



MEETING OF THE
WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 3:30 p.m.

Gordon W. Rogers Conference Room
314 East Champion Street
Bellingham, Washington

Click [here](#) to join using Zoom
Or join by phone: (253) 215-8782

AGENDA

PAGES

- A. CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Korthuis
- B. PUBLIC COMMENT
Citizens may speak informally to the Board on matters pertinent to its statutory responsibilities and which are not the subject of a public hearing. *Each speaker is allowed a maximum of three minutes.*
- C. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES*
Meeting of May 11, 2022
- E. PUBLIC HEARING
[Way to Go, Whatcom](#)
 - 1. Staff Presentation – Hugh Conroy
 - 2. Open Public Hearing – Citizens may address the Board on the subject of the hearing *for a maximum of three minutes each*
 - 3. Close Public Hearing*
 - 4. Board Discussion
- F. NEW BUSINESS
 - 1. Adoption of the 2045 Whatcom Region Long-Range Transportation Plan, Way to Go, Whatcom – Mr. Conroy*
 - 2. Other new business *(if any)*
- G. OLD BUSINESS *(if any)*
- H. PUBLIC HEARING
Amendment No. 22-06 to the 2022 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program
 - 1. Staff Presentation – Lethal Coe
 - 2. Open Public Hearing – Citizens may address the Board on the subject of the hearing *for a maximum of three minutes each*
 - 3. Close Public Hearing*
 - 4. Board Discussion and Vote*

- I. OBLIGATION STATUS UPDATE – Mr. Coe
- J. PLANNING DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Mr. Conroy
- K. BOARD OPEN FORUM
- L. ADJOURN

** Action item*



Notice to the Public Regarding Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

WCOG hereby gives public notice that it is the policy of the agency to assure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, Executive Order 13166 on Limited English Proficiency, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. Title VI requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which WCOG receives federal financial assistance.

Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint with WCOG. Any such complaint must be in writing and filed with the WCOG Title VI Coordinator within one-hundred eighty (180) days following the date of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. Title VI Discrimination Complaint Forms may be obtained from the WCOG at no cost and are available on WCOG's website.

Aviso al Público Sobre Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964

Por medio de la presente, el WCOG notifica de manera pública que la política del organismo es garantizar el pleno cumplimiento del Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, la Ley de Recuperación de Derechos Civiles de 1987, el Decreto Presidencial 12898 sobre Justicia Ambiental, el Decreto Presidencial 13166 sobre Dominio Limitado del Idioma Inglés, así como los estatutos y reglamentos relacionados en todos los programas y actividades. De acuerdo con lo estipulado en el Título VI, ningún individuo de los Estados Unidos de América deberá, con fundamento en su raza, color, sexo o nacionalidad, ser excluido de participar en, que se le nieguen los beneficios de, o ser víctima de discriminación en virtud de cualquier programa o actividad por el cual el WCOG reciba fondos federales.

Toda persona que se considere agraviada por una práctica discriminatoria e ilícita en virtud del Título VI tiene derecho a presentar una denuncia formal ante el WCOG. Cualquier denuncia de este tipo debe presentarse por escrito ante el coordinador del Título VI del WCOG en un periodo de 180 días naturales a partir de la fecha de la presunta discriminación. El WCOG pone a disposición del público los formularios de denuncia del Título VI de manera gratuita en su página web.

WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
MINUTES – **DRAFT**
MAY 11, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE (IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM):

MEMBERS VOTING: **Bellingham:** Seth Fleetwood, Kristina Michelle Martens; **Blaine:** Richard May; **Ferndale:** Greg Hansen (2nd Vice Chairman); **Sumas:** Bruce Bosch; **WSDOT:** Chris Damitio; **Whatcom County:** Satpal Sidhu, Kaylee Galloway; **WTA:** Michael Lilliquist (1st Vice Chairman) *EX-OFFICIO:* Sen. Simon Sefzik; Chris Comeau, TTAG

GUESTS Les Reardanz, WTA; Clayton Roberts, Nooksack Tribe; Intisar Surur, McBride Public Affairs; Terry Terry, Lummi Island resident

STAFF Bob Wilson (Secretary), Ron Cubellis, Hugh Conroy, Melissa Fanucci, Lethal Coe

A. CALL TO ORDER

Secretary Wilson determined that there was a quorum, and Acting Chairman Lilliquist called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

C. AGENDA ADDITIONS

None

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2022

MOTION: Mr. Hansen moved, seconded by Mr. May, to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2022, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

E. NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of State Fiscal Year 2023 WCOG Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Conroy gave a brief summary of the UPWP and answered questions from the members.

MOTION: Mr. Hansen moved, seconded by Mr. Fleetwood, to adopt the SFY 2023 WCOG Unified Planning Work Program.

MOTION PASSED

F. PUBLIC HEARING

Amendment No. 22-05 to the 2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Coe described the proposed amendments to the 2022 TIP:

- Amend WSDOT's *I-5/Slater Road Interchange – Improvements* project to add the Right-of-way phase, increase the Construction phase, adjust the total project cost and update the schedule of expenditures. This project will implement improvements to the current interchange's northbound and southbound intersections – currently mini-roundabouts – along with the intersections of Northwest Avenue, Pacific Highway and Rural Avenue. This project is funded through the Connecting Washington Account.
- Amend WSDOT's *State Route 548/Alderson Road Vicinity – Culvert Replacement* project to add the Preliminary Engineering phase, increase the Construction phase, adjust the total project cost and update the schedule of expenditures. This project is funded through the State's Surface Transportation Program and will replace the existing culvert with one that will improve water flow.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 3:45 P.M.

No members of the public were present, either in the conference room or online. A Notice of Public Hearing was published in *The Bellingham Herald* on May 1, 2022, as well as in the online edition of the *Cascadia Daily News*, which provided detailed instructions on how to submit comments or register to speak.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 3:45 P.M. BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

MOTION: Mr. Fleetwood moved, seconded by Mr. May, to approve Amendment No. 22-05 to the 2022 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program.

MOTION PASSED

G. OLD BUSINESS

None

H. OBLIGATION STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Coe briefed the Board on the region's current progress toward meeting its Federal Fiscal Year 2022 obligation target.

I. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Conroy briefed the Board on recent transportation planning activities.

J. BOARD OPEN FORUM

No comments were offered by members of the Board.

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Secretary

Approved June 8, 2022

DRAFT



whatcom council of governments

Memo

To: Whatcom MPO/RTPO Transportation Policy Board (WTPB)
Date: June 1, 2022
From: Hugh Conroy, Director of Planning *HC*
Subject: Consideration for adoption, *Way to Go, Whatcom*, the five-year update of the regional & metropolitan transportation plan (R/MTP)

Introduction

As part of our comprehensive, continuing, and cooperative MPO & RTPO planning processes, WCOG is responsible for updating and adopting our planning area's R/MTP every five years. 2022 is WCOG's update year. An updated plan must be approved by June 31

Way to Go, Whatcom

The proposed plan update is titled *Way to Go, Whatcom*. As with WCOG's current R/MTP (*Whatcom Mobility 2040*), *Way to Go, Whatcom* is delivered as a website, waytogowhatcom.org. At waytogowhatcom.org, PDFs of the draft plan (Whole main document, individual sections, and appendices) are available for download. For the purposes of Policy Board adoption, the current PDF (not the website version) is the document being considered. The direct link to that document is [Way-to-go-Whatcom-plan-draft.pdf](#)

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture

Way to Go, Whatcom includes, as an appendix, WCOG's federally required ITS architecture update. Please find WCOG's Draft ITS Architecture at waytogowhatcom.org/appendices/

Review and Comment Periods

March 25, 2022: **First draft sent to Policy Board and Transportation Technical Advisory Group (TTAG)** for review and comment prior to public comment period.

May 17, 2022: Slightly revised draft posted and announced for **public review and comment** (as well as sent to other government land-management agencies) along with information and links to two virtual open houses (held April 25 & 26).

Comments received to-date are compiled in the Public Comments Appendix available at waytogowhatcom.org/appendices/

June 24, 2022 **End of public comment period.** (If comments are received after a June 8 adoption that should be considered for resulting changes to the plan, an amendment could be done in the fall.)

Suggested motion

<p>"Adopt <i>Way to Go, Whatcom</i> as WCOG's updated regional and metropolitan long-range transportation plan."</p>
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MEMORANDUM

To: Whatcom Transportation Policy Board
From: Lethal Coe, Senior Planner
Date: May 27, 2022
Subject: WCOG 2022 TIP Amendment

Amendment #5 (22-06) of the WCOG 2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes the following new Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) projects:

1. Add *I-5/Guide Meridian Interchange – ADA Compliance* project to upgrade curb ramps to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. This project is funded through National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) and construction is scheduled to begin in 2023.
2. Add *I-5/Tributaries to Friday, Lake & Chuckanut Creeks – Fish Passage* project to remove and replace existing barrier with fish passable structure. This project is funding through Washington State Connecting Washington Account (CWA) and Coronavirus State Recovery Fund (CSRF) and will begin construction in 2023.
3. Add *I-5/Baker Creek & Spring Creek – Fish Passage* project to remove and replace existing barrier with fish passable structure. This project is funding through Washington State CWA and CSRF and will begin construction in 2023.
4. Add *SR 539/Baker Creek – Fish Passage* project to remove and replace existing barrier with fish passable structure. This project is funding through Washington State CWA and CSRF and will begin construction in 2023.
5. Add *SR 542/Unnamed Tributaries to High, Mitchell & Nooksack Creeks – Fish Passage* project to remove and replace existing barrier with fish passable structure. This project is funding through Washington State CWA and CSRF and will begin construction in 2023.
6. Add *SR 542/Squalicum Creek to Bellingham Bay - Fish Passage* project to remove and replace existing barrier with fish passable structure. This project is funding through Washington State CWA and CSRF and will begin construction in 2022.
7. Add *SR 546/Unnamed Tributary to Fishtrap Creek – Fish Passage* project to remove and replace existing barrier with fish passable structure. This project is funding through Washington State CWA and CSRF and will begin construction in 2023.

WCOG TIP Amendment #5 (22-06) Table

#	Agency	Project Title	Amended TIP Action	Added Funds	Total Cost	Source
1	WSDOT	<i>I-5/Guide Meridian Interchange – ADA Compliance</i>	Add New	793,977	793,977	NHPP
2	WSDOT	<i>I-5/Tributaries to Friday, Lake & Chuckanut Creeks – Fish Passag</i>	Add New	22,767,838	22,767,838	CWA, CSRF
3	WSDOT	<i>I-5/Baker Creek & Spring Creek – Fish Passage</i>	Add New	23,021,753	23,021,753	CWA, CSRF
4	WSDOT	<i>SR 539/Baker Creek – Fish Passage</i>	Add New	26,593,883	26,593,883	CWA, CSRF
5	WSDOT	<i>SR 542/Unnamed Tributaries to High, Mitchell & Nooksack Creeks – Fish Passage</i>	Add New	17,058,000	17,058,000	CWA, CSRF
6	WSDOT	<i>SR 542/Squalicum Creek to Bellingham Bay - Fish Passage</i>	Add New	10,260,647	10,260,647	CWA, CSRF
7	WSDOT	<i>SR 546/Unnamed Tributary to Fishtrap Creek – Fish Passage</i>	Add New	8,576,315	8,576,315	CWA, CSRF

Formal TIP Amendments require review and resolution from the Policy Board to amend the current TIP and make federal funding accessible.

Suggested Policy Board Action:

Approve Amendment #5 of the Whatcom Council of Governments 2022 Transportation Improvement Program.

No Policy Board Action Required for the following Administrative Modifications

Recent or Upcoming Administrative Modifications - Administrative modifications are less substantial project changes and are administered by WCOG staff.

Agency	Project	Modification Administered	Total Costs	Federal Source
WCOG	<i>2022 Cascade Gateway Commercial Vehicle Operations Study</i>	Title change.	97,000	Discretionary