

MEETING SUMMARY
IRTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
January 10, 2019

Member Attendance List

Pete Schrum, Island Transit
Connie Bowers, Island County Public Works
Cac Kamak, City of Oak Harbor
Bob Monize, District 3 Citizen Rep.
Stan Berryman, City of Langley
John Shambaugh, WSDOT
Brian Tyhuis, NAS Whidbey Island
Sharon Sappington, Island County EDC
Todd Morrow, Island Transit
Nick Pinch, Island Transit
Alex Warner, City of Oak Harbor
Beverly Mesa-Zendt, Island County Planning
Christine Boswell-Still, District 2 Citizen Rep.

Other Attendees

Members not in Attendance

Don Meehan, District 1 Citizen Rep.
Owen Dennison, Town of Coupeville

Ports Representative

Facilitator

Brian Wood, IRTPO Staff

Meeting began at 1:00 PM

Action Items:

- Update draft Bylaws revisions
- Update Regional Transportation Plan schedule
- Reach out to school districts regarding RTP
- Coordinate with parks/WSDOT/Stanwood for RTP

November Meeting Summary:

- No comments received

New IRTPO TAC Member:

- The TAC welcomed Todd Morrow, Executive Director for Island Transit.

District 2 Citizen Representative:

- The Citizen Rep system for the TAC was reviewed.
 - The TAC has one citizen representative for each of the three county commissioner districts.
 - Don Meehan, Dist. 1
 - Christine Boswell-Still, Dist. 2
 - Bob Monize, Dist. 3
 - Commissioner's staff manage advertisement of the various open committee positions, such as the TAC.
 - Interested citizens apply for positions, and representatives are appointed by their district commissioner
 - Each year, one of the three citizen representative positions for the TAC is advertised. This year District 2 is up for advertisement.

- Current representatives don't need to formally reapply. Instead, they can simply send an email to Commissioner Executive Assistant, Pam Dill (pamd@co.island.wa.us) and indicate that they would like to be reappointed.

Updates from November Exec Board Meeting

- Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
 - The IRTPO sought a time extension for the RTP do to need for more coordination between:
 - WSDOT and the IRTPO regarding potential highway strategies on Whidbey
 - City of Stanwood, WSDOT and IRTPO regarding SR 532
 - WSDOT, State Parks and IRTPO to address region entry ways through parks
 - IRTPO's met in Stanwood on 1/9/19 to engage regional stakeholders, planners, and others to discuss issues and opportunities that can inform our plan.
 - The meeting was very productive and brought many new faces to the transportation discussion table.
 - Insights shared by the school district's transportation director, Lisa Orton, indicated that it may be valuable to do more specific outreach to Whidbey School Districts as well.
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- Washington State Transportation Commission Visit
 - TAC members were given an overview of the WSTC visit, including:
 - 4 hour tour highlighting a variety of transportation issues, opportunities, and successes on Whidbey
 - Full day of presentations to the WSTC and Secretary of Transportation by IRTPO members, staff, NSTA, WSDOT, WSF, NAS Whidbey and other community interest leaders
 - Outcome of the WSTC was positive with regard to WSTC feedback and value preparations had for RTP development.
- Proposal: IRTPO-Public Health Coordination
 - TAC was informed about a potential partnership opportunity with Island County Public Health that was brought to the Board in November.
 - Similar to the IRTPO, the Assessment and Healthy Communities Program of Public Health also produces a plan that addresses transportation needs for vulnerable populations.
 - IRTPO: Human Services Transportation Plan
 - Assessment & Communities: Community Health Improvement Plan
 - While not envisioned as a full position on its own, a staff person charged with addressing special transportation needs could:
 - Facilitate meetings of the TEC (on Whidbey & Camano)
 - Maintain the TEN
 - Be the point of contact and information disseminator for special needs transportation concerns
 - Participate in NSTA Health & Transportation efforts
 - Participate in newly formed North Counties Transportation Coalition
 - Attend (or speak at) community meetings (Opportunity Council for example) where the focus is on transportation

- Work with mobility coordination staff at key transit providers to stay abreast of developments affecting vulnerable populations
 - Act as a grant liaison/coordinator/resource for non-profits
 - Implement plan initiatives (such as outreach to non-English speaking populations)
 - Be a staff equity consultant for public works transportation projects.
 - Staff are in the exploratory stage regarding this proposal
- Proposal: City of Stanwood - IRTPO Associate Member Invitation
 - IRTPO staff presented a proposal to include the City of Stanwood as an associate member of the IRTPO due to shared:
 - Concerns for special needs transportation
 - Transit
 - Services
 - Recreation opportunities
 - School District
 - Interest in SR 532, from Camano to I-5
 - Non-motorized planning goals

Update: Regional Priorities List

- TAC members discussed a Regional Priorities List that was developed based on expressed support by the IRTPO.
 - It was noted that the project list was not prioritized priorities, and were drawn from a number of Executive Board approved documents or from the IRTPO current Regional Transportation Plan work. WSDOT needs for our region were also included.
 - TAC members were reminded that the IRTPO is not a lobbying body and the list was intended to inventory expressed priorities of the IRTPO in support of RTP development.
 - Island County Council of Governments is aware of the list and asked the IRTPO Executive Director, Bill Oakes, to present it to them.

Update: HSTP Draft Plan

- The IRTPO was granted an extension for developing a Human Services Transportation Plan.
 - New deadline is end of February.
 - A draft is expected to go before the IRTPO Board in January and a final approval is expected in February.
- The following outcomes of the HSTP development process were noted:
 - Increased staff and IRTPO member awareness of needs and gaps
 - New resources and opportunities were identified
 - The plan can do more than satisfy Consolidated Grant process, including:
 - Be a resource to human services providers, transportation providers, and public works staff.
 - Help the region understand what it means to be a veteran or to use paratransit in our region.
 - House projects that can move forward outside of the Consolidated grant process
 - Provide direction for Transportation Equity Committee.

Recommended Bylaws Revisions and Amendments

- A number of potential bylaws changes were presented to the TAC.
 - Impetus for opening up the bylaws was to define the Transportation Equity Committee (TEC) and make room to bring the City of Stanwood to the table.
- Other items included
 - Adding a Scenic Isle Way Manager as a TAC member (Sherrye Wyatt).
 - Reflect some of our current practices in the document.
 - Change the “T” in TAC to Transportation to make the committee function more apparent, and to align with the TEC.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM

Next Regular TAC Meeting: February 14, 2019