

AGENDA

Lynnwood Planning Commission Meeting

Thursday, May 27, 2021 — 6:30 pm

Online via Zoom

A. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No Minutes for Approval

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS – (on matters not scheduled for discussion or public hearing on tonight's agenda) Note: Individuals wishing to offer a comment on a non-hearing agenda item, at the discretion of the Chair, may be invited to speak later in the agenda, during the Commission's discussion of the matter. Individuals wishing to comment on the record on matters scheduled for a public hearing will be invited to do so during the hearing.

D. PUBLIC HEARINGS

No Public Hearings

E. WORK SESSION TOPICS

1. Connect Lynnwood

F. OTHER BUSINESS

G. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

H. PLANNING MANAGER'S REPORT

I. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

J. ADJOURNMENT

The public is invited to attend and participate in this public meeting. Parking and meeting rooms are accessible to persons with disabilities. Upon reasonable notice to the City Clerk's office (425) 670-5161, the City will make reasonable effort to accommodate those who need special assistance to attend this meeting.

Joining Planning Commission via Zoom

How the Meeting Will Work

Virtual Planning Commission Meetings will be held via Zoom Webinar. The Community Development Department is hosting the meeting, the Lynnwood Planning Commission are the Panelists, and Lynnwood residents and members of the public – as well as City staff or guest presenters – are attendees. Webinar attendees do not interact with one another; they join in listen-only mode, and the host can unmute one or more attendees as needed.

Meeting Links and Numbers

- **Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:**
 - Download the Zoom Client at: <https://zoom.us/download>.
 - Use Zoom Version 5.0.4 (25694.0524) or later.
 - Please click this URL to join: <https://lynnwoodwa.zoom.us/j/86845449811>
- **Or join by phone:** +1 253 215 8782
Webinar ID: 868 4544 9811

How to Provide Public Comments

The Community Development Department is accepting public comments on behalf of the Planning Commission via Email.

- **Email:** Please add the Planning Commission meeting date in the subject line or in body of the text message such as in the examples below.
 - Send Email to: planning@lynnwoodWA.gov
 - Subject Line: Public Comment for the 6/25/20 Planning Commission Meeting
- **Live Public Comment:** If you are unable to provide a written comment, you may join the webinar as an attendee to comment during the public comment period. Public participation guidelines are provided at the bottom of this page.

Participation Guidelines

Below are recommendations for attendees in meetings conducted via Zoom Webinar.

- **Identification:** Upon entering the webinar, please enter your name or other preferred identifier, so that the host can call on you during the public comment period.
- **Raise Hand (see link below for instructions):** You have the ability to virtually raise your hand for the duration of the webinar, but you will not be acknowledged and your mic will remain muted until you are called on during the public comment period. <https://www.lynnwoodwa.gov/files/sharedassets/public/city-council/business-meeting-agendas/raising-hand-in-zoom.pdf>
- **Public Comment Period:** Use “Raise Hand” to be called upon by the host. The host will unmute your mic and you will have the ability to share your comment. Each speaker is allowed up to five (5) minutes.
- **Use headphones/mic** for better sound quality and less background noise.

**Topic: Complete Streets Policy
and Connect Lynnwood Active &
Accessible Transportation Plan**

- Public Hearing
- Work Session**
- Other Business
- Information
- Miscellaneous

Agenda Item: E.1

Staff Report

Staff Contacts: Sarah Olson, Deputy Director, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department;
Amie Hanson, Civil Engineer, Public Works Department

Summary

The purpose of this agenda item is to brief the Planning Commission on two elements of the Connect Lynnwood Project: 1) development of the *Connect Lynnwood: Active and Accessible Transportation Plan*; and 2) formation of a Complete Streets Policy.

The *Connect Lynnwood* Plan aims to improve bicycle, pedestrian, and mobility facilities to better connect residents to schools, parks, transit, and commercial districts.

The Complete Streets policy, if adopted, will guide Lynnwood in developing and delivering projects that can implement Lynnwood's active transportation goals and Plan.

Currently, staff are seeking Planning Commission's engagement to vet critical pieces of this planning effort.

In the near future, staff will be seeking a Planning Commission recommend to Council to adopt a Complete Streets ordinance and the Connect Lynnwood Plan. These actions will be conducted jointly for the two elements with a public hearing. Staff anticipate the Connect Lynnwood Plan to be further adopted by reference in the next City Comprehensive Plan.

Action

Receive input from the Commission to complete drafting of the Complete Streets ordinance and review key Connect Lynnwood Plan elements.

Background

The Planning Commission received an initial briefing on the Connect Lynnwood Plan on September 24, 2020. During this briefing, Commissioners were provided with an overview of the Connect Lynnwood Project elements. The rest of the briefing focused on matching Lynnwood street typology to bicycle and walking facility selection, with a participatory discussion of design option decisions related to developing amenities along 200th St SW as an illustrative example.

Connect Lynnwood Overview

This Project includes the primary elements of developing Lynnwood's Complete Streets policy and the *Connect Lynnwood: Active & Accessible Transportation Plan* (Plan).

The Connect Lynnwood Project was developed with the objective of reviewing and updating the [2008 Multi-Choice Plan](#) and associated bicycle and pedestrian networks. This Project also encompasses multiple efforts of managing Lynnwood's multimodal transportation network including:

- School Access & Safety Project
- Park Access Plan
- Development of proposed pedestrian and bicycle networks
- Prioritizing projects for implementation

Finally, this Project includes development of a Complete Streets policy to guide development and delivery of active transportation projects to implement the Plan and meet Lynnwood's active transportation goals. Lynnwood's active transportation goals are:

- Balance – Balance Lynnwood's mobility needs by providing mobility options with an integrated multimodal system
- Safety – Create safer conditions for people walking and bicycling
- Equity – Address inequities and lack of access experienced by underserved and underrepresented communities
- Connectivity – Create comfortable, complete walking and bicycling networks
- Health – Increase opportunities for physical activity by making it easy and safe to be active in the public right of way

This effort began in 2017 with the [168th Corridor Planning Study](#) focusing on school safety and multimodal improvements in the corridor.

Connect Lynnwood: Active and Accessible Transportation Plan

The Plan, nearing final drafting, documents Lynnwood's long-term vision and near-term action plan for improving walking and biking in the city. The presented networks incorporate the findings from previous work, such as the 2008 Multi-Choice Plan; evaluation of bike level of stress throughout the city; pedestrian-vehicle and bicyclist-vehicle crash trends; walking and biking safety at schools; parks access; and staff knowledge of plans, future projects, and the Lynnwood community. Sites identified as 'in need of improvement' were prioritized according to equity; safety; connections to parks, schools, and transit; and connections to commercial areas.

Walking & Rolling Network Development:

Existing walking conditions were evaluated to identify sites where improvements are needed for crossing streets and walking along streets. Table 1 presents criteria for assessing existing walking conditions.

Table 1. Walking Condition Assessment Criteria

Conditions for crossing street	Conditions for walking along street
<p>Suitable for walking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arterials and collectors with controlled crossings at least every ¼-mile • Controlled crossings every 500 ft along SR 99 and 196th St SW and within City Center, College District, and Alderwood Mall area. 	<p>Suitable for walking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collector and arterial streets with sidewalk on both sides • Local streets with continuous sidewalk on one side
<p>Consideration for improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arterials and collectors without crossings every ¼-mile (or 500 ft as defined above) • Challenging to cross • Transit stops without crossing within 100 or more feet • Connections to schools and park entrances • Existing crossing in need of improvement 	<p>Consideration for improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collector and arterial streets with sidewalk gaps • Local streets without continuous sidewalk on either side that are continuous or connect to park/school entrances

Elements of the development of the prioritized walking network and priority sites are currently included in the ongoing Online Open House, with opportunities for public feedback on select sites and amenities. The final prioritized walking network will be documented in the Plan with supporting information.

Bike Network Development:

During this process, the Project Team considered not only where bicyclists are traveling, but also the types of amenities. The updated bike network was developed to:

- Implement bikeways separated from traffic over the next many years to create an All Ages & Abilities bike network (AAA); and
- Improve connections within the existing on-road bicycle network.

The Project Team identified opportunities for an improved bike network based on previous planning efforts, including the 2008 Multi-Choice Plan and the Lynnwood Transit Center Multimodal Accessibility Plan, and evaluations completed during Connect Lynnwood. Sites were also evaluated for opportunities to implement AAA amenities.

In reviewing potential bike network sites, the Project Team determined that a phased approach would be critical. Lynnwood will experience significant traffic impacts from the construction and operation of two light rail stations in addition to development planned for City Center. We have heard concerns about changing parking or traffic capacity on our streets during this time. The Lynnwood Community has expressed enjoyment of and preference for off-street multi-modal facilities.

The Plan presents both a 15-Year Bike Network and a 30-Year Bike Network. The 15-Year Network focuses on connections to the Scriber Creek and Interurban trails. This network also focuses on connecting the existing network to the trails, enhancing the Bike2Health

network, and implementing “low-hanging fruit” facilities. The 30-Year Bike Network presents Lynnwood’s plan to develop a complete network with AAA amenities where possible. This 30-Year Network is aspirational and recognizes that Lynnwood is transitioning to a future with bike riding becoming increasingly attractive to the community and near-term traffic impacts alleviated or mitigated somewhat.

Complete Streets Policy

Lynnwood’s Complete Streets Policy will have two impacts on multi-modal transportation by: 1) establishing ways to balance transportation needs on the City’s streets; and 2) incorporating those decisions into the decision-making for Capital and Private Development projects. This element will include development of a Complete Streets ordinance and an implementation framework.

The City’s Complete Streets Policy, which will form the basis for the ordinance, will establish these goals:

- Implement the Comprehensive Plan goal to create a **balanced transportation system with mobility options for all people.**
- Make the **best use of limited City resources** by aligning project development and delivery processes to ensure each city transportation investment achieves multiple goals.
- Advance **incremental change toward a multimodal future.**
- Establish eligibility for **Complete Streets Award funding** from the State of Washington’s Transportation Improvement Board.

The draft Complete Streets Policy document describes the City’s policy intention, Complete Streets principles and application, and project delivery.

The Complete Streets implementation framework establishes street typologies; maps the project development processes for both capital and private projects; and updates new standards for pedestrian and bicycle amenities. This framework coordinates multiple elements used by Lynnwood staff to develop and review projects in the right of way, such that Lynnwood’s active transportation goals are easily and consistently implemented in both public and private development. Using this framework, Lynnwood has defined:

- A toolbox of amenities to support active transportation;
- A street typology, developed based on street geometry, traffic usage, and adjacent land use;
- Appropriate amenities for street typology categories; and
- Internal processes - mapping out how to incorporate these elements into project development and review.

Previous Planning Commission / City Council Action

9/24/21 Planning Commission Briefing

Adm. Recommendation

None.

Attachments

Additional supporting information can be viewed at:

<http://bit.ly/ConnectLynwoodStoryMap>