



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

February 25, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Co-Chair 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
Phil Lovell, Edmonds Resident
Rick Wagner, BNSF (arrived 10:12 a.m.)
Jodi Mitchell, Sound Transit

TASK FORCE MEMBERS ABSENT

Cadence Clyborne, Edmonds Resident
Lynne Griffith, WSDOT – Ferries Division
Lorena Eng, WSDOT
Joy Munkers, Community Transit

CITY STAFF PRESENT

Phil Williams, Public Works Director
Rob English, City Engineer
Bertrand Hauss, Transportation Engineer
Jeannie Dines, Recorder

CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Rick Schaefer, Tetra Tech
Sandy Glover, Parametrix

OTHER GUESTS PRESENT

Johan, Hellman, BNSF
Ian Sterling, WSDOT (participated by phone)

I. Review and Approval of 2/11/16 Meeting Summary

Task Force members requested the following revisions:

- Add "TFM Mitchell asked at what point the impacts of the options to the station and Sounder service would be considered." preceding the second paragraph under Item I.
- Attach TFM Wagner's email outlining BNSF's position regarding the Railroad Modifications and add a bracketed note in the summary referencing the email
- Prior to the bracketed note, add "The Task Force requested BNSF put their position in writing."

TFM LOVELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2/11/16 MEETING SUMMARY AS AMENDED. TFM GREINER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

II. Review of Level 1 Workshop Outcomes

Mr. Schaefer advised the updated matrixes reflected input from the February 9 workshop and inconsistencies identified in the ratings. The team is in the process of updating the descriptive pages.

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Discussion followed regarding ways to reduce and/or categorize concepts and the symbols used in the ratings.

TFM Greiner requested the train trench be reconsidered so that it could be considered by the Mayor and Council. Although he understood it was not acceptable to BNSF, he questioned if BNSF's position was counter to the safety of people on the west side of tracks. He cited several advantages to BNSF including reduction of accidents at crossing, easier to fight fires, and less pollution if an accident occurs in that area. Co-Chair Orvis commented on negatives for BNSF of a train trench, disruption to the community, and difficulty justifying it for grant funding.

Discussion followed regarding concern with moving a project forward that is not feasible from a cost perspective, other Railroad Modification concepts that have the same ranking as a train trench, hope the City could negotiate further with BNSF regarding a trench, concern with moving a fatally flawed concept to Level 2, concern with forwarding a trench to the Mayor and Council regardless of the Task Force's findings, Sound Transit's concerns with the cost of making changes to the platform, and the ability of the Mayor and Council to consider any option they want regardless of the Task Force's recommendation.

TFM WAGNER MOVED TO NOT RECONSIDER ANY OF CONCEPTS WITH FATAL FLAWS OR MOVE THEM ON TO LEVEL 2. TFM LOVELL SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED (5-1), TFM GREINER VOTING NO.

Ms. Glover described revisions made to the ratings in the Concepts for Level 1 Screening and explained why Ferry 3 was moved back to Concepts for Level 1 Screening.

III. Discussion of Level 2 Alternatives Development Process

Mr. Schaefer distributed the Edmonds Waterfront Access Study Concept Hybridization Ideas for Level 2 that groups concepts into alternatives. He invited the Task Force's input and suggested reviewing the Level 1 concepts to further reduce the list.

Ian Sterling, WSDOT, relayed that WSDOT-Ferry Division's long range plans do not include moving the terminal; their strategy for the Edmonds terminal in the future is only upgrades such as seismic upgrades. During further review of the concepts and alternatives, the following changes were made:

- Add to the list of Concepts Not Considered Further/Do Not Address Purpose & Need:
 - Ferry 1 (Edmonds Crossing)
 - Rationale: Not in WSDOT's long range plan
 - Overpass 2A and B
 - Rationale: Dependent on Edmonds Crossing
 - On-Site 4 and 5
 - Rationale: Do not address purpose and need, could be done now
 - Overpass 8
 - Underpass 2
- For further City and BNSF discussion:
 - Operations 4
 - Would provide immediate ability to ensure emergency access with nominal cost and no capital project

Task force member, staff and consultant's suggestions included:

- Add "short term" to project descriptions as appropriate

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- Add an accommodation for a lightweight vehicle to Overpass 5
- Before Level 2 evaluation, agree on what the criteria mean to task force members
- Consultant team organize options by functional types
- Task force members identify pros and cons of options

(Co-Chair Nelson and TFM Mitchell left the meeting at 11:26)

Discussion followed regarding the scope of the Level 2 evaluation. TFM Lovell reported he updated the Planning Board about the process.

IV. Next Meeting – Suggested Agenda

It was undecided whether a March 10 meeting would be necessary. [A meeting was subsequently confirmed for March 10.]

V. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.