

RECOMMEND TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM PROJECT SELECTION FOR APPROVAL.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Island Technical Advisory Committee recommends that the Island Sub-RTPO Policy Board recommend the enclosed Transportation Alternatives Program project selection for approval by the Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Policy Board.

FISCAL IMPACT

This action would allow Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization (SIRTPO) to program Transportation Alternatives Program projects into the 2014-2017 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and remain fiscally constrained.

DISCUSSION

In October 2013 SIRTPO issued a call for Transportation Alternatives Projects. The Skagit and Island Technical Advisory Committees (TAC) then scored the projects in their respective counties. On January 30, 2014, a selection committee, consisting of representatives from the Skagit and Island TACs, met to integrate the two county lists into one regional list. The resulting ranking of projects is listed below:

Rank	Agency	Project
1	Oak Harbor	Whidbey Avenue Pedestrian Crossing
2	Mount Vernon	Hoag Road Sidewalk and Bike Lane
3	Island County	South Whidbey Bike Route
4	Sedro-Woolley	Cook Road Realignment Schedules C and D
5	Oak Harbor	Waterfront Trail Repair
6	Concrete	Main Street Sidewalk Repair
7	Island County	Camano Island Bike Route
8	Concrete	Cedar Avenue Pedestrian Improvements
9	Skagit County	Centennial Trail
10	Sedro-Woolley	Cascade Trail West Extension
11	Anacortes	Depot Pedestrian Improvements
12	Anacortes	Guemes Channel Trail Phase II
13	SCOG	Coast to Cascades Corridor Study
14	Anacortes	Guemes Channel Trail Phase III
15	Anacortes	March Point Park and Ride Trail Connection
16	Anacortes	Waterfront Esplanade
17	Anacortes	Downtown Anacortes Public Space
18	Anacortes	Q Avenue Access Management Study
19	Anacortes	Commercial Avenue Pedestrian Signal
20	Anacortes	Heart Lake Connector Trail
21	Island County	Noxious Weed Control

Projects that ranked above the red line were awarded TAP funds in the 6 year programming window. It is the intent of SIRTPO to issue another call for projects in two years to fill in the last two years of the program.

Below is a table illustrating the fiscal constraint of the selected projects:

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Available	\$465,624	\$419,508	\$258,746	\$307,332	\$229,918	\$458,504	\$1,608,554
Total Programmed	\$274,702	\$389,348	\$180,000	\$306,000	\$0	\$360,250	\$1,510,300

Urban Projects	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Total
	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	
Skagit Street Signal	PE	\$94,285											\$94,285
Whidbey Avenue Ped Crossing	PE	\$22,000	CN	\$202,500									\$224,500
Hoag Road	PE	\$37,500	RW	\$25,000	CN	\$180,000							\$242,500
Cook Road	CN	\$100,917											\$100,917
Waterfront Trail Repair							All	\$150,000					\$150,000
Urban Programmed	\$254,702		\$227,500		\$180,000		\$150,000		\$0		\$0		\$0

Rural Projects	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Total
	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	Phase	Amount	
Freeland Trail			CN	\$161,848									\$161,848
South Whidbey Bike Route	PE	\$20,000					CN	\$80,000					\$100,000
Main Street Pedestrian Improvement							PE	\$76,000			CN	\$235,250	\$311,250
Camano Island Bike Loop											PE, CN	\$125,000	\$125,000
Rural Programmed	\$20,000		\$161,848		\$0		\$156,000		\$0		\$360,250		\$0

Recommendation regarding Professional Services Contract for Coordinate Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan

Recommended Action:

Island sub-RTPO staff recommends that the Island Sub-RTPO Policy Board recommend to the Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization (SIRTPO) Policy Board, that Kevin Murphy, SCOG Executive Director, be authorized to execute a professional services contract to assist in the development of a coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan (HSTP).

HSTP Overview:

The HSTP is in the current Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) as task 2.2 in the Multi-modal Planning Element. The anticipated consultant cost of \$30,000 appears in the UPWP with Skagit Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMPO) identified as having lead responsibility, with SIRTPO, Skagit Transit, Island Transit, WSDOT and a consultant also having responsibilities for the HSTP task.

The current HSTP for Skagit and Island counties was developed in 2010 and approved by the Island Sub-RTPO on February 23, 2011. Federal law requires that HSTPs be adopted every four years and State law identifies development of a HSTP as a duty of the SIRTPO (RCW 47.80.023(6)). The HSTP requirement in State law was an amendment in 2009, adding to the duties of regional transportation planning organizations (RTPOs) across Washington State.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides funding through the State for the development of HSTPs across the state by RTPOs. The funding has recently become available to conduct the HSTP development as WSDOT executed an agreement on January 24, 2014 with the Skagit Metropolitan Planning Organization to create a locally developed HSTP.

SCOG staff has been coordinating initial scoping for the HSTP with WSDOT, Island Sub-RTPO staff and Skagit Transit. It is anticipated that Island Transit will also be an active participant in the planning process as it progresses, as they have been in past HSTP planning efforts, and that the transit agencies as well as SCOG and Island Sub-RTPO staff will provide technical support to the process as needed.

WSDOT developed a timeline in 2013 that outlines key deliverable dates for the HSTP and grant applications through the WSDOT consolidated grant program, a program which provides transit-related funding opportunities to eligible applicants throughout the state. A review of prioritized project lists from the last few biennia indicated Island Transit and Skagit Transit have historically been the primary grant applicants through this program. The HSTP and the WSDOT consolidated grant program are interrelated as projects must be in the HSTP to be approved for funding. The deadline for the grant program is December 2014, as is the final HSTP. A final HSTP will be ready for SIRTPO Policy Board action, following a public comment period, in late-2014.

Recommendation regarding formation of an Ad Hoc Special Needs Committee for 2014 Human Services Transportation Planning and Project Prioritization

Recommended Action:

Island sub-RTPO staff recommends that the Island Sub-RTPO Policy Board recommend that an ad hoc special needs committee be formed for calendar year 2014 to lead the coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan (HSTP) process and associated Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) regional human services project prioritization for the consolidated grant program 2015 – 2017 biennium.

Committee Duties:

The recommended ad hoc special needs committee is anticipated to have two primary duties:

1. Coordinate the Development of the HSTP

The HSTP must be completed, approved by the Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization (SIRTPO) Policy Board, and submitted to WSDOT by the end of calendar year 2014. The committee would support the work of the consultant, which is anticipated to be hired on a professional services contract this spring, through the planning process including needs assessment and public outreach. Project milestones will include presentations to the Skagit and Island sub-RTPOs throughout the planning process of the committee and consultants work. The development of a HSTP for Skagit and Island counties is a duty of the SIRTPO under State law (RCW 47.80.023(10)).

2. Prioritize Regional Human Services Projects In Skagit and Island Counties

The committee would also assist with prioritization of human services projects in Island and Skagit counties that will be submitted to WSDOT in December 2014 for consideration of grant funding in the 2015 – 2017 biennium. The funding is made available through Federal and State programs targeted at the elderly and persons with disabilities, and others considered to have special needs. The prioritization process will be developed based on recent work done on evaluating Transportation Alternatives Program projects and the committee will recommend criteria used to evaluate projects, score projects that are submitted for the grant program in the fall of 2014, and recommend a region-wide prioritized list of human services projects to each sub-RTPO. The criteria and project rankings will be presented to the Skagit Sub-RTPO prior to approval. It is envisioned that a similar process will occur at the Island Sub-RTPO concurrently.

A final list of prioritized special needs projects must be approved by the SIRTPO Policy Board by the end of calendar year 2014 and submitted to WSDOT. This prioritization of regional human services projects is a duty of the SIRTPO under State law (RCW 47.80.023(10)).

For both of the above duties, final decisions must be made by the SIRTPO Policy Board, which would likely happen at a November/December meeting. The WSDOT consolidated grant applications, regional project rankings and final HSTP are due by the end of 2014. Key deadlines for the HSTP, regional project rankings and grant applications are presented in this WSDOT timeline.

The composition of the ad hoc special needs committee is recommended to be as appears in the following table:

Representing	Number
Education/Youth	1
Island Transit	1
Major Employer	1
Medicaid/Healthcare	1
Persons with Disabilities	1
Persons with Low Income	1
Seniors	1
Skagit Transit	1
Tribes	1
Veterans	1
WSDOT	1
Total	12

SCOG staff will provide technical support to the committee including project scores collection and ranking, with Island Sub-RTPO staff providing support as needed.

The committee would have recommending authority only and is not permitted to take any action. The committee would be formed under the authority of IX. Committees of the SIRTPO bylaws and would review and make recommendations based on materials prepared by staff and from consultants to the SIRTPO Policy Board and Sub-RTPO boards as necessary. The individuals representing each of these groups, along with affiliated organizations if any, will be presented for approval at future sub-RTPO meetings of both Skagit and Island counties.

Washington State S. T. I. P.

2014 to 2017

(Project Funds to Nearest Dollar)

February 19, 2014

MPO/RTPO: Skagit Island RTPO

N Inside

Y Outside

County: Island

Agency: Island Co.

Func Cis	Project Number	PIN	STIP ID	Imp Type	Total Project Length	Environmental Type	RW Required	Begin Termini	End Termini	Total Est. Cost of Project	STIP Amend. No.
07			WA-06476	06	CE	No	Various	Various	Various	476,658	14-01

2014 Fed-Aid Roadway Preservation Program

Placing HMA wearing course on various qualifying Federally Classified collector / arterials on Whidbey Island, including leveling course and ADA facility upgrades where needed.

Funding

Phase	Start Date	Federal Fund Code	Federal Funds	State Fund Code	State Funds	Local Funds	Total
CN	2014	STP(R)	412,309		0	64,349	476,658
Project Totals			412,309		0	64,349	476,658
Expenditure Schedule							
Phase			1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th & 6th
CN			476,658	0	0	0	0
Totals			476,658	0	0	0	0
Agency Totals for Island Co.			412,309		0	64,349	476,658