

WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
MINUTES
MARCH 11, 2020

IN ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS VOTING: Scott Korthuis (Chairman), Bonnie Onyon, Blaine; Greg Hansen, Ferndale; Tom Jones, Nooksack; Kyle Christensen, Sumas; Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County; Michael Lilliquist, WTA; EX-OFFICIO: None

GUESTS Chris D'Amitio, WSDOT

STAFF Bob Wilson (Secretary), Hugh Conroy, Lethal Coe

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Korthuis called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

C. AGENDA APPROVAL

In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic and the public health recommendation to minimize social contact, Mr. Wilson requested that the draft agenda be amended to include only legally-required agenda items and time-sensitive new business.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Lilliquist seconded, to amend the draft agenda to include only the following items: Call to Order; Public Comment; Agenda Approval; Approval of Minutes; New Business – Allocation of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Funds to Ensure 2020 Obligation Target Delivery; Public Hearing; and Adjournment.

MOTION PASSED

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2020

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Lilliquist seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 22, 2020.

MOTION PASSED

E. NEW BUSINESS

Allocation of STBG Funds to Ensure 2020 Obligation Target Delivery

Mr. Coe explained the need to allocate STBG funds that were unused by Bellingham for its Mahogany Avenue project to four other regional projects to ensure that the region meets its annual obligation target. The four projects are:

- Everson – Lincoln Street Improvements, Phases 1 and 2: \$100,000
- Lynden – Riverview Road Gap Elimination: \$92,000
- Blaine – Hughes Avenue Reconstruction: \$279,000
- Whatcom County – Birch Bay Drive and Pedestrian Facility: \$279,000

MOTION: Mr. Christensen moved, Mr. Jones seconded, to allocate a total of \$750,000 of regional STBG funds to the aforementioned projects recommended by the Transportation Technical Advisory Group to assist in the delivery of the region's 2020 federal obligation.

MOTION PASSED

F. PUBLIC HEARING

Amending the 2020 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Coe distributed a revised memo from that which was included in the meeting packet and then described the proposed amendments to the 2020 TIP:

1. Amend Whatcom Transportation Authority project *Replace Fixed-Route Diesel Buses* by reducing the number of buses to be replaced from 14 to eight, reducing the cost to \$4.8-million.
2. Remove Bellingham project *West Horton Road, Phase 1* construction that was obligated in 2019.
3. Remove Whatcom County's *Lummi Island Breakwater Replacement* and *Lummi Island Terminal Preservation* projects. Both obligated in 2019.
4. Add Bellingham project *James Street/Whatcom Creek Bridge*, which has been awarded Federal Bridge Program funding. Total cost is \$4.52-million and obligation is anticipated in early 2022.
5. Add Bellingham project *Meador Avenue/Whatcom Creek Bridge*, which has been awarded Federal Bridge Program funding. Total cost is \$4.52-million and obligation is anticipated in early 2022.
6. Add Whatcom County project *North Lake Samish Drive Bridge No. 107 Replacement*, which has been awarded Federal Bridge Program funding. Total cost is \$11.27-million and construction will begin in 2021.
7. Add Whatcom County project *Goshen Road/Anderson Creek Bridge No. 248 Replacement*, which has been awarded Federal Bridge Program funding. Total cost is \$5.07-million and construction will begin in 2022.

8. Add an additional \$100,000 of regional STBG funds to Everson projects *Lincoln Street Improvements, Phases 1 and 2.*
9. Add an additional \$92,000 of regional STBG funds to Lynden project *Riverview Road Gap Elimination.*
10. Add an additional \$279,000 of regional STBG funds to Blaine project *Hughes Avenue Reconstruction.*
11. Add an additional \$279,000 of regional STBG funds to Whatcom County project *Birch Bay Drive and Pedestrian Facility.*

Mr. Coe then answered questions posed by the representatives.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 3:40 P.M.

No public comment was received.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 3:40 P.M. BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

MOTION: Mr. Lilliquist moved, Mr. Hansen seconded, to approve Amendment No. 2003 to the 2020 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program.

MOTION PASSED

G. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.



Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Secretary

Approved May 13, 2020