



City of Seattle Seattle Planning Commission

Josh Brower, Chair
Barbara Wilson, Executive Director

SEATTLE PLANNING COMMISSION OCTOBER 22, 2009 APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Josh Brower, Chair; Leslie Miller, Vice-Chair; David Cutler; Jerry Finrow; Colie Hough-Beck; Mark Johnson; Kay Knapton; Kevin McDonald; Christopher Persons; Matt Roewe

COMMISSION STAFF

Barbara Wilson, Director; Katie Sheehy, Planning Analyst; Diana Canzoneri, Demographer; Michael Pickford, Intern

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Linda Amato; Catherine Benotto; Chris Fiori; Marty Kaplan; Amalia Leighton; Amanda Sparr

GUESTS

John White, WSDOT; Steve Pierce, SDOT

IN ATTENDANCE

Please Note: Seattle Planning Commission meeting minutes are not an exact transcript but instead represent key points and the basis of the discussion.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

▪ **Chair's Report** - Commission Chair Brower

Ms. Wilson provided a review of the upcoming meetings: the next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 3; the next HNUC committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10; the next Full Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12; and the next LUT committee meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19. She noted that Ms. Sheehy would schedule a tour of representative townhouse developments for the following week. Ms. Wilson reported that the Shoreline Master Program update had been completed and asked Commissioner Johnson, who represented the Commission on the update committee, to provide a brief update. Commissioner Johnson explained that the Program, which relied on input from a citizen advisory committee, was scheduled to be adopted next year. He cautioned that the scale of the code update resulting from the Program would dwarf the multifamily code update and that it is extremely complex.

BRIEFING & DISCUSSION

- **Briefing: Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project**
 - John White, WSDOT; Steve Pierce, SDOT

Recusal & Disclosure:

- Commissioner Mark Johnson disclosed that his firm, ESA Adolfson, frequently does environmental and permitting work for WSDOT.
- Commissioner Colie Hough-Beck disclosed that her firm, Hough Beck & Baird, has a contract on one of the Viaduct moving forward projects.

John White and Steve Pierce presented information about the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall replacement. [Please [click here to download the Viaduct Presentation](#) and the following links for video simulations from WSDOT's website: The **bored tunnel video** shows the current design concept for the tunnel and the access provided at its north and south portals (View on [YouTube](#) or download [WMV file](#).) The **waterfront boulevard video** shows the concept for the new Alaskan Way, which would be built in the footprint of the viaduct once it's removed. (View on [YouTube](#) or download [WMV file](#).) The **tunnel boring machine animation** explains how a bored tunnel is constructed. (View on [YouTube](#) or download [WMV file](#).)]

Ms. Wilson asked about potential additional Metro service that would be included in the replacement plans. Mr. White replied that there are a couple of aspects to the additional service: (1) during construction and (2) after construction. He noted that WSDOT will provide funding to Metro for mitigation service during construction.

Mr. White indicated that the goal is to have the tunnel open by 2015 and that the Viaduct would not be removed until after the tunnel opens.

Commissioner Hough-Beck asked whether the project includes funding to restore the waterfront streetcar. Mr. White replied that current plan includes a streetcar route along First Avenue rather than the along the waterfront.

Mr. White noted that WSDOT is currently conducting a detailed analysis of the soils and buildings around the bored tunnel alignment. Commissioners asked about the project funding. Mr. White replied that the state has \$2.4 billion in funding dedicated to this project, which is enough to get started.

Commission Chair Brower thanked Mr. White and Mr. Pierce for their time and noted that the Commission looks forward to future updates about this important project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Josh Brower adjourned at 9:04 am.