

WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
MINUTES
JANUARY 18, 2017

IN ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS Bob Bromley, Chairman (SUMAS); Michael McAuley, 1st Vice-Chairman (PORT OF BELLINGHAM); Harry Robinson (BLAINE); Scott Korthuis (LYNDEN); Tom Jones (NOOKSACK); Todd Carlson (for Jay Drye) (WSDOT); Paul Greenough (WTA)

GUESTS Stoney Bird, Larry Brown, Kaylee Galloway (representing Rep. Suzan DelBene), Michael Lilliquist, Pete Stark

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

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bromley called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. with a quorum present.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

C. AGENDA APPROVAL

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

MOTION PASSED

D. MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Korthuis moved, Mr. McAuley seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting October 12, 2016.

MOTION PASSED

E. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

F. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

G. PUBLIC HEARING

Amendment to the 2016 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Coe described the proposed amendment to the 2017 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program:

- Add new WSDOT project: *State Route (SR) 542/Nooksack River to Mt. Baker Gate – BST*. This project will rehabilitate SR 542 with bituminous surface treatment and minor safety work. This \$1.48-million project is funded through Western Federal Lands (WFL) funds. Construction will begin in 2017.
- Add new WSDOT project: *SR 20/Rocky Creek to Granite Creek – BST*. This project will rehabilitate SR 20 with bituminous surface treatment and minor safety work. This \$4.62-million project is funded through WFL and the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP). Construction will begin in 2017.
- Replace Connecting Washington Account (CWA) funds with federal STBGP funds for WSDOT project: *SR 542/Dewey Road Vicinity – Culvert Replacement*. In addition to the replacement of the CWA funds, the obligated Preliminary Engineering phase has been removed. Construction will begin in 2018.
- Add Right-of-way phase and remove Preliminary Engineering phase for Ferndale's *Thornton Street Overpass* project. The project is funded through the Connecting Washington Account.
- Add new Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) project: *Purchase Property*. The project will be funded through Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 for \$1.04-million.
- Reduce funds for WTA project *Replace Vanpool Vans* for the purchase of three vans instead of eight, as is currently programmed. The amount of FTA 5307 funds is reduced to \$96,000.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 3:13 P.M.

MOTION: Mr. Korthuis moved, Mr. Robinson seconded, to close the public hearing.

MOTION PASSED

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 3:17 P.M.

MOTION: Mr. Korthuis moved, Mr. Greenough seconded, to approve Amendment No. 1701 to the Whatcom Council of Governments' 2017 Transportation Improvement Program.

MOTION PASSED

H. REPORTS

H.1 Planning Director's Report

Mr. Conroy updated the Board on the following:

- The Policy Board will be asked to certify the transportation elements of all the Region's local comprehensive plans at its March meeting
- The International Mobility and Trade Corridor Program (several items)
- Mobility Summit scheduled for January 24th at Skagit Station to address coordination of human services transportation in Whatcom, Island and Skagit counties
- Recent submittal of a funding application to the State Traffic Commission to address vehicle accidents involving pedestrians
- Briefing by staff of the Washington State Transportation Commission on the State's *Road Usage Charge Pilot Program* to be on the agenda of the March Policy Board meeting.

H.2 Whatcom Mobility 2040

Mr. Conroy informed the Board that new draft sections of the plan have been added to the *Whatcom Mobility 2040* page on WCOG's website, including the financial analysis, and that other sections will be added soon. Staff is developing the plan's project list, and when it is complete, consultation with public land management agencies will occur, as required under federal law.

I. WHATCOM MOBILITY 2040 PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

J. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was contained in the packet or distributed at the meeting.

K. BOARD OPEN FORUM

No comments were offered.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Robert J. Bromley
Chairman

Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Secretary