

ISLAND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

May 25, 2016

Policy Board Members in Attendance:

Curt Gordon, Port of South Whidbey Commissioner
Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner
Jill Johnson, Island County Commissioner
Jennifer Meyer, NAS Whidbey
John Mishasek, Port of Coupeville Commissioner
Molly Hughes, Mayor, Town of Coupeville
Rick Hannold, Island County Commissioner
Todd Carlson, WSDOT
Bob Severns, Mayor, City of Oak Harbor

Members not in Attendance:

Jackie Henderson, Island County Public Transportation
Benefit Area Corporation
Tim Callison, Mayor, City of Langley

Facilitator

Brian Wood, ITPO Staff

Also in Attendance:

Connie Bowers, Island County
Bill Oakes, Island County
Doug Merriman, City Administrator, City of Oak Harbor
Mike Nortier, Island Transit Executive Director

Action Items:

- Determine if Whidbey Ave Pedestrian Crossing will go forward or process for removal from obligation on TIP if not (Mayor Oak Harbor)
 - Add Island Transit to Designation Packet and ILA as an IRTPPO local government member organization (Staff)
 - Add WSDOT as voting member to ILA (Staff)
 - Maintain Whidbey NAS as non-voting member and add language to ILA that allows for major employer participation in policy discussion. (Staff)
 - Draft ILA for preliminary review by legal departments and review at June 22nd Policy Board meeting (Staff)
 - Add Island Transit to member resolutions of intent to participate in IRTPPO and send out for signatures. (Staff)
-

The Island Transportation Planning Organization (ITPO) Policy Board met in the Island County Commissioners Hearing Room on May 25, 2016. The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:30 AM by Chair Price Johnson.

Note: no audio recording is available for this meeting.

The agenda and the March 23rd meeting minutes were approved with no discussion and all in favor.

RTPO Designation Update

- It was noted that the difference between the RCW's governing the ITPO and the RTPO are significant, and the ILA language would be changing substantially.
- A tentative timeline for RTPO formation was presented:

- a. Revised member resolution forms go out next week
 - b. Draft ILA for review at June 22nd Policy Board Meeting
 - i. Revise if directed
 - ii. Send to legal following, revision (if needed)
 - c. Collect member resolutions during June and July
 - d. Final review of ILA with Policy Board July 27th
 - i. Revise if directed
 - e. Submit ILA to WSDOT for verification in August
 - f. Earliest expected completion of process is September, 2016
- Review of RCW's 43.52, 36.57, and Title 53, which appears to identify Island Transit and Port Districts as local governments supported the Policy Boards intent to have these agencies listed on the Designation Packet and in the ILA.
 - Policy Board direction given to staff to include WSDOT as a voting member in the RTPD.
 - Todd Carlson indicated that WSDOT would recuse itself from some voting decisions involving commitment of local funding.
 - Policy Board direction was given to staff to maintain practice of each commissioner having one vote for Policy Board decisions as opposed to a collective county vote.
 - Policy Board direction given to staff to include language in the ILA which would allow participation of other, non-voting members (major employers). Possible participation would include;
 - Project-based participation of major employers (given the likelihood of low participation at other times)
 - Periodic invitations to major employers to learn their perspective on regional transportation.

Federal Funding

- Federal funding process was reviewed and it was noted that the Federal Highway Administration intended for all transportation funds to be spent. WSDOT sets spending targets for the counties to meet this goal. The RTPD is on-schedule to meet the STP and TAP obligations for this year. Updates that have been made to the plan;
 - The Whidbey Avenue Pedestrian Crossing was moved to 2017, due to inability to move the project forward this year. Mayor Severns noted that Oak Harbor city council discussion would address the project soon.
 - Oak Harbor's Waterfront Trail repair project was moved up to 2016 so we continue to meet our obligation target.

Mukilteo Parking Facility Study Update

- Meeting was held May 17th on the Mukilteo Parking Study
- Demand study noted 1000 spaces, based on free parking
- Discussion noted drivers seeking to avoid fees by parking in neighborhoods ("hide & ride") as well as homeowners "renting" their spaces. This indicates potential demand for closer, paid parking as well as more distant low-cost parking
- The City of Mukilteo wants to go forward with a pedestrian bridge on the west side of the SR 525 bridge.
- A review of potential parking structure sites (see Mukilteo Parking Garage Locations) reduced probable candidates to the following:
 - Tulalip Tank Farm has high temporary private potential. City of Mukilteo is concerned about the lot remaining unattractive for 20+ years.

- Rosehill (3 on map) is a very good option about ½ mile to the ferry and ¼ mile to the waterfront for those willing to walk farther.
- The current ferry holding lanes owned by Buzz Inn and the adjacent parking owned by Martin Smith (8 and 8a) has high private development potential (possibly joint effort). These developers are also ready to go when development is approved.

Farmhouse Gang

- ITPO Policy Board members were encouraged to attend the June 10th Farmhouse Gang meeting at 9:00am.
- Commissioner Price Johnson indicated that one goal was to discuss how regional partners plan to move forward with a cooperative agenda for transportation policy and planning.

WSDOT Updates

Todd Carlson provided a quick update on several WSDOT projects; he has some photos to share at the next meeting

Sharpe's Corner : Commissioner Johnson asked that an open house be held in the Oak Harbor / North Whidbey area

Jacobs to Morris SR 20: Ribbon Cutting of the SR 532 Davis Slough Bridge project

New Items

No new items were presented.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:35 PM.

NEXT MEETING: June 22, 2016