

ISLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (IRTPO) EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

June 27, 2018

**Executive Board Members in Attendance:**

**Member Attendance List**

Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner  
Steve Powers, City of Oak Harbor  
Jackie Henderson, Island Transit  
Curt Gordon, Port of South Whidbey  
Mohammad Mostfavinassab, Port of Coupeville Commissioner  
Todd Carlson, WSDOT  
Bill Oakes, IRTPO Executive Director  
Mike Nortier, Island Transit Exec. Dir  
Jennifer Meyer, NAS Whidbey

**Members not in Attendance**

Molly Hughes, Mayor, Town of Coupeville  
Bob Severns, Mayor City of Oak Harbor  
Rick Hannold, Island County Commissioner  
Jill Johnson, Island County Commissioner  
Tim Callison, Mayor, City of Langley

**Other Attendees**

Connie Bowers, IRTPO Staff

**Facilitator**

Brian Wood, IRTPO Staff

**May Action Items:**

- Update website with final agenda and minutes
- Look at backing up the transportation need index tuning to 65+

**Meeting started at 11:00am**

**Actions:**

- **Agenda:** Motion approved, all in favor.
- **Minutes of May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018 Meeting:** Motion approved, all in favor
- **HSTP Draft Strategies:** Motion to approve draft strategies as presented for the 2018 Island Coordinated Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan was approved, all in favor (strategies copied on last page of minutes)

**Special Needs Transportation Project Update**

- A presentation was made outlining how the draft strategies for the Coordinated Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan were developed, based on demographic data, 3 outreach workshops, online (and paper) surveys, ride alongs and Transportation Equity Committee meetings. Strategy statements referenced HSTP plans from 2010 and 2014 and incorporated needs and gaps from this project and the North Sound Transportation Alliance workshop.
- The draft strategies were previously emailed to IRTPO members and staff for additional comments. As a result:
  - One new strategy was added referencing support for last mile connections.
  - One strategy was reduced in specificity to better align with other strategies.

- Board Comment from Island Transit: Discussions during strategy development highlighted the need to find solutions outside of transit, especially given that many critical services are not within Island Transit’s jurisdiction. Public transportation can’t cross county lines
- It was noted that GIS tools can only take us so far with respect to identifying critical gaps.
- Q: “What does reduce the need for long distance travel mean?”
- A: This strategy references recommendations for high speed internet, telemedicine, and local services.

**Passenger only ferry Update**

- Commissioner Price Johnson discussed a recent meeting regarding passenger only ferry service.
- The meeting was a first step at developing a coordinated discussion on this topic. Impression was that smaller, electric vessels will be a part of future strategies for moving people around the sound.

**WSDOT Projects**

- WSDOT reported on progress for the Miller/Gibraltar Roundabout/Sharpe’s Corner roundabout project. The project is proceeding ahead of schedule, but the next few weeks will be more challenging due to removal of the traffic light and significant diversion for east bound traffic out of Anacortes.
- Banta/Northgate intersection will have a roundabout in 2019.
- Freeland vicinity improvements are still under discussion. We will look at operation improvements versus anything requiring right of way. Pedestrian crossing improvements are also an option.
- Some money from practical solutions are available to look at Clinton sidewalks, park and ride, sidewalk drainage, and other items. Scoping will take place in the fall.

**NEXT MEETING: July 25, 2018**

**Draft Strategy Recommendations:**

- 1) Preserve existing services
- 2) Expand existing services (including specialized transportation, veteran transport and access to underserved areas)
- 3) Improve regional access and coordination (including ferry considerations)
- 4) Foster increased use of existing services through outreach and education
- 5) Promote transportation resiliency and alternative travel options for vulnerable populations with regard to disasters
- 6) Promote innovative programs, processes, and technologies
- 7) Reduce need for long distance travel
- 8) Develop coordinated information resources and trip simplification tools
- 9) Develop a partner collaboration program
- 10) Establish systems for driver recruitment and training (paid & volunteer)
- 11) Explore new funding models and opportunities
- 12) Encourage services, programs, and infrastructure development that support last-mile connectivity