



ISLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (IRTPO) EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

February 23, 2022

Executive Board Member Attendance List

Melanie Bacon, Chair and County Commissioner - Island County
Curt Gordon, Vice Chair and Port Commissioner - Port of South Whidbey
Janet St. Clair, County Commissioner - Island County
Todd Morrow, Executive Director - Island Transit
Molly Hughes, Mayor - Town of Coupeville
Scott Chaplin, Mayor – City of Langley
Brian Tyhuis, Community Planning and Liaison Officer - NAS Whidbey
David Day, Port Commissioner – Port of Coupeville
Beth Munns, Mayor Pro Tem Councilmember - Island Transit Board Chair and City of Oak Harbor
Chris Damitio, Assistant Regional Administrator - WSDOT

Island County Public Works Staff Attendance List

Connie Bowers, Director of Public Works/County Engineer
Ed Sewester, Assistant County Engineer
Heather Bickford, Transportation Planner
Nikki Davis, Traffic Engineer
Catherine Kelley, Project Manager
Benjamin Jones, Transportation Planner

Interested Parties in Attendance

John Shambaugh, Planning Manager - WSDOT
Todd Carlson, Planning and Engineering Services Manager– WSDOT
Carmen Bendixen, Senior Transportation Planner – WSF

Commissioner Melanie Bacon, Chair, calls the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda and Draft Minutes from February 23, 2022

Mayor Molly Hughes moves to approve the draft agenda. Commissioner Janet St Clair seconds. All yeas, motion approved. Beth Munns moves to approve the minutes. Mayor Molly Hughes seconds. All yeas, motion approved.

2. March Meeting hosting Melanie Vance, Environmental Manager, WSDOT: Storm water/Impervious Surfaces/ESA Policy Shifts, Presentation and Q&A

3. Clinton to Ken's Corner Trail Awarded \$3.52 million through Climate Commitment Act Funding

Catherine Kelley-presented the Clinton to Ken's Corner Trail Climate Commitment Act Funding by explaining the following:

- **Total Cost/ Grant Awards**
 - Total Cost Estimate: \$4,520,000
 - Current Grant Award: \$3,520,000
 - Prior Grant Awarded: \$4,380,000
- **Local Agency Funds**
 - Local Funds: \$40,000
 - Management Reserve: \$90,000
 - Location/Length-2.14 Miles
- **Description**
 - A Multi-Modal, Non-Motorized 10 foot wide paved trail adjacent to the NE side Of SR-525 from deer Lake Rd. in Clinton to Langley Rd. in Langley.

Commissioner Melanie Bacon- express concerns if property needed to be purchase. Catherine explains they spoke with 3 property owners about some property acquisitions. Also discussed landscaping with the owners and no cost has been determined.

Heather Bickford- We received 3,520,000 from the Climate Commitment Act Funding and it's pretty exciting. This trail kind of lingering and now we have pot of money and it's pretty exciting. I think we will be able to transfer some federal funds from Swantown Trails into The Clinton to Ken's Corner Trail.

Commissioner Melanie Bacon- ask any questions for Katherine or Heather?

Vice Chair Curt Gordon-Do you think these slides will be made easily available through IRTPO website so we can access to show them to the Clinton's Community Council.

Heather Bickford- Absolutely I can work with Catherine Kelley on that.

Commissioner Janet St. Clair- I'm worrying about the time line on this and what is our estimates time.

Catherine Kellye-We are scheduled for Preliminary and final punch list and final construction 1/2/26.

Commissioner Melanie Bacon- people are going to be disappointed when they see construction going too started in 2023. Will there be anything to let people know if this continues to happen. Hopefully we keep the people patient with this.

Catherine Kelley- in April we will be having an online presentation source for the public. This will be available on their website. They are working with the consultant.

Heather Bickford- Suggested publishing a small article on the presentation and more informed.

Vice Chair Curt Gordon-2026 is a long way out but is going to correspond properly. That will be fantastic.

Clinton to Ken's Corner Trail Presentation:

<S:\TRAILS\Clinton to Ken's Corner Trail\Budget\PP Presentation for IRTPO>

4. Grants Available Now:

National Highway Freight Program (NHFB) – *only through the IRTPO*

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)

Regional Mobility Grants (RMG)

Commissioner Bacon-Ask Heather about grants

Heather Bickford-presented presentation on the National Highway Freight Program (NHFP) Grant:

- Is the project on a formally adopted plan-STIP, TIP and/or RTIP?
- Is your project on a known FGTS (freight) route waterway
- Will you be able to make the 13.5% match either locally or with a state grant?
- Will you have the project completed and funds spent between 2023-2025?
Note: yesterday I heard between 4-6 years, I will check on this.
- Preliminary Engineering, Right-of-Way, and Construction are all okay, you can do a single phase on all of them.

Mayor Molly Hughes-It would be good to put together a county charting plan and making it a bigger application.

Vice Chair Curt Gordon-ask do we have a charging plan in TIP (Transportation Improvement Plan).

Connie Bowers, Director of Public Works/County Engineer-- it's not in the TIP but the RTP, the study was but not the implementation.

Todd Carlson-He brought up the topic in two meetings in a state wide meeting with the WSDOT offices.

Mayor Molly Hughes-I don't think this the right grant for EV chargers but with all the federal infrastructure money, but it's for us to be project ready on a Whidbey Island or County Bases for a EV plan.

Todd Carlson- mention there a lot grants this year opened for grant opportunities.

Vice Chair Curt Gordon-With the planning grants that maybe IRTPO and County can get to put something like this together County Wide.

Todd Carlson-We will figure it out.

Commissioner Janet St. Clair- The freight conversation to me is highway 20 in connection to the ferry, we see a lot of freight moving across Whidbey Island and through our ferry system.

Todd Carson- If there-s a project identified in the regional plan that was freight oriented this would be really goodtime to apply for funding to go for it. I don't know if we have any freight, and the only one I could think of is the mess we got down in Coupeville ferry. Nor really contusive for freight. It actually pushes trucks to go their own way. That would be a project if that was a project. We can have funds design obligated for some projects.

Mayor Pro Tem Beth Moons – Because it limits what trucks freight to get through the peninsula if there a way to identify what companies are using it in there limitation on their hauls. Because they can't have the turn radius, would that be if that was written up in order to get that approved. Would that work as far as getting the design worked out and doing the leg work on it?

Todd Carson -these grants are for what's eligible which is preliminary engineering. An identified project that you can defined that you wanted to do engineering to design something.

Mayor Molly Hughes-Who would be responsible for that? Where the freight is making the wrong turn. That's DOT. Then when they get on Island County road and go further to get on Coupeville road. So would that be joint application or does that matter.

Todd Carson-We can't apply. We are not prohibited from applying. It has to be a local government or an agency other than DOT.

Heather Bickford- One of the things we have task they going to do is look for truck traffic light at the Coupeville Port Townsend ferry and see how many trucks on to county roads there.

6. Member Roundtable

Commissioner Melanie Bacon- Introduced Todd Morrow

Todd Morrow, Island Transit- Heather is going to put up my slides. I want thank every one of you and island transit is an excited point in our history. We actually in the midst of a service expansion. So I our Board of Directors are actually reviewing some options for improving the service we have in Island County to share these options with you.

Todd Morrow, Island Transit- presented the Island transit Maximized Service Improvement Options presentation. In the transit world there two main areas of focus. One is equity and the other is climate change. What we're talking about primarily with our island transit service improvement option. Which we call Island transit maximized really about equity which is providing more access opportunity for people.

Commissioner Melanie Bacon- any questions or comments for Todd Morrow

Commissioner David Day-Could you illustrate and expand on demand service action would be.

Todd Morrow, Island Transit-The easy way to think about is kind like an uber or lyft but a share uber or lyft. So we will have dispatchers will take either phone calls and also there be an app on peoples phone and we will have rules. Maybe you have to schedule an hour in advance and then there will be someone in our operating base. Who would say ok the van that's out there need to pick up that person and we will communicate. When we're picking them up likely be from there house even. He could be from a designated bus stop and we would take them and definitely put them through a transit or to another route. It's a share ride experience.

Vice Chair Curt Gordon- How soon will be implementing the Sunday service. You know what that mean to us.

The two question is the run you're making the Freeland in, is that a close loop or part of the system going up the island.

Todd Morrow, Island Transit- So the Freeland is our routes 60 and it would go back and forth Freeland by way through Langley and on to Clinton. It goes back and forth.

Chair Melanie Bacon adjourns the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

Next Meeting: March 23, 2022

Common Acronyms:

HSTP – Human Services Transportation Plan

IRTPO – Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization

MPO – Metropolitan Planning Organization

NAS – Naval Air Station

RFQ – Request for Qualifications

RTIP – Regional Transportation Improvement Program

RTP – Regional Transportation Plan

RTPO - Regional Transportation Planning Organization

STIP – State Transportation Improvement Program

TAC – Technical Advisory Committee
WSDOT – Washington State Department of Transportation
WSF – Washington State Ferries

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