

WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2021

IN ATTENDANCE (VIA ZOOM):

MEMBERS VOTING: Bellingham: Seth Fleetwood, Pinky Vargas (1st Vice Chairwoman); Blaine: Bonnie Onyon; Ferndale: Greg Hansen (2nd Vice Chairman); Lynden: Scott Korthuis (Chairman); Nooksack: Tom Jones; Port of Bellingham: Ken Bell; Sumas: Kyle Christensen; Whatcom County: Satpal Sidhu, Carol Frazey; WSDOT: Jay Drye; WTA: Michael Lilliquist EX-OFFICIO: TTAG: Chris Comeau; PUD: Atul Deshmane

GUESTS Michael Jones, Blaine; Pete Stark, Les Reardanz, WTA; Tyler Byrd, Jon Hutchings, Whatcom County

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

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Korthuis called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Secretary Wilson then called the roll and determined that a quorum was present.

B. AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Lilliquist seconded, to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION PASSED

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14, 2020

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Lilliquist seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 14, 2020.

MOTION PASSED

D. PUBLIC HEARING

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) No. 21-01

Mr. Coe described the proposed amendments to the 2021 TIP:

Add Blaine project *Peace Portal Community Trail, Phase 3* construction. This project, which is funded through the regionally facilitated Transportation Alternatives program, obligated preliminary engineering in 2020 and is preparing to obligate for construction in 2022.

Because of the current public health crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor has ordered all meetings of governmental bodies to be conducted online. To facilitate public comment with this limitation, instructions are provided in the public hearing notices published in *The Bellingham Herald*. However, due to an oversight, no hearing notice was published, and therefore the public had no opportunity to comment. For this reason, Amendment No. 21-01 will be included in the public hearing to be held at the next meeting of the Policy Board.

MOTION: Mr. Sidhu moved, Mr. Hansen seconded, to approve Amendment No. 21-01 to the 2021 WCOG Transportation Improvement Program.

MOTION PASSED

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Statewide Safety Performance Targets

Mr. Conroy explained the need for the Policy Board to adopt the State's 2021 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) targets.

MOTION: Mr. Fleetwood moved, Mr. Jones seconded, to approve Whatcom Transportation Policy Board Resolution No. 21-01-1, adopting Washington's 2021 HSIP targets, and thereby agreeing to plan and program projects that will contribute to the achievement of the targets.

MOTION PASSED

2. Approval of Ranking of 2021-23 Consolidated Grant Program Requests

Mr. Conroy described the five regional requests for funding under the Consolidated Grants Program and the process used to rank the requests according to WSDOT's methodology.

MOTION: Mr. Lilliquist moved, Mr. Hansen seconded, to approve the regional ranking of Whatcom County's FYs 2021-23 funding requests to WSDOT's Consolidated Grants Program, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

3. Adoption of 2021 Cost Allocation Plan

Mr. Cubellis briefly described the 2021 Cost Allocation Plan.

MOTION: Mr. Bell moved, Mr. Hansen seconded, to approve the Whatcom Council of Governments' 2021 Cost Allocation Plan, as presented.

MOTION PASSED

4. Restructuring the Citizens' Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)

Mr. Conroy described possible changes to how CTAG is structured and currently operates and asked if the Policy Board was interested in exploring the matter further. There was consensus to do so.

F. OBLIGATION STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Coe briefed the Board on current progress toward meeting the region's project delivery obligation target.

G. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Conroy briefed the Board on recent transportation planning activities.

H. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.



Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Secretary

Approved April 7, 2021