# Island County Council of Governments

**MEMBERS**

*Island County*

*Town of Coupeville*

*City of Oak Harbor*

*City of Langley*

*Island County Port Districts*

## September 28, 2016

Elected officials from Island County, City of Oak Harbor, City of Langley, Town of Coupeville and the Port Districts of Coupeville and South Whidbey will meet as Island County Council of Governments on September 28, 2016 in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at 1 NE 6th Street, with the following agenda items scheduled:

**9:00 a.m.** Council of Governments

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes for August 24, 2016
3. Discuss Presentation of Legislative Priorities to Legislators
4. Update on Attendees for October 26, 2016 Council of Government meeting
5. Council Roundtable
6. Eric Brooks with brief discussion of upcoming Pre-Winter Season Meeting
7. Other items of mutual interest
8. Items to discuss in October meeting
9. Adjournment

**ITPO MEETING AT 11:00AM**

**ISLAND COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**
**July 27, 2016**

The Island County Council of Governments on July 27, 2016 met in the Commissioners' Hearing Room 102B, located at 1 NE 6th St., Coupeville.

*The Council of Governments Minutes and recordings of meetings may be located at*
https://www.islandcountywa.gov/Commissioners/Pages/COG.aspx

**Members Present:** Curt Gordon, South Whidbey Port District Commissioner - Chair
Richard M. Hannold, Island County Commissioner
Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner – Vice Chair
Doug Merriman, City of Oak Harbor, City Manager
Tim Callison, City of Langley, Mayor
Molly Hughes, Town of Coupeville, Mayor
Mike Diamanti, Port of Coupeville Commissioner

**Also Present:** Jason Joiner, Whidbey Island Real Estate Association
Lynda Richards, Island County Human Services
Catherine Reid, Island County Human Services

## CALL TO ORDER
Chair Gordon called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES
It was moved by Commissioner Hannold and seconded by Port Commissioner Diamanti to approve the July 27, 2016 meeting minutes as presented; approved unanimously.

## DISCUSSION ON TOPICS TO PRESENT TO LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES
Council members discussed the various topics of concern in their municipalities they would like to address to the legislators. In order to more effective with the legislators the Council of Governments will create a priority list that will focus on three specific items of concern.

**City of Langley:**
- Public Works Trust Fund Restoration
- Protection of Capron Street Funds
- Increase in Main Street Funding

**City of Oak Harbor:**
- Capron Funding
- Funding for Capital – Public Works Trust fund, continued funding and working with Department of Ecology on their sewer treatment funding packages
- Public Records streamlined process
- Consideration of Main Street Funding increase

**County Commissioners:**
- *District 1*
  - Capital Funding – Freeland Sewer funding number one priority
  - Transportation Connections – ferry or transit connection vital for District 1
  - Public Health and Safety particularly around mental health issues

- *District 3*
  - Importance of County Connectors
  - Public Records
  - Unfunded mandates

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**Town of Coupeville:**

- Main Street Funding
- Mental Health Funding
- Air BNB regulations

**Port of Coupeville:**

- Public Records-efficiency and funding

**Port of South Whidbey:**

- Public Records Act
- Main Street Funding
- Public Works Trust Funds

## ISLAND COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA - PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Letter of Support from COG during legislation:

- Public Records Act – emphasis on transparency, address abusive and broad requests that impact staff time
- Public Works Trust Funds/Protecting all capital funding for all local government
- Retention of Capron
- Main Street Funding

Each representative should have at least 2 to 3 lines of what each item means to their area.

## DISCUSSION ON .09 FUNDS CALL TO BID PRESS RELEASE –

Motion to send the amended press release for call to bid for Rural County Economic Development Funds was moved by Commissioner Hannold, second by Commissioner Price Johnson; approved unanimously.

## DISCUSSION ON RENTAL AVAILABILITY AND HOUSING ASSISTANCE

*Jason Joiner, Chair of Whidbey Island Association of Realtors*

Mr. Joiner provided a brief synopsis of the housing market on Whidbey Island. He talked about the various encounters he has had with renters, affordability, occupancy rate, and housing availability.

Catherine Reid, Island County Human Services, discussed affordable housing availability and the assistance provided by Island County.

## ITEMS TO DISCUSS IN SEPTEMBER MEETING

- Invite legislators to attend September meeting to allow for review of the .09 Applications
- Affordable Housing Forum in Langley on October 19, 2016
- Port Commissioner Diamanti asked for the affordable housing conversation be on going. Commissioner Price Johnson said the County will be looking at addressing housing on the 2017 Docket for the Comprehensive Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

The Council of Governments will meet next on September 28, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Approved this 28th day of September, 2016.

Council of Governments,

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**Curt Gordon, Chair**

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