

MEETING SUMMARY
Island Region Transportation Planning Organization (IRTPO)
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
June 10, 2021

Member Attendance List

Kelly Ojala, Island County Public Works
Alex Warner, City of Oak Harbor, Public Works
Stan Reeves, Port of South Whidbey
Todd Morrow, Island Transit
Don Meehan, District 1 Citizen Rep
Todd Carlson, WSDOT
Cac Kamack, City of Oak Harbor, Planning
Sherrye Wyatt, Whidbey Scenic Isle Way
Henry Rood, Island County Planning

Members Not in Attendance

Bob Monize, District 3 Citizen Rep
John Shambaugh, WSDOT
Mohammed Mostafavinassab, Port of Coupeville
Brian Tyhuis, NAS Whidbey Island
Sharon Sappington, EDC
City of Langley
Town of Coupeville

Facilitator

Susan Driver, IRTPO Planner

Meeting began at 1:02 PM

1. Approval of Minutes

- Todd Morrow made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 8th, as written.
Second by Don Meehan. All yeas, motion passed.

2. Data Collection & Analysis Project

- Susan put the IRTPO Data Book on the screen. She indicated that this is the document the consultant team used to show the Executive Board what work they had accomplished in this fiscal year.
- Several of the TAC members stated that they had not seen this document before. Susan noted that the link to the documents is on the IRTPO meetings page and she would send it out after the meeting.
- Susan also shared that the Executive Board was very impressed with the work of Fehr & Peers, and voted to extend their contract through June 30, 2023.
- She asked TAC members to consider next steps and future planning and project needs that we could direct the consultant team to work on.
- Todd Morrow stated that Island Transit is using Fehr & Peers for its “Reimagining Transit” study and appreciated the carryover of the work the team had done for IRTPO to date. He noted that the team would have the bulk of the Island Transit work done before they began the next phase with IRTPO.
- Stan Reeves noted that the data shown in the IRTPO Data Book was not surprising to the Port of South Whidbey, based on other studies. He said there has been a lot of concern

about freight traffic from the ferry driving up SR 20. He suggested we move the freight analysis to the top of the list.

- Cac Kamak noted that he had not seen the IRTPO Data Book before this meeting. He said that it would be nice for the TAC to be able to discuss the data and determine what it means for us and what we need. Susan stated that a meeting with the consultant team could be arranged in July.
- Cac suggested we try to get more information about bicycle and pedestrian movements, particularly electric bicycles, if it is available. This is an growing trend that we need to keep a pulse on.
- Cac also indicated concern about freight/ferry traffic and the idea that there may be a lot of freight coming down from Canada. Susan stated that Whatcom COG keeps track of freight data that comes through Bellingham from Canada. We could instruct our consultant team to coordinate with Whatcom COG to include that data into the analysis.
- Henry suggested we look at the intersection of cell phone data and transit data to qualify the numbers. Todd Morrow agreed, and stated that Fehr & Peers, in their work with Island Transit, is currently testing those presumptions. They're also looking at 'what do we have, what does it mean, what do we need?'
- Sherrye indicated that she needed to catch up, as she's missed a few meetings. She shared that Whidbey Scenic Isle Way is using C-Source, a tourism tracking system that employs some of the cell phone tracking, along with other indicators. It would be good to compare this data with the Streetlight data we've purchased.
- Alex said to thank Fehr & Peers for putting this IRTPO Data Book together. It has lots of good data.
- Don asked about gathering airline ridership and aviation data, particularly for the Eisenberg Airport near Oak Harbor.

3. Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) discussion

- Susan shared the draft 2022-2027 RTIP and asked TAC members to review projects, dollar amounts, and timelines & send her any edits.

4. Roundtable

5. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:01 PM

Next Regular TAC Meeting: July 8, 2021