



October 17, 2007

The New Tacoma Neighborhood Council's boundaries include the D-M Street Connector in Tacoma. Our purpose as stated by the City of Tacoma is as follows:

“ Each neighborhood council serves as an independent, non-profit citizen organization to promote citizen-based efforts for neighborhood improvements. Each Neighborhood Council also establishes a partnership between City government and the neighborhoods it serves. ”

Over the past years we have been following the discussion between Sound Transit, the City of Tacoma and the stakeholders in the vicinity of the D-M Street Connector. In light of recent developments in this process the Council unanimously passed the following motion on 10 October 2007.

- The New Tacoma Neighborhood Council supports Sound Transit's “Alternative 3 (Modified)” alignment.
- Grade separation at Pacific Avenue is critical for the future development of the City of Tacoma.
- Sound Transit should offer air rights over the at-grade tracks between Freighthouse Square and Pacific Avenue to increase development opportunities in the Dome District.
- The bridge over Pacific Avenue must be aesthetically pleasing since Pacific Avenue is a gateway to downtown Tacoma.

We understand the position Sound Transit is in, attempting to complete this project in a timely manner and at the minimum expenditure. The D-M Street Connector is unique in the project in that this is the only area where you must design and build a new rail line. Your decision will affect the City of Tacoma in perpetuity so great care must be taken to make the right decision, not just one based on the cost to Sound Transit today.

Sincerely,
Marty Campbell
Chair, New Tacoma Neighborhood Council

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