



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING FOR JANUARY 09, 2023

Present: Mayor Frank Bubenik, Councilor Octavio Gonzalez, Councilor Bridget Brooks, Councilor Maria Reyes, Councilor Valerie Pratt, Councilor Cyndy Hillier, Councilor Christen Sacco

Mayor Bubenik called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

1. Tualatin Shuttle Expansion & Washington County Transit Investment Priorities.

John Whitman, Planning Supervisor and Tangerine Behere, Lead Service Planner from Ride Connection and Reza Farhoodi, Associate Planner from Washington County presented information on the Tualatin shuttle expansion. Mr. Whitman stated Ride Connection has a large presence in Washington County that provides community connectors, RideAbouts, demand response, a volunteer driver program, and shared vehicle agreements. He stated funding for these programs come from state and federal programs. Mr. Whitman stated 75% of riders use Tualatin shuttle as part of their commute to work and as an integral part of getting people to the WES and other worksites. He spoke to some impacts and benefits including climate priorities, economic development, public health goals, and social equity goals for Rider Connection. Ms. Behere shared current Tualatin routes and the new and modified routes that were added during the expansion. She stated service will run Monday thru Friday from 5:45 a.m. to 7:19 p.m. and connect with TriMet and other transit services.

Mr. Farhoodi presented an update on Washington County Transit investment priorities. He stated the county operates in the rural transit area and partners with Ride Connection to provide these services. Mr. Farhoodi stated the investment priorities for the next biennium include maintaining current committed services, enhance existing services, servicing new areas including King City and Bethany, and purchasing four new vehicles. He stated some planned enhancements include upgrades to the Tualatin Shuttle hub at the WES station, an additional 11 stops in Tualatin, and partnering with TriMet and SMART on shared stops. Mr. Farhoodi stated next steps include the city permitting process with construction starting in March 2023.

Councilor Pratt asked about the green line and if there is access to the food pantry. Ms. Behere stated it is a stop and they allow the transportation of items that are picked up there.

Councilor Reyes asked about the 2022 Rider Survey and if it was provided in additional languages. Mr. Whitman stated the survey is an onboard transit survey of current riders and was available in Spanish.

Councilor Reyes asked if this is a free service. Mr. Whitman stated it is.

Councilor Brooks asked how often service runs. Ms. Behere stated it is a continuous service.

Councilor Brooks asked about the stop that will be put in at the WES station. Mr. Farhoodi stated the stop will be in the park and ride there but an exact location has not been determined.

Councilor Brooks stated having cover for stops is really important for the vulnerable population. She wants to make sure this is a priority. Mr. Farhoodi stated they are interested in this conversation and working with the city on maintenance agreements for these types of covers.

Mayor Bubenik asked about funding when the budget cycle is over. Mr. Farhoodi stated ongoing funding will be through the STIP program.

Mayor Bubenik asked about how changes in the lines are being communicated. Ms. Behere stated notices were made on the bus and communicated that way.

2. 2023-24 Council Committee Assignments, Meeting Agenda Review, and Communications.

The Council assigned Councilors to serve on local and regional committees.

Adjournment

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

_____ / Nicole Morris, Recording Secretary

_____ / Frank Bubenik, Mayor