

WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION
POLICY BOARD
MINUTES
MAY 11, 2016

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS: Bob Bromley, Terry Bornemann, Tim Ballew
Harry Robinson, Jon Mutchler, Kathy Berg, Jim
Ackerman, Tom Jones, Rud Browne, Kelli Linville,
Scott Korthuis, Luanne Van Werven

GUESTS: John Shambaugh, Pete Stark, Kaylee Galloway, Matt
Jensen, Cleo Callen

STAFF: Bob Wilson, Hugh Conroy, Lethal Coe III,
Leslye O'Shaughnessy

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm and
introductions were made.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

Cleo Callen asked what the procedure is to get the Kope
Road extension to the airport and the Slater Road to Kelly
Road project into the TIP.

Staff will meet with Callen after the meeting to discuss
this.

C. AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION: Linville moved, Korthuis seconded, to approve the
agenda as presented.

MOTION PASSED

D. MINUTES

MOTION: Korthuis moved, Jones seconded, to approve the
minutes from March 9, 2016.

MOTION PASSED

E. PUBLIC HEARING

Coe stated that the Public Hearing is being held to amend the 2016 Whatcom Transportation Improvement Program to include the following changes:

1. Add new Bellingham project: *Cordata Safe Routes to School Program*. This will add pedestrian facilities along Aldrich Rd providing access to Cordata Elementary School. Project was awarded by Federal Safe Routes to School program.
2. Add WTA (Whatcom Transportation Authority) project: *MOAB remodel* (Maintenance, Operations, and Administration Building located at headquarters on Bakerview Spur). Project is funded by federal transit 5307.
3. Add WSDOT (Washington State Department of Transportation) project: *I-5/Custer SB SRA - Sewer Line Replacement - NWR*. Project will replace sewer line on I-5 southbound at Custer. Project is funded through federal National Highway Performance Program.
4. Add secured Right-of-Way funding phase to WSDOT project: *SR 548/Kickerville Rd - Intersection Improvements*. Project is funding by Highway Safety Improvement Program.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 3:31 pm

MOTION: Korthuis moved, Linville seconded, to close the Public Hearing.

MOTION PASSED

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 3:32

Berg stated that as a member of the driving public in the SR 548/Kickerville Road area the roundabout will be appreciated.

MOTION: Linville moved, Korthuis seconded, to approve amendment #3 (1605) to the Whatcom Council of Governments' 2016 Transportation Improvement Program.

MOTION PASSED

F. OLD BUSINESS

None reported.

G. NEW BUSINESS

G.1 SFY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program

It is time for the annual approval of the WCOG Unified Planning Work Program. The draft included in the packet was submitted to FHWA, FTA, and WSDOT in March and the review meeting was held May 9, 2016.

The agencies all deemed the document ready for approval and there were no requested changes. The only changes from the document in the packet will be some typographical fixes and on the last page of the document the table in the back that shows unfunded priority projects will be updated to include \$250,000 for IMTC and \$95,000 for Whatcom Smart Trips.

MOTION: Korthuis moved, Jones seconded, to approve the Unified Planning Work Program, Whatcom Metropolitan Planning Area, Whatcom County, Washington for State Fiscal Year 2017 as presented and edited and modified.

MOTION PASSED

H. REPORTS

H.1 Planning Director

Conroy reported that the notice of proposed rule-making on system performance measures has been released. This includes roads that are on the National Highway System - Interstates, State Routes, and any local roads functionally

classified as primary arterials. More information will be coming in months ahead.

Whatcom Mobility 2040 Plan. Staff has started working with TTAG on updating a definition of the Regionally Significant System - to make sure it's current and more clearly inclusive of all modes, services and programs that are impacted. Staff will be looking to the Policy Board to review the elements of the Plan as produced and will not be asking for adoption of the individual components but will ask for adoption of the full plan.

Regional Border Planning Peer Exchange will be held June 8 & 9 at Squaticum Boathouse. In attendance will be FHWA, Transport Canada, TBWG, Cal Trans, and TXDOT. WTA will be helping with the providing a bus for a border tour which will include crossing the border. Canadian consulate will be providing boxed lunches.

A feasibility study for upgrading/replacing the Pacific Highway facility on the Canadian side will be undertaken.

The BC Ministry of transportation is optimistic that they will soon be receiving funding for significant highway projects on BC Highways 13 & 11.

At the last IMTC meeting the BC Trucking Association brought up electronic log monitoring and the possible problem of having truckers reaching the number of hours they are allowed to drive. If a driver on this side of the border is looking at 25-30 minutes to get to their destination in lower mainland BC they may be compelled to park for the required rest time on the U.S. side of the border. WCOG is currently working on a border freight origin study and during interviews will be asking carrier firms about this.

H.2 Legislative Report

Report given under correspondence.

I. CORRESPONDENCE

I.1 Columbia Valley Trail Funding Letter

The Columbia Valley Trail preliminary engineering project was awarded \$75,000 in the State 2016 Supplemental Capital Budget. Vern Yadon, Kendall-Columbia Valley Connectivity Plan Association Chairman, has written a letter to the Washington State Department of Commerce requesting the funds be awarded to WCOG to oversee the project.

The Department of Commerce has received permission from the House and Senate to award the funds to WCOG. Staff will be creating an RFP for a firm to come up with estimates of developing the trail. High and low estimates will be created and from this a request to the legislature will be made.

Representative Van Werven stated that the Kendall/Columbia Valley community will be holding an event to garner support from the community for the project.

Browne thanked Van Werven for working on getting this project through the legislative process.

J. BOARD OPEN FORUM

No reports.

K. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 pm.

Robert Bromley
Chair

Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Executive Director