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Council of Governments Honors its Retiring Deputy Executive Director Gordon Rogers

BELLINGHAM – At its meeting on January 22nd, the Whatcom Council of Governments honored its longtime deputy executive director, Gordon Rogers, by naming its board room in his honor. Rogers is retiring in February; he joined WCOG in 1994.

"Gordon has been such a key player in transportation planning in Whatcom County over the past 20 years that the <u>Full Council</u> (WCOG's board of directors) felt strongly that his contributions needed to be recognized," said WCOG Executive Director Bob Wilson. When WCOG's staff suggested to the Full Council that it name the conference room after him, the response from the members was unanimously positive. "They couldn't have been more enthusiastic," Wilson added.

The resolution establishing the "Gordon W. Rogers Conference Room" cited many of Rogers' accomplishments at WCOG, including directing the regional transportation planning program and his leadership in developing the International Mobility and Trade Corridor Program, the Citizens' Transportation Advisory Group, The Farmhouse Gang and the Whatcom Smart Trips Program. His contributions as a private citizen as well as his service in the war in Vietnam were also recognized in the resolution.

Rogers also received a congratulatory letter signed by Sen. Kevin Ranker and Reps. Kristine Lytton and Jeff Morris of the Washington State Legislature's 40th District, a legislative resolution from Sen. Doug Ericksen and Reps. Vincent Buys and Jason Overstreet of the 42nd District, and an official greeting from Gov. Jay Inslee, which was hand-delivered and presented by Lacey Harper from the Governor's Northwest Region Office.

Rogers said he was "overwhelmed" by the outpouring of thanks and good wishes he received at the reception following the meeting. He plans on staying in Whatcom County and will continue pursuing his many interests, which include spending time with his family, serving as chairman of the Whatcom County Parks Commission and restoring classic cars.