

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**ISLAND RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**January 9, 2014**

**Attendance List**

Brad Johnson, Island County  
Brian Wood, District 2 Citizen Rep.  
Cac Kamak, City of Oak Harbor  
Connie Bowers, Island County  
Don Meehan, District 1 Citizen Rep.  
Doug Cox, RTPO Staff  
John Shambaugh, WSDOT  
Nick Pinch, Island Transit

Doug began the meeting at 1:15 PM. Brief introductions were made.

Doug asked if there was a motion to approve the December 12th meeting minutes. Don made a motion to approve, with Cac seconding. The motion carried.

**Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Project Ranking:**

The group discussed their scores for each of the potential TAP projects that were presented at the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. After a productive conversation about the projects and to what extent each one is consistent with the regional priorities, rankings for each voting member present were listed on the dry-erase board.

The rankings were close for the three top choices. Technically the Whidbey Avenue Crossing project ranked number one, however the South Whidbey Bike Route was close and the group thought it would compete better due to its potential to increase economic development by providing a geographically well-positioned and unique tourism draw. Repairs to the Waterfront Trail were also a priority, however the project as presented included other elements that were not seen as being crucial and could limit the competitiveness of the project. Cac stated that the Waterfront Trail project could be separated into phases, with the slide repair portion being the highest priority (estimated cost \$150,000). The committee recommended that the Policy Board use their discretion when deciding the project rankings before they are taken to the next stage.

Don asked for a recap of how the project selection process will work. Doug reiterated that this will be the first time that the projects will be selected as a region. In the past the funds were split 60/40 between Skagit and Island sub-regions, and each held their own project selection process. Under the new process, each TAC will rank the projects for their sub-region. Next, a subcommittee comprised of representatives from each TAC will meet to develop a regional priority ranking by using forced-pair comparisons. The top-ranking project from each sub-region will be compared to each other see which one is most consistent with regional priorities. Then, the next-highest ranked project from the sub-region that was chosen in the first comparison will be compared to the top-ranking project from

the other sub-region. This will continue until all the projects are compared and a neatly-ordered list of regional priorities is assembled. Once this list is created, it will be brought to the Skagit-Island RTPO Policy Board for final discussion and approval. The Policy Board will make the final determination about which projects receive funding.

The group identified the following members to serve on the project selection subcommittee:

- Brian Wood as a citizen representative, with Don serving as an alternate
- Connie as an Island County staff representative, with Brad serving as an alternate
- Arnie serving as a local agency staff representative, with Cac serving as an alternate

### **New Items**

Doug discussed bringing in guest speakers and other potential opportunities for learning about transportation in Island County at future meetings. He explained that Eric Brooks, IC Emergency Services Coordinator, will brief the committee at the February meeting. He also mentioned that perhaps some meetings could be considered optional for those with conflicts, if there is no specific business that the committee needs to conduct.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM

**Next Regular TAC Meeting: February 13, 2014**