

MEETING SUMMARY

Project: Transit Center Study

Meeting: Project Advisory Committee (PAC)

Date/Time: August 28, 2023 2:00 pm

Location: Virtual, via Teams

Attendees: See attached

Randy Brown with MOA Public Transportation Department (PTD) opened the meeting. He introduced the attendees and explained that the meeting goal was to choose 3 sites from the 6 sites that were presented to the public to recommend for more detailed analysis.

Jeanne Bowie (Kinney Engineering) provided background and review of the six sites that were presented to the public:

- Existing Site
 - On-street, growth could happen, medium amount of space, highest density of employment, easy to access via walking and transit
- ConocoPhillips
 - o Would be off-street
 - Owner is willing to talk about potentially using this site, will need to maintain parking for their employees
 - o Large site, next to existing- accessible and high density of employment
- Chinook Parking Lot
 - o Good access but seismic concern for development
 - o Plenty of space, further from downtown center, easy to access on transit and walking
 - 2 previous plans describe a transit center located nearby this lot (2007 Our Downtown Plan, Ship Creek Area Plan)
- 5th Ave Garage
 - Set up similar to existing
 - o Smaller in space, not great transit access due to one-way streets
- Northern Lights Inn
 - o Midtown. Off street.
 - Limited walking and bicycle access
- Former DMV
 - Off-street
 - Have reached out to owner, but have not made contact
 - Accessible for transit and pedestrians (recent improvements)

Daniel next described the responses to the public outreach:

- Stakeholders Workshop Review
 - Audience is representatives of groups for which transit is important; however, attendees did not necessarily represent regular transit riders
 - Results of polling during meeting:
 - Downtown vs Midtown
 - Downtown: 16, Midtown: 4, Either: 3
 - Favorite Downtown
 - Conoco: 12, Chinook: 11, Existing: 4, Unsure: 3, 5th Ave: 0
 - Favorite Midtown
 - DMV: 15, Northern Lights: 3, Unsure: 3
 - o Due mostly to pedestrian Access
- Survey Results Online Open House
 - 235 respondents
 - Skewing to white, middle class, regular bus riders
 - Balanced geographically

- Even response for on-street vs off-street, less favorable for underground
- o Each site results
 - Respondents favored the existing transit center (note this is different from the response at the stakeholders workshop)
 - Other site with majority interest: ConocoPhillips site
- Ranking of sites reflected individual site responses
 - Existing, Conoco, Chinook, DMV, 5th Ave, Northern Lights
 - Median results are consistent.
 - Both Midtown sites were unfavored, almost 50% of survey respondents put these 2 in spot 5 and 6 for ranking
- Mayor's Office meeting with the mayor and staff
 - o Interest in the Chinook Lot for availability and development around the site
 - Concurrent with 2007 Downtown Plan and 2014 Ship Creek Framework Plan

Next, Daniel led a discussion of which 3 sites to recommend for additional analysis.

- 3 Sites will be investigated in greater detail.
- Sites will be chosen regardless of location, there is no obligation to have a midtown site in this phase.
- Jeanne read an email from Ryan Yelle (who could not attend) describing his top sites.
- All agreed to have the Existing Site be part of the final 3.
- ConocoPhillips lot
 - Has very specific needs for their staff parking- is it worth it? ConocoPhillips is a client using the existing 6th Avenue parking garage.
- DMV
 - Issues with contacting owners
- Northern Lights
 - o Owner very interested. Public is not.
- 5th Ave
 - ACDA, lower public support
- Chinook Lot
 - Owned by MOA, operated by ACDA as a parking lot.
- Mike Robbins: no ideal site, include existing, Conoco, chinook.
- No pitch for a Midtown site
- Question from Mark Eisenman: Has the idea to have 2 transit centers (one downtown and one midtown) been discussed? Yes, that could eventually happen, but this study is about one single central site.
- Existing, Conoco, Chinook as three?
 - o Rationale? No perfect site, but some that stick out more than others.
 - o Existing is worthwhile to include for public interest.
 - Conoco has location advantage, significant public and stakeholder interest.
 - Chinook Lot- less public support but more stakeholder and MOA interest based on future development and possibilities.

PAC members (including those not in attendance at the meeting) were sent an email after the meeting with the proposed 3 sites and asked to respond with whether they agreed with those 3 sites by Wednesday, November 1. One PAC member abstained; the remainder all accepted the 3 sites as recommended.

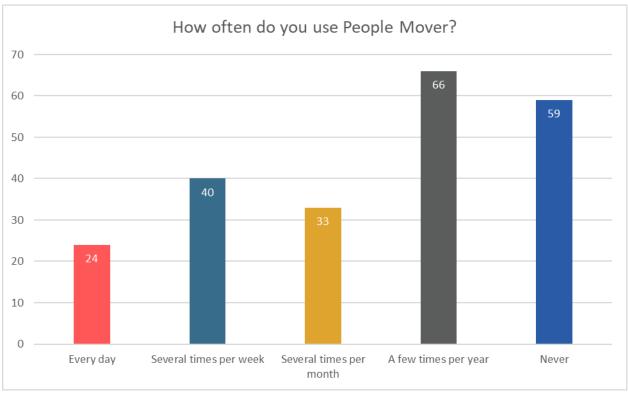
Next Steps

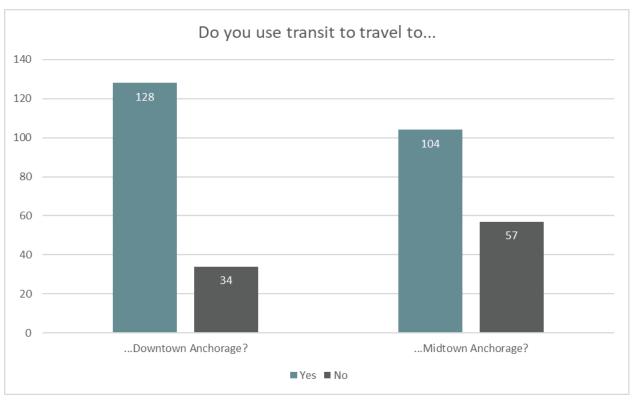
- Same information to be presented to PTAB on November 9, 2023. PTAB will also recommend 3 sites for further analysis.
- PTD director will make final decision about which sites to analyze further.
- Analysis will include:
 - Conceptual layout and costs
 - Transit system operational changes
- Next PAC meeting will probably occur sometime in January.

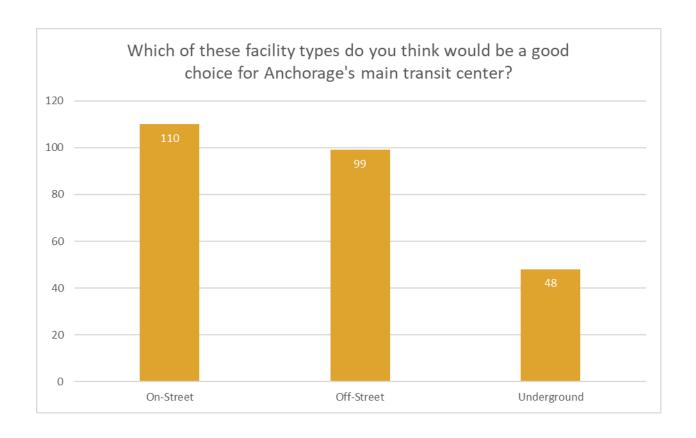
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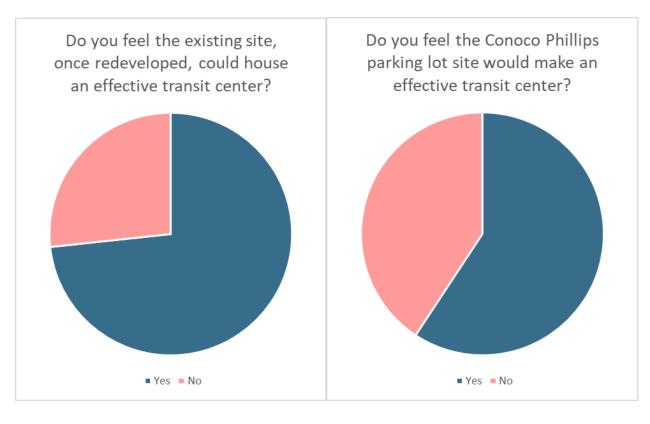
Results of the Anchorage Transit Center Survey

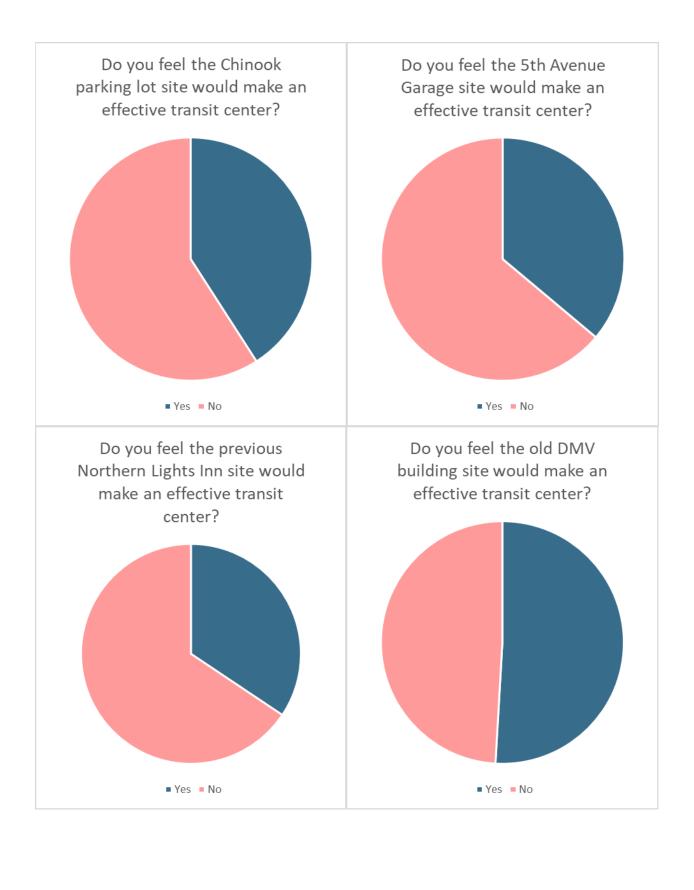
September 21, 2023 through 5 PM on October 20, 2023

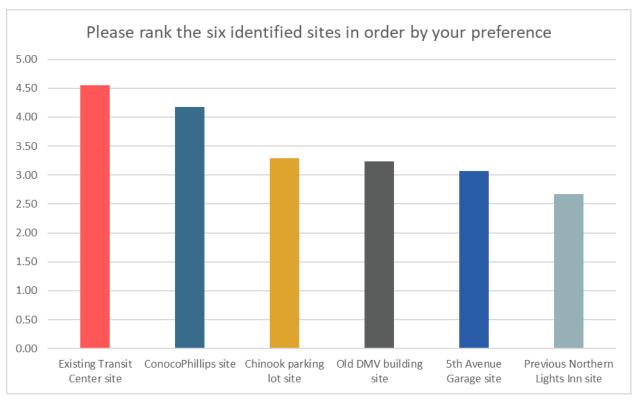












							Average
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
Existing Transit Center site	40.5%	24.2%	11.0%	7.0%	8.8%	8.4%	4.56
existing transit center site	92	55	25	16	20	19	
ConocoPhillips site	17.6%	26.9%	27.8%	15.4%	8.4%	4.0%	4.18
Conocorninips site	40	61	63	35	19	9	
China ak narking lat sita	8.4%	15.9%	21.6%	22.9%	13.7%	17.6%	3.30
Chinook parking lot site	19	36	49	52	31	40	
5th Avenue	5.3%	10.1%	20.7%	28.6%	20.7%	14.5%	3.07
Garage site	12	23	47	65	47	33	3.07
Previous Northern Lights	8.4%	9.7%	6.2%	6.2% 16.7% 33.9% 25.1%			
Inn site	19	22	14	38	77	57	2.67
Old DMV building site	19.8%	13.2%	12.8%	9.3%	14.5%	30.4%	3.23
Dia Diviv building site	45	30	29	21	33	69	