds Crossing study, data sources, questions that arose at the open house, ability to obtain gate closures and duration data from BNSF, and ensuring the list of solution concepts represents all ideas. Task force member and staff suggestions included:

- Model the projected delays
- Provide the basis for 100 trains/day and train traffic doubling and timeframe for those projection
- Ask BNSF whether 100 trains/day by 2030 is reasonable for planning

Task Force Member Clyborne reported she and Mayor Earling were interviewed by the Herald and KOMO regarding the At-Grade Rail Crossing Alternatives Analysis. Their belief was the issue was traffic congestion; she clarified that was not the problem and their stories did not report on traffic congestion. Co-Chair Orvis reminded many of the organizations who supported the grant did so based on ferry traffic.

Mr. Schaefer will confer with Katie DeLeuw, EnviroIssues, about the forum for the third meeting and bring suggestions to the task force. Task force members and staff's suggestions/comments about the open house included:

- Provide another set of laminated sheets
- Identify the beginning of display boards
- Did not hear any angry comments
- Good to have people at the open house who can answer questions
- Public appreciated multiple ways to provide comments

IV. Refined Concepts/Criteria

Mr. Schaefer distributed an updated version of the matrix that uses symbols and colors for ratings and separates the list of solution concepts into two tables 1) concepts for level 1 screening, and 2) concepts not considered further/do not address purpose and need.

Discussion followed regarding whether symbols will be converted to points, preference to retain symbols for level 1 screening, suggestions for the symbols/colors (red stop sign, orange triangle and green circle), a suggestion that emergency access over the tracks be weighted the heaviest, threshold for including concepts on the list for level 1 screening, identifying leading solutions and solutions that could be integrated with others, weighting the criteria and/or weighting how a solution addresses the problem, identifying solution concepts that have a fatal flaw, determining whether solutions are feasible/acceptable to BNSF, and stating why solutions were disqualified.

Mr. Williams reported on a meeting Mr. Schaefer, Mr. Doherty and he had with Task Force Member Wagner, BNSF, where they had a preliminary discussion regarding the solution concepts.

V. City Council Meeting on February 9th

Mr. Schaefer reported the intent is to brief the Council on the status of the study process and the upcoming schedule. A brief discussion followed regarding information to include in the presentation.

VI. Next Meeting Screening Workshop at February 11th

- 3 hour workshop (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.) to do level 1 evaluation
- Consultant team will have filled out matrix and prepared draft Level 1 Analysis sheet for each solution including an image of the footprint
- All materials will be provided to task force members in advance of workshop
- Food will be provided

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.