



MEMORANDUM

To: Whatcom Transportation Policy Board
From: Lethal Coe, Principal Planner
Date: June 30, 2023
Subject: WCOG 2023 TIP Amendment

Amendment #4 (23-07) of the WCOG 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes the following:

1. Add City of Lynden project *Bradley Road Safe Routes Pedestrian Improvements* that was awarded by Moving Ahead Washington to construct bike lanes and ADA compliant sidewalks adjacent to Lynden High School. The total project cost is estimated for \$3 million. Preliminary engineering is scheduled to begin later this year and construction is planned for 2025.
2. Amend City of Bellingham project *Meador Avenue/Whatcom Creek Bridge* to increase the construction phase funds by \$2,346,009. This project is funded with Federal Bridge program and is speedily preparing for construction obligation late summer/early Fall 2023.
3. Amend City of Bellingham project *James Street/Whatcom Creek Bridge* to increase the construction phase funds by \$2,481,232. This project is funded with Federal Bridge program and is speedily preparing for construction obligation late summer/early Fall 2023.
4. Amend WSDOT project *I-5/Tributaries to Friday, Lake & Chuckanut Creeks - Fish Passage* to increase phase funding for preliminary engineering, right-of-way, and construction. The project is funded through the WA Motor Vehicle Account and Coronavirus State Recovery Fund.
5. [Pending policy board action] Remove City of Bellingham project *James/Bakerview Intersection Reconstruction*. The project is currently federally funded through Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) and regional Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding. COB has moved forward to defederalize the project through WSDOT Local Programs.
6. [Pending policy board action] Move the City of Bellingham project *Meridian-Birchwood Roundabout Phase 1* from a 2026 to 2027 construction year for the remainder of the 2023 TIP/STIP program and add the \$1 mil of STBG funding transferred from *James/Bakerview Intersection Reconstruction*. This will remove the project from the four-year fiscal constraints that is currently overprogrammed due to the lower-than-anticipated STBG and TA allocation in 2023. The lower-than-anticipated STBG-TA allocation is currently expected to continue in 2024. (Note that we currently do not estimate that this will affect the advancement of STBG-TA projects.) The *Meridian-Birchwood Roundabout Phase 1* project will be brought back into the 2024 TIP/STIP with the full \$3.5 million of STBG allocation with planned construction year 2025.

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

WCOG TIP Amendment #4 (23-07) Table

| # | Agency | Project Title | Amended TIP Action | Added Funds | Total Cost | Source |
|---|------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | Lynden | <i>Bradley Road Safe Routes Pedestrian Improvements</i> | Add new project | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | MAW |
| 2 | Bellingham | <i>Meador Avenue/Whatcom Creek Bridge</i> | Increase construction funding | 2,346,009 | 6,229,885 | Bridge |
| 3 | Bellingham | <i>James Street/Whatcom Creek Bridge</i> | Increase construction funding | 2,481,232 | 6,365,108 | Bridge |
| 4 | WSDOT | <i>I-5/Tributaries to Friday, Lake & Chuckanut Creeks - Fish Passage</i> | Increase program funding all phases | 39,239,932 | 61,039,781 | MVA, CSRF |
| 5 | Bellingham | <i>James/Bakerview Intersection Reconstruction</i> | Remove project | 4,050,000 | 4,050,000 | HSIP, STBG |
| 6 | Bellingham | <i>Meridian-Birchwood Roundabout Phase 1</i> | Remove project | 7,000,000 | 7,000,000 | STBG |
| | | | | | | |

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 |
|---------|---|---|-------------|----------------|
| Whatcom | <i>North Lake Samish Drive Bridge No. 107 Replacement</i> | Add \$2.56 million of Bridge funding and reduce local funds by \$258k | \$13.5 mil | Federal Bridge |
| Everson | <i>Blair Dr Improvements</i> | Add \$58,459 to PE phase | \$2.08 mil | STBG |