



WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

Wednesday, May 9, 2018, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

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

AGENDA

PAGES

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- 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. AGENDA APPROVAL*
- 2-4 D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES*
Meeting of March 14, 2018
- E. OLD BUSINESS
- 5-6 F. PUBLIC HEARING
Amend the 2018 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - 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.*
 - 3. Close Public Hearing*
 - 4. Board Discussion
- 7 G. NEW BUSINESS
 - 1. Everson-Lincoln Street Funding Shortage – Lethal Coe*
 - 2. TIP Amendment No. 1805*
 - 3. Other New Business (if any)
- H. OBLIGATION STATUS UPDATE – Lethal Coe
- I. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Hugh Conroy
- J. CORRESPONDENCE
- K. BOARD OPEN FORUM
- L. ADJOURN

* Action item

WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
MINUTES – DRAFT
MARCH 14, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS VOTING: Jon Mutchler, Ferndale (Chairman); Tom Jones, Nooksack (1st Vice-Chairman); Jack Louws, Whatcom County (2nd Vice-Chairman); Pinky Vargas (for Kelli Linville) and Terry Bornemann, Bellingham; Scott Korthuis, Lynden; Michael Shepard (for Bobby Briscoe), Port of Bellingham; Kyle Christensen, Sumas; Jay Drye, WSDOT; Cathy Watson, WTA; EX-OFFICIO: Terry Terry, CTAG; Chris Comeau, TTAG

GUESTS Kathy Berg, CTAG; Pete Stark, WTA; Kirk Vinish, Lummi Nation; Greg Young, Ferndale

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

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were in attendance.

C. AGENDA APPROVAL

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

D. MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Korthuis moved, Mr. Bornemann seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 17, 2018.

MOTION PASSED

E. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

Amend the 2018 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Coe described proposed TIP Amendment No. 1803, to which was added a sixth item not included on the table in the meeting packet.

1. Add new Bellingham project *F Street Crossing*. This rail crossing project – funded through the federal Highway Crossing Program (Section 130) – will improve gates, pedestrian and bicyclist safety, and travel lane channelization. Construction will begin in 2019. Total cost: \$730,000.
2. Add new Port of Bellingham project *Harris Avenue Crossing*. This rail crossing project is also funded through the federal Highway Crossing Program and will improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety, and travel lane channelization. Construction will begin in 2019. Total cost: \$388,889.
3. Add new WCOG project *IMTC Passenger Vehicle Survey*. This project will survey approximately 10,000 drivers crossing the border at the five Cascade Gateway ports-of-entry in the summer of 2018 and winter 2018-19. The project is funded by FHWA (\$66,116) matched by \$66,116 provided jointly by the B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Western Washington University’s Border Policy Research Institute and WCOG. Total cost: \$132,232.
4. Amend WTA project *Replace (Approx. 6) Paratransit Mini-Buses*. This amendment adds \$250,000 to the project to increase the number of mini-buses to eight. New project cost: \$1,000,000.
5. Amend WSDOT project *I-5/Squalicum Creek to SR 539 – Bridge Deck Overlays* to add \$748,156 for the Construction phase. This project is funded through the federal National Highway Performance Program and construction will begin in 2019. New project cost: \$840,135.
6. Remove WSDOT project *Regionwide Shoulder Rumble-Strip Installation (17-19)*, funded through the federal Highway Safety Improvement Program. Project will remain funded for SR 20 in Skagit County. Total funds removed: \$106,116.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 3:37 P.M.

No members of the public were in attendance.

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

MOTION PASSED

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 3:37 P.M.

G. NEW BUSINESS

G.1 TIP Amendment No. 1803

MOTION: Mr. Louws moved, Mr. Korthuis seconded, to approve Amendment No. 1803 to the Whatcom Council of Governments’ 2018 Transportation Improvement Program.

MOTION PASSED

G.2 Recognition of Kathy Berg

MOTION: Mr. Korthuis moved, Mr. Bornemann seconded, to recognize the dedicated service of Kathy Berg in her capacity as chairwoman of the Citizens' Transportation Advisory Group from 2008 through 2017 by presenting her with a Certificate of Appreciation, with the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board's most-sincere thanks and deepest appreciation.

MOTION PASSED

Ms. Berg received a warm round of applause from all of those in attendance.

H. OBLIGATION STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Coe briefed the Board on the Region's progress in meeting its obligation target for regional projects funded through the federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program.

I. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Conroy briefed the Board on current and upcoming planning activities. He also asked the member jurisdictions for their assistance in making the public aware of the upcoming Household Travel Survey, and there was consensus among the representatives to assist WCOG in this effort.

J. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Wilson directed the members' attention to a copy of a letter he had sent to the Joint Transportation Committee in support of Blaine's request for funding to update the Interchange Justification Report (IJR) for Exit 274.

K. BOARD OPEN FORUM

Mr. Drye explained some of the challenges he anticipates with the update of the Exit 274 IJR.

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.



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MEMORANDUM

To: Whatcom Transportation Policy Board
From: Lethal Coe, Senior Planner
Date: May 1, 2018
Subject: WCOG 2018 TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications

Amendment 3 (1805) of the 2018 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes the following:

1. Remove Bellingham project *Mahogany Ave Arterial*. This project was obligated last October 2017 and is currently under construction. Removing the project will allow fiscal STBG space for the inclusion of Bellingham *West Horton Road, Phase 1* construction phase (item 2)
2. Add Bellingham *West Horton Road, Phase 1* construction phase. The project will construct a new arterial to connect west to Aldrich Rd. Funded through WCOG federal STBG funds, construction will begin 2019.
3. Add new Lummi project *Lummi Shore Drive Sidewalk*. This project will construct pedestrian and bicycle facilities from Kwina Road to Scott Road and is funded through Connecting Washington Account.

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

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve Amendment 3 for the Whatcom Council of Governments 2018 Transportation Improvement Program.

Whatcom Council of Governments
2018 Transportation Improvement Program

Amendment 3 (1805) Table

#	Agency	Project Title	Amended Action	Added Funds \$	Total Costs \$	Fed Source
1	Bellingham	<i>Mahogany Ave Arterial</i>	Remove project	-5,674,793	7,388,121	STBG (US)
2	Bellingham	<i>West Horton Road, Phase 1</i>	Add construction phase	4,333,000	5,412,000	STBG (US)
3	Lummi	<i>Lummi Shore Drive Sidewalk</i>	Add new project	1,070,000	1,070,000	WA CWA

Recent Non-Amendment TIP Activities - administrative modifications are less substantial project changes that do not require Policy Board action and are administered by WCOG staff.

Administrative Modifications – 1804

Agency	Project	Modification Administered	Total Costs	Federal Source
Lynden	<i>Riverview Road Gap Elimination</i>	Adjust Termini	3,001,577	STBG(US)



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MEMORANDUM

To: Whatcom Transportation Policy Board
From: Lethal Coe, Senior Planner
Date: May 1, 2018
Subject: Everson Lincoln projects funding shortage

Problem Statement:

The City of Everson *Lincoln St 1 & 2* projects are currently obligated (as of February) for construction and are jointly programmed. The low bid that came back this April was **\$524,000** above their total programmed funds. Everson currently does not have the resources to finance the additional funds needed.

Proposed Solution:

Whatcom County is willing to provide Everson the necessary STBG funds from their delayed *Birch Bay Drive & Pedestrian Facility* project as long as the Policy Board approves replacement funds from WCOG's STBG allocation.

The STBG funds Everson needs to fill their shortfall while maintaining their federal funding percentage = **\$450,000**. The funds added to Lincoln projects will allow them to move forward with construction now. However, the additional STBG funds do not have to be obligated right away and can wait until federal fiscal 2019 (October). That way we can maintain our 2-year allocation capacity to allow Blaine, Lynden, and Bellingham to obligate (at this time there is no indication that we will have to go to advanced construction).

In summary, the County would provide \$450,000 in STBG funds from their Birch Bay project to fill Everson's Lincoln 1 & 2 shortage. The County would be awarded the \$450,000 in STBG funds at our next call for projects.

TTAG members were polled via email and all respondents (Bellingham, Blaine, Ferndale, Lynden, Sumas, and WSDOT) expressed support of the proposed funding solution.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve the STBG funds transfer of up to \$450,000 from Whatcom County *Birch Bay Drive and Pedestrian Facility* project to Everson *Lincoln St 1 & 2* and approve up to \$450,000 award off-the-top of WCOG's next STBG-regional allocation to *Birch Bay Drive and Pedestrian Facility*.

If approved by the policy board, the project funding transfer will take effect in the **May TIP Amendment 3 (1805)**.