

ISLAND SUB-REGIONAL RTPo POLICY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

January 22, 2014

Policy Board Members in Attendance:

Bob Clay, Public Transit Benefit Area Chair
Fred McCarthy, Mayor, City of Langley
Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner
Jill Johnson, RTPo Chair / Island County Commissioner
Kelly Emerson, Island County Commissioner (via video)
Marshall Bronson, Port of Coupeville
Nancy Conard, Mayor, Town of Coupeville
Ron Nelson, Economic Development Council
Scott Dudley, Mayor, City of Oak Harbor

Members Absent:

Jennifer Meyer, NAS Whidbey
Ray Deardorf, Washington State Ferries

Also in Attendance:

Connie Bowers, Island County Public Works
Doug Cox, RTPo Staff
Eric Brooks, Island County Dept. of Emergency Management
John Shambaugh, WSDOT

The Island RTPo Policy Board met in the Island County Commissioners Hearing Room on January 22, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 11:06 AM by Chair Johnson.

Note: To listen to the audio recording of this meeting, go to the Island RTPo web page at: <http://www.islandcounty.net/publicworks/SkagitIslandRTPo.asp>. Click on "meeting recordings."

Approval of the October 23, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Chair Johnson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2013 meeting. Commissioner Price Johnson moved to approve the minutes, with Bob Clay seconding. The minutes were approved without modification.

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Funding Awards

Doug discussed the STP program and project selections, explaining that there is approximately \$2.5 Million of STP funds available for projects in the Island sub-region and approximately \$1.6 Million worth of potential projects. After an overview of the projects, Chair Johnson asked for more details about the Island Transit Interoperability project and if it would be coordinated with the Northwest Regional Interoperability Council's (NWRIC) other efforts. After discussion Commissioner Price Johnson made a motion to approve the Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC) recommendations for STP funding, with multiple board members seconding. The motion carried.

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Project Rankings

Doug reminded the board that the Transportation Alternatives Program is structured differently than the Surface Transportation Program, with Skagit and Island sub-regions now competing with each other for approximately \$220,000 each year. A new selection process has been developed to choose which projects to fund, with each sub-region's TAC ranking all of the submitted projects in their respective sub-regions. A subcommittee comprised of three representatives from each TAC will convene and conduct a "forced pairs" comparison of the projects, ending up with a neatly-ordered list of all the proposed TAP projects for the region.

The TAC's rankings were close for the top three projects, and while the TAC ranked the Whidbey Avenue Crossing project as number one, they recommended that the board make the decision whether to keep it as number one or elevate the South Whidbey Bike Route to number one. The group discussed the merits of each project, and ultimately decided to keep the projects in the same order as the TAC had ranked them. Bob Clay made a motion to approve the TAC's recommendations for TAP funding, with Mayor Conard seconding. The motion carried with Commissioner Johnson dissenting.

TAP Project Selection Subcommittee member confirmation

Doug presented the list of TAC members who were identified to serve on the TAP project selection subcommittee. They are Brian Wood (District 2 citizen representative), Connie Bowers (Island County Assistant County Engineer) and Arnie Peterschmidt (Oak Harbor Public Works staff). Marshall Bronson made a motion to approve these representatives, with Mayor Dudley seconding. The motion carried.

STIP Amendments

Doug explained the changes to the three projects that were included in the meeting packet. He also explained that there was a fourth project that was not able to be included in the STIP amendment —the STP overlays in Coupeville and Langley. The amendment has been entered into the online STIP program, but will not be available until after the January amendment is officially approved. Doug committed to including the STIP report for the overlays in the February meeting packet. Marshall Bronson made a motion to approve the amendments, with Bob Clay seconding. The motion carried.

New Items

Port representation has changed effective January 1, 2014. Curt Gordon is now the port representative on the Technical Advisory Committee, and Marshall Bronson is now the port representative on the Policy Board. This change required a new vice chair to be selected for the Policy Board. The board elected Bob Clay to serve as the new Vice Chair of the Policy Board.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING: February 26, 2014 at 11:00 AM