

**ISLAND SUB-REGIONAL RTPO POLICY BOARD  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
November 28, 2012**

**Policy Board Members in Attendance:**

Angie Homola, Island County Commissioner  
 Bob Clay, Public Benefit Transit Area  
 Curt Gordon, RTPO vice Chair, Port of South Whidbey  
 Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner  
 Jennifer Meyer, NAS Whidbey  
 Kelly Emerson, RTPO Chair, Island County Commissioner  
 Larry Kwarsick, City of Langley  
 Nancy Conard, Mayor, Town of Coupeville  
 Scott Dudley, Mayor, City of Oak Harbor  
 Todd Carlson, WSDOT

**Members Absent:**

Ray Deardorf, Washington State Ferries  
 Ron Nelson, Economic Development Council

**Also in Attendance:**

Bill Oakes, Island County Public Works Director  
 Donna Keeler, RTPO Staff  
 Meg Heppner, Island Transit  
 Rufus Rose, citizen

The Island RTPO Policy Board met in the Island County Commissioners Hearing Room on November 28, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by Chair Emerson.

*Note: To listen to the audio recording of this meeting, go the Island RTPO page on the County's website at: <http://www.islandcounty.net/publicworks/SkagitIslandRTPO.asp>. Click on "meeting recordings."*

**Approval of September 26, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Larry Kwarsick moved to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2012 Island Sub-region RTPO Policy Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Bob Clay. The minutes were approved as written.

**Call For Projects: Surface Transportation Project – Regional Funds**

Staff presented a list of proposed projects for STP-R funding from the Technical Advisory Committee. A handout was provided with brief project descriptions and recommended funding amounts as described in the following table:

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Recommended Funding Amount</b>
NE 7 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Improvement Project	City of Oak Harbor	\$250,000	\$250,000
E. Camano Dr/ Elger Bay Rd/ Monticello Dr. Int. Improvements	Island County	\$283,500	\$283,500
Second Street Reconstruction Project – Phase 2	City of Langley	\$250,000	\$250,000
Countywide Digital Photogrammetric Mapping Project	Island County	\$100,000	\$100,000
NW Front Street Sidewalk Improvements	Town of Coupeville	\$47,142	\$0.00

Terry's Corner Phase 4	Island County	\$748,787	\$0.00
Freeland Trail – Phase 1	Island County	\$219,900	\$0.00
Amount Available from 2012 Grant: \$748,000*	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,899,329</b>	<b>\$883,500</b>

*\*This amount takes into account \$300,000 set aside for preservation and maintenance.*

Members asked project specific questions and expressed interest in the countywide digital photogrammetric mapping project which will be available to all local jurisdictions when completed. Councilman Clay noted a typo on the description of the full cost of the Langley Second Street (handout). The correct amount is \$1,693,580. Mayor Kwarsick expressed appreciation to the TAC and Policy Board for setting aside preservation and maintenance funds for repair and maintenance of local roads. Donna said a list of proposed preservation and maintenance projects will be submitted by the TAC in early 2013. After further discussion of proposed projects and funding sources Commissioner Emerson moved to approve the TAC's recommendation to fund the top four projects. The motion was seconded by Mayor Kwarsick and was approved unanimously.

### **Letter of Support and Project Prioritization List – Island Transit**

Megan Heppner of Island Transit described the purpose for requesting letters of support for Island Transit's updated list of *Human Transportation Needs* and a WSDOT grant application to purchase replacement buses. Todd Carlson said one of the letters references a WSDOT NW Region Comprehensive Plan which does not exist and offered to send Meg an alternative. Members discussed the need to provide enhanced service on the Navy base, to veterans and others in need. As a member of the Island Transit Board, Bob Clay also addressed questions in regard to the use of surplus vehicles and service. After further discussion Commissioner Price-Johnson moved to approve the letters of support for Island Transit's WSDOT Grant Application and Human Prioritization list update. The motion was seconded by Bob Clay and passed unanimously following a brief discussion on the lifespan of the buses.

### **Transportation Concurrency Paper**

Policy Board members continued a discussion on a recommendation by the TAC submitted on May 23, 2012 in reference to the Transportation Concurrency White paper prepared by Randy Young of Henderson Young and Co. in 2012. There was general agreement to remand the paper back to the TAC to focus on the creative solutions discussed under Option 3 of the paper. After further discussion Mayor Conard moved to have the TAC focus on Option 3 of the Concurrency White Paper and make their findings available to assist with Transportation Planning Efforts. The motion was seconded by Mayor Kwarsick. Donna said the County is hiring a consultant to assist the Public Works Department in the Update of the Transportation Element. As part of the contract, the consultant can be made available to assist the TAC and County staff with Policy Board's request. The Policy Board approved the motion with Commissioner Emerson abstaining.

### **Discussion: Transportation Legislative Priorities**

Commissioner Emerson said she has been in touch with state representatives on regional priorities and funding sources and suggested having an ongoing conversation on the issue. Members discussed how different jurisdictions approach funding sources/strategies differently and the importance of working cooperatively to articulate priorities. Staff agreed to provide a presentation on funding options in the near future.

### **New Items**

- Todd Carlson announced there will be a public meeting for the Morris Road / Jacobs Road WSDOT project on December 13<sup>th</sup> at the Coupeville High School from 5- 8PM.
- RTPO staff said a workshop is being planned as part of the Historic Roads Context grant project. Todd added WSDOT is supportive of the effort but is concerned it could lead to more road blocks for WSDOT projects.
- Chair Emerson reminded members to get the word out on [voiceofwashington.org](http://voiceofwashington.org)

- Jennifer Meyer asked how the proposed WSDOT cutbacks will impact the \$60 million grant provided to WSDOT ferries. Todd Carlson said he would look into it.
- Mayor Dudley announced that Mayor Mike McGinn of Seattle is holding several meetings of Mayors to discuss statewide transportation issues and priorities which may lead to proposed legislation.

Donna said the Policy Board will not be meeting in December. The meeting adjourned at 12:05