

My name is Steve Haverly, I am running for mayor of Tacoma. I'm a lifelong Tacoma resident of over 50 years, and today I'm taking route 28.

What do you think is the most pressing mobility concern in your Tacoma?

Honestly, I think the biggest roadblock is our mentality. Really, we need to change our mentality that that there isn't a more economical way of getting around town and we deal with a lot of the stigmas that we see on on in movies that they add for dramatic. But that's not real life, like, you know, a crowded bus or a crowded train or, you know, obnoxious characters. It's just not that way. It's it's more user friendly than we give it credit for being. So I think we're our biggest block.

What do you think is the most important transportation project in Tacoma currently?

Right now, I like the around town light rail system, when that's completed, it's going to be another piece of the puzzle that we really need to to complete our - well, to help complete our public transportation needs. I think it's up to the city too to build better developments around public transportation and bus stations and light rail stations. The city's got to be on the same page with the transportation needs of the city.

Pierce Transit is considering going to the ballot to ask voters for a 0.3% sales tax increase for public transportation funding. If Pierce Transit were to go to the ballot in 2022, would you support the measure?

So I'm all for sensible taxes. If it's something that the city needs, then I absolutely support it. If it's something that helps the masses, then I think we need to really look at it. The city also needs to bring back business to make our tax dollars work better for us. If we can boost our economy locally by having more people work in Tacoma versus driving up north to earn a living. They're going to spend that money here, and in turn, Pierce Transit would make more money from those taxes that it'll generate. So it's it's tough. You say raise taxes, but really, if we can make our taxes work for us, everyone's going to be happy in the end.

Is there anything else you want to tell us about your goals around transportation?

You know, I would I'd like to see people do more with public transportation than than our mentality has us doing. I'd like to see us use it for social gatherings on a bus. Like do interesting things with the bus. I'd like to see a city council meeting held on a bus. Why not? It's got Wi-Fi. We can stream it. There's just there's so much that you can do that will change the people's mentality about how they get around, how they entertain, how they meet up with other friends. You know, take a take a map of different spots of Pierce Transit and everyone can converge on the same area taking busses. There just there's got to be something better for us to do with our time. And we have to use the things that we pay for. We pay for these things, too. We pay for all this new light rail to come to our city. So let's use it. Let's find different creative ways to use it. I'd like to really change the mentality of Tacoma.