

MINUTES OF MEETING
ISLAND RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
July 11, 2013

Attendance List

Arnie Peterschmidt, City of Oak Harbor
Bill Oakes, Island County
Bob Monize, District 3 Citizen Rep.
Brad Johnson, Island County
Cac Kamak, City of Oak Harbor
Connie Bowers, Island County
Doug Cox, RTPO Staff
John Shambaugh, WSDOT
Martha Rose, Island Transit
Pete Schrum, Island Transit
Roy Daniel, Island Transit

Connie began the meeting at 1:00 PM. Introductions were made and TAC members welcomed Doug Cox as the new RTPO staff member. Doug reminded everyone that there was not a June meeting, and the May meeting consisted of a presentation on the U.S. Bicycle Route System by staff from WSDOT and the Bicycle Alliance of Washington. There were no minutes to approve.

STP-R Fund Obligation Schedule

Doug provided an update on the status of the Surface Transportation Project—Regional (STP) fund obligations of all jurisdictions within Island County. Connie explained that she emailed the schedule to the TAC members on June 5th and asked for project status updates in lieu of the June meeting. Bill and Connie thanked everyone for responding and providing updates. Cac asked if it looked like any other counties will be under-obligated. Connie responded by stating that she was awaiting a call back from Dave Kaiser at WSDOT to clarify this, as it looked like Island County itself was under-obligated because Langley's projects were not captured in a WSDOT report.

SIRTPO TAP Update

Doug let the members know about a recent change to Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) projects, which shares available funds between Island and Skagit Counties. Skagit County's West Bow Hill Road project has been withdrawn, and Skagit County's second-highest-ranked project (Skagit Street Signal in Burlington) does not actually qualify for TAP funds. Doug explained that it is likely too late to have funds obligated for any of the other projects that were submitted, which means the surplus of funds will be carried over to future years. Connie explained that SIRTPO is anticipating putting out a call for TAP projects within a couple of months, which could either be a four or six year cycle. It is expected that \$500,000 will carry forward, and \$229,000 will be allocated to SIRTPO each year.

Brian Wood Reimbursement

Doug summarized the memo provided by Brian Wood, District 2 Citizen Representative, requesting to be reimbursed with RTPO funds for his attendance at the University of Washington's Bicycle Urbanism Symposium. Brian requested \$454.72 to cover his cost of registering for the symposium and for two nights lodging. Martha moved to recommend he not be reimbursed because there is currently no policy in the RTPO bylaws that speaks to development and training for members, and that such opportunities should be approved in advance. Bob seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Members now want to consider creating a policy that gives clear guidance about training and development opportunities.

New Items

Doug handed out copies of the scoring criteria used by the Island Sub-RTPO for the last round of STP-R project selection, as well as draft copies of potential revised criteria that Skagit County plans to use for the next round. Cac asked if the Island Sub-RTPO must use the revised criteria. Bill and Doug clarified that the funds are allocated separately to Skagit and Island Counties, so different criteria can be used by each sub-RTPO. Bill stated that he felt the criteria used during the last round seemed to work well and may not be worth revising. Bob asked about the advantages and disadvantages of a four year call for projects compared to a six year call. Bill answered this question by saying that advantage is that there would be more potential dollars to spend over six years, but the disadvantage is that there is a risk to borrowing too far ahead. Members stated that they would like to decide when the next call for projects should go out at the next meeting – it would be ideal if all agencies were represented to discuss the options.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM

Next Regular TAC Meeting: August 8, 2013.