

## ISLAND SUB-REGIONAL RTPPO POLICY BOARD

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

June 25, 2014

#### **Policy Board Members in Attendance:**

Bob Clay, Vice Chair / Public Transit Benefit Area  
Fred McCarthy, Mayor, City of Langley  
Jennifer Meyer, NAS Whidbey  
Jill Johnson, RTPPO Chair / Island County Commissioner  
Marshall Bronson, Port of Coupeville  
Nancy Conard, Mayor, Town of Coupeville  
Scott Dudley, Mayor, City of Oak Harbor  
Todd Carlson, WSDOT

#### **Members Absent:**

Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner  
Ray Deardorf, Washington State Ferries  
Ron Nelson, Economic Development Council  
Todd Harrison, WSDOT

#### **Also in Attendance:**

Doug Cox, RTPPO Staff  
Lorena Eng, WSDOT NW Region Administrator  
Sami Postma, Economic Development Council

The Island RTPPO Policy Board met in the Island County Commissioners Hearing Room on June 25, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 11:05 AM by Chair Johnson.

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

#### **Approval of the May 28, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Chair Johnson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2014 meeting. Mayor Conard moved to approve the minutes, with Bob Clay seconding. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **WSDOT Consolidated Grant Program**

Lorena Eng gave a presentation on WSDOT's Strategic Plan, [Results WSDOT](#). She outlined the six goals listed in the plan that will set WSDOT's direction, emphasizing how the plan represents a shift in the way WSDOT does business to get the most capacity of the entire multimodal transportation system, leverage limited funding and engage with communities and partners.

Board members had several comments questions for Lorena. In particular, Mayor McCarthy expressed that transportation infrastructure needs are tremendous, and that conditions will continue to deteriorate under this plan unless new fund sources are used. This led him to ask about any innovative new revenue streams that might be on the horizon. Lorena explained that the state Transportation Commission is currently brainstorming if charging a fee for vehicle-miles-traveled in lieu of car tab fees may be feasible. Chair Johnson articulated that such a scheme would treat those who live in rural environments and drive further distances unfairly, while the bulk of transportation funds go to urban areas. Bob Clay offered that measuring travel time instead of travel distance might be an option. Chair Johnson also stated that many citizens perceive the large cost overruns on projects like the new Alaskan Way Tunnel and 520 bridge as part of the reason why funding for transportation projects in the rest of the state is declining. Lorena agreed that while some people may perceive this, a glance at the quarterly WSDOT *Gray Notebook* shows that the vast majority of the state's transportation projects are completed within budget.

### **New Items**

There were no new items.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING: July 23, 2014