



MEETING OF THE
WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 3:30 p.m.
Gordon W. Rogers Conference Room
314 East Champion Street, Bellingham, Washington

Join using [Zoom](#)
Or 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 *(if any)*
- 3-6 D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES*
Meeting of January 18, 2023
- E. OLD BUSINESS *(if any)*
- F. NEW BUSINESS *(if any)*
- 7-8 G. PUBLIC HEARING
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment No. 2023-03
 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
 5. Vote on Proposed TIP Amendment*
- H. OBLIGATION STATUS UPDATE – Mr. Coe
- I. PLANNING DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Hugh Conroy
- 9-10 J. CORRESPONDENCE
- 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**
JANUARY 18, 2023

IN ATTENDANCE (IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM):

MEMBERS VOTING: **Bellingham:** Edwin “Skip” Williams; **Everson:** John Perry; **Lummi Nation:** Terrence Adams (alternate for Anthony Hillaire); **Lynden:** Scott Korthuis (Chairman); **Nooksack:** Kevin Hester; **Port of Bellingham:** Bobby Briscoe; **Sumas:** Bruce Bosch; **WSDOT:** Todd Carlson; **Whatcom County:** Kaylee Galloway; **WTA:** Michael Lilliquist

GUESTS Jeff Knakal, Council Board; Guy Occhiogrosso, Bellingham Regional Chamber; Intisar Surur, McBride Public Affairs; Terry Terry, Lummi Island resident; Kirk Vinish, Lummi Nation Planning Department

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 Chairman Korthuis called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

C. AGENDA ADDITIONS

None

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 12, 2022

MOTION: Mr. Hester moved, second by Mr. Briscoe, to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 12, 2022, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

E. OLD BUSINESS

None

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Adopt 2023 Safety Targets

Mr. Conroy explained the proposed safety targets and the requirement that the Policy Board adopt them annually.

MOTION: Mr. Briscoe moved, second by Mr. Williams, to approve Whatcom Transportation Policy Board Resolution No. 23-01-1, “Adopting Statewide Safety Performance Targets.” (Copy of resolution attached)

MOTION PASSED

2. Allocation of Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Funding

Mr. Coe explained the CRP, which was authorized under the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in 2021, and the recommendation of the Transportation Technical Advisory Group to the Policy Board to utilize CRP funds for projects currently in the Transportation Improvement Program.

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, second by Mr. Lilliquist, to approve the recommendation of TTAG to award 2022-2026 CRP funds to current Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Transportation Alternatives (TA) projects, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

3. 2023 Federal Funding Form and Evaluation Criteria

Mr. Conroy explained the proposed form and process for making allocation recommendations to the Policy Board for STBG, TA and CRP funds.

MOTION: Mr. Briscoe moved, second by Mr. Hester, to approve the 2023 Federal Funding Project Proposal Form, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

4. Prioritize Consolidated Grant Program (CGP) Funding Applications

Mr. Conroy explained the CGP and the process used by the ad hoc Human Services Transportation Plan Project Review Committee to rank regional CGP funding requests. He then requested that the Policy Board approve the committee’s recommendations.

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, second by Mr. Lilliquist, to approve the regional rankings of 2023-2024 funding proposals to WSDOT’s Consolidated Grants Program, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

G. PUBLIC HEARING

Amendment No. 23-01 to the 2023 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Coe described the proposed amendment to the 2023 TIP:

1. Add Lummi Nation project *Elevate Slater Road* preliminary engineering (PE) phase to address flooding issues along Slater Road. The project has secured \$2-million in funding from the Moving Ahead Washington account for the 2021-2023 biennium as well as a federal earmark for \$350,000, bringing total funding for PE to \$2,350,000, which shall begin in 2023. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$50-million.
2. Amend Blaine's *Boblett Street Traffic Channelization and Corridor Improvements* project to increase the construction phase from \$1,040,730 to \$2,964,671 as the result of the addition of CRP and local funds. This project is scheduled to obligate the construction phase by the end of FFY 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 4:40 P.M.

No public comment was offered.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 4:40 P.M. BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, second by Mr. Briscoe, to approve Amendment No. 23-01 to the 2023 WCOG TIP, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

H. OBLIGATION STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Coe briefed the Board on the region's current progress toward meeting its Federal Fiscal Year 2023 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 for the good of the order.

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Secretary

Approval scheduled for March 8, 2023



whatcom council of governments

**WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 23-01-1**

ADOPTING STATEWIDE SAFETY PERFORMANCE TARGETS

WHEREAS the 2012 federal transportation act, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) established a performance management framework for state departments of transportation and metropolitan planning organizations such as the Whatcom Council of Governments, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with 23 CFR §490 and 23 CFR §924, the MAP-21 performance framework includes traffic safety objectives of significantly reducing fatal and serious-injury crashes on all public roads and reducing fatalities and serious injuries to people using non-motorized transportation modes such as walking and bicycling, and

WHEREAS states are required to annually set targets for each measure, and Washington State has set its 2023 Highway Safety Improvement Program safety performance targets as follows,

1. Number of fatalities on all public roads (rolling five-year average): 447.5
2. Fatality rate per million vehicle miles traveled (VMT) (rolling five-year average): 0.757
3. Serious injuries (rolling five-year average): 1,876.5
4. Serious injury rate per 100 million VMT: 3.178
5. Non-motorist fatalities and serious injuries: 462.0, and,

WHEREAS metropolitan planning organizations must agree to plan and program projects that contribute to their state's annually-adopted targets, or commit to other quantifiable targets, and

WHEREAS Washington's metropolitan planning organizations have agreed to adopt the safety targets established by Washington State.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board agrees to plan and program projects in the Whatcom metropolitan planning area that will contribute to the attainment of Washington State's 2023 Highway Safety Improvement Program targets for each of the five measures.

Adopted this Eighteenth day of January 2023, in the City of Bellingham, Washington, a quorum being present.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Wilson', written over a horizontal line.

Robert H. Wilson, AICP, Secretary



MEMORANDUM

To: Whatcom Transportation Policy Board
From: Lethal Coe, Principal Planner
Date: February 27, 2023
Subject: WCOG 2023 TIP Amendment

Amendment #2 (23-03) of the WCOG 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes the following:

1. Amend WSDOT project *NWR Breakaway Cable Terminal (BCT) Replacement 21-23* to increase construction phase funding. The BCTs will be removed and replaced with guardrail terminals meeting current standards reducing the risk of injury collisions at select locations. This project is funded federally through the Highway Safety Improvement Program along with portion of supportive state funds from the Motor Vehicle Account.

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 #2 of the Whatcom Council of Governments 2023 Transportation Improvement Program.

WCOG TIP Amendment #2 (23-03) Table

#	Agency	Project Title	Amended TIP Action	Added Funds	Total Cost	Source
1	WSDOT	<i>NWR Breakaway Cable Terminal Replacement 21-23</i>	Increase CN phase funding	1,389,491	1,743,609	HSIP, MVA

Recent or Upcoming Administrative Modifications - Administrative modifications are less substantial project changes and are administered by WCOG staff. [No Policy Board Action Required for the following Administrative Modifications](#)

Agency	Project	Modification Administered	Total Costs	Source
Everson	<i>SR 544 S. Everson Sidewalk Improvements</i>	Add Carbon Reduction Program funds, remove PE phase and increase ROW phase funding	3,050,913	TA, SRTS, and CRP
Whatcom	<i>Birch Bay Lynden Rd & Blaine Rd Intersection Improvements</i>	Add Carbon Reduction Program funds	4,850,000	STBG, HSIP, CRP
Whatcom	<i>E. Smith & Hannegan Road Intersection Improvements</i>	Add Carbon Reduction Program funds	5,350,000	STBG, HSIP, CRP
Lynden	<i>Benson Rd Improvements, Sunrise Dr to Badger Rd</i>	Add Carbon Reduction Program funds	3,769,000	STBG, CRP



January 23, 2023

The Hon. Scott Korthuis, Mayor
City of Lynden
300 4th Street
Lynden, Washington

RE: **Support for Proposed Bradley Road Safety Improvements**

Dear Mayor Korthuis:

The Whatcom Council of Governments is pleased to support the City of Lynden's proposed safety improvements to Bradley Road. When completed, this project will result in curbs and a sidewalk on the south side of the road that will significantly enhance safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. That is particularly important in that area of the City, since Bradley serves as the frontage road for Lynden High School and is also the principal connection to Line Road and the recently completed Lynden Middle School.

As you know, WCOG's recently adopted long-range transportation plan, *Way to Go, Whatcom*, established Safety as its primary goal; this project would support that goal. It would also support the Plan's goals of Climate and Environmental Quality, System Efficiency, and Access.

The Whatcom Council of Governments looks forward to working with the City in making this important project a reality.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. H. Wilson".

Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Executive Director

Copies: WCOG Council Board



January 23, 2023

The Hon. Scott Korthuis, Mayor
City of Lynden
300 4th Street
Lynden, Washington

RE: **Support for Proposed Vinup Road-Bradley Road Roundabout**

Dear Mayor Korthuis:

The Whatcom Council of Governments is pleased to support the City of Lynden's proposed improvement of the intersection of Vinup and Bradley Roads through its conversion to a roundabout. When completed, this project will dramatically improve the operation of this failing intersection, resulting in a significant reduction in traffic congestion and, most importantly, greatly enhanced safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers. The project will also bring this heavily used facility up to Washington's "Complete Streets" standard by providing improved pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

As you know, WCOG's recently adopted long-range transportation plan, *Way to Go, Whatcom*, established Safety as its primary goal; this project would support that goal. It would also support the Plan's goals of Climate and Environmental Quality, System Efficiency, and Access.

The Whatcom Council of Governments looks forward to working with the City in making this important project a reality.

Very truly yours,

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Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Executive Director

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