

AGENDA ITEM 4

SKAGIT – ISLAND RTPO ORGANIZATION

Island Sub-RTPO Board

August 27, 2014

Overview

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- Background/History
- Current structure and Challenges
- Possible Options
- Next Steps

Background/History

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Year	Event
1990	Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) passes – Creates Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPO)
1991	Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization (SIRTPO) formed
1993	Original Agreement
1999	SIRTPO Bylaws - Current
2000	Current Agreement enacted
2004	Skagit MPO formed
2014	New SCOG Agreement and Bylaws enacted

Members

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Counties:

- Island
- Skagit

Cities:

- Anacortes
- Burlington
- Langlely
- Mount Vernon
- Oak Harbor
- Sedro-Woolley

Towns:

- Concrete
- Coupeville
- La Conner
- Lyman
- Hamilton

Ports:

- Anacortes
- Coupeville
- Mabana
- Skagit
- South Whidbey

Transit:

- Island
- Skagit

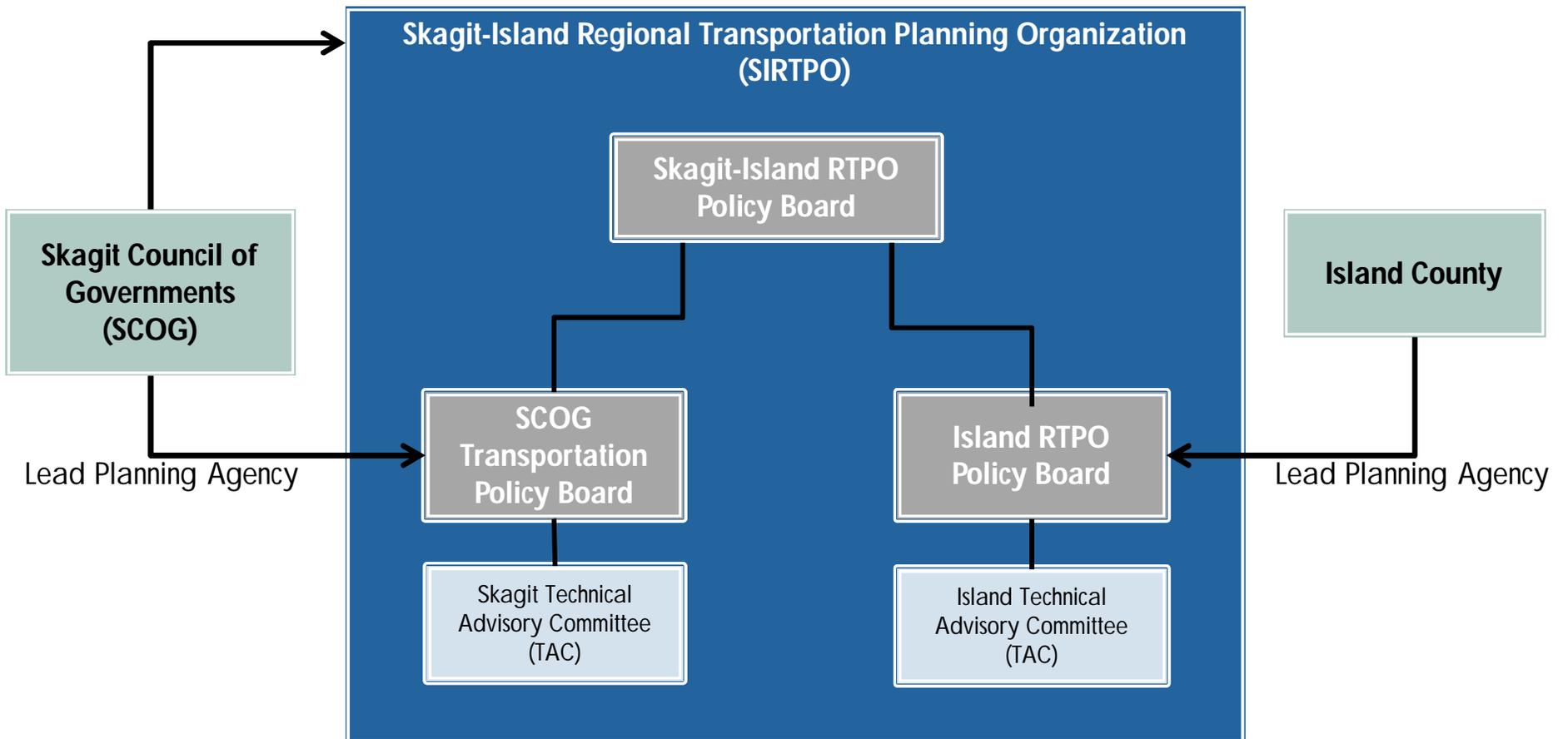
Tribes:

- Swinomish Tribal Community
- Upper Skagit Tribal Nation

- WSDOT

Current Organization Structure

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Skagit-Island RTPO Board

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REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| A. Skagit County | 3 | County Commissioners |
| B. Island County | 3 | County Commissioners |
| C. Skagit Cities/Towns | 5 | All the Mayors on the Skagit Sub-Regional Policy Board (Mayors of Mount Vernon, Anacortes, Sedro Woolley, Burlington, and one small city/town) |
| D. Island Cities/Towns | 3 | All of the Mayors on the Island Sub-Regional Policy Board (Mayors of Oak Harbor, Coupeville, and Langley) |
| E. Ports | 2 | The Port Commissioner on the Island Sub-Regional Policy board and one of the two Port Commissioners on the Skagit Sub-Regional Policy Board |
| F. State | 1 | A WSDOT official who is a member of the Sub-Regional Boards |
| G. Transit | 2 | One elected transit representative each from the Skagit and Island Transit Boards |

Island Sub-RTPO Board

ISLAND SUB-REGIONAL POLICY BOARD

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| A. Island County | 3 | County Commissioners |
| B. Cities/Towns | 3 | Mayors of Oak Harbor, Coupeville, and Langley |
| C. Business | 1 | Major private employer representative appointed by the Board of Island County Commissioners (ex-officio member) |
| D. Ports | 1 | Port Commissioner representing all Island County Port Districts |
| E. Naval Air Station | 1 | Official from Whidbey Naval Air Station (ex-officio member) |
| F. State Highways | 1 | WSDOT official involved in highways who is not directly involved with staffing the RTPO (this member shall also be on the Skagit Sub-Regional Policy Board) |
| G. Ferries | 1 | State (WSDOT) Ferry official (ex-officio member) |
| H. Public Transit | 1 | RTBA Board member (an elected official) |

Skagit Transportation Policy Board - New

Table 1 Transportation Policy Board Representation

Member/Agency	Representatives	Votes
Skagit County	3 (one for each Commissioner)	3
City of Anacortes	1	1
City of Burlington	1	1
City of Mount Vernon	1	1
City of Sedro-Woolley	1	1
Towns Representative	Determined by Bylaws ¹	1
Ports Representative	Determined by Bylaws ¹	1
Tribes Representative	Determined by Bylaws ¹	1
WSDOT	1	1
Mayor Employer Representative	1	Ex officio
Skagit PUD	1	Ex officio
Skagit transit	Represented by the County, City and Town members	
Legislative Delegation	9	Ex officio
Total		11

¹ Towns, Ports and Tribes each have a total of one vote. The number representatives and sharing of the vote is determined by the Bylaws.

Funding

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- \$109,176 (annual) State RTPO Funds - SCOG
 - \$32,600 – Pass through to Island County

- \$60,000 (four years) - Human Service Transportation Planning (HSTP) – SCOG

- No local match required or assessed

Questions

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- What benefits do you see in the SI RTPO now?
- Looking ahead what does Island County want to achieve?
- What issues or challenges do you see that would benefit from Skagit and Island working on collaboratively?

Challenges

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- Lack of “Regional” focus
 - ▣ Each County makes their own decisions and has different transportation focus
 - ▣ MPO requirements in Skagit
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Project Obligations
- Consistency between Sub-RTPO Boards actions and SI-RTPO Plan
 - ▣ MPO Requirements in Skagit
- Administrative
 - ▣ Confusing decision structure

Options

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- 1) Current Structure - update/modify current agreement and bylaws
- 2) Separate the SI RTPO
 - Skagit functions as MPO/RTPO
 - Island could continue coordinated planning without RTPO requirements
- 3) Other?

Next Steps

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- SCOG Transportation Policy Board direction – Fall
- Discuss at SIRTPO Board Meeting - October
- Define and move ahead with one option

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS

This is an illustrative list of the tasks/items of the regional transportation planning and programming processes. The complete regional transportation planning and programming processes, and all applicable requirements are included in RCW 47.80 and WAC 468-86. The current versions of the RCW and WAC, as of 09/25/2013, were used for this summary.

REQUIREMENTS

Task/Item	Description	How Often Updated/Adopted/ Designated	Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Citation	Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Citation
Transportation Strategy	Guides development of the transportation system within the region. Limits type and scope of systems that will be included in RTP. Identifies priority levels for implementing transportation programs and projects.	Reviewed every two years	RCW <u>47.80.023</u>	WAC <u>468-86-100</u>
Regional Transportation Plan	Prepare a regional transportation plan that is consistent with countywide planning policies and county, city, and state transportation plans.	Updated every 5 years in conjunction with the MTP	RCW <u>47.80.023</u> ; RCW <u>47.80.030</u>	WAC <u>468-86-080</u> ; WAC <u>468-86-090</u> ; WAC <u>468-86-100</u> ; WAC <u>468-86-110</u> ; WAC <u>468-86-120</u> ; WAC <u>468-86-130</u> ; WAC <u>468-86-140</u>
Certification of Transportation Elements and Countywide Planning Policies	RTPO must ensure that local agencies' transportation elements are consistent with the RTP. The elements must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect the transportation guidelines in the RTP • Be consistent with RTP • Conform with requirement of 	As Transportation elements are updated	RCW <u>47.80.023</u>	WAC <u>468-86-150</u>

Task/Item	Description	How Often Updated/Adopted/ Designated	Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Citation	Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Citation
	<p>RCW 36.70A.070</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect consistency between Countywide Planning Policies and RTP <p>The RTPO must also ensure that the Countywide Planning Policies are consistent with the RTP.</p>			
Develop TIP	<p>Each RTPO shall complete a regional transportation improvement program (TIP). The TIP should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cover a six-year period • Include all regionally significant projects • Be consistent with RTP • Include a financial plan 	At least once every two years.	RCW <u>47.80.023</u>	WAC <u>468-86-160</u>
Prepare Human Services Transportation Plan	Coordinate with WSDOT and Skagit/Island Transit to prepare HSTP.	Every four years	RCW <u>47.80.023</u>	
Designate lead agency	Designate lead planning agency to carry out responsibilities of the organization. May be a regional organization or competent county, city, town, or WSDOT district office.	Once, can be redesignated	RCW <u>47.80.023</u>	WAC <u>468-86-050</u> ; WAC <u>468-86-070</u>
Policy Board	Each RTPO shall create transportation policy board. Shall allow major employers, WSDOT, port districts, and tribal interests as well as member cities towns and counties to participate in policy making.	Once, can be redesignated	RCW <u>47.80.020</u> ; RCW <u>47.80.023</u> ; RCW <u>47.80.040</u>	

Task/Item	Description	How Often Updated/Adopted/ Designated	Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Citation	Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Citation
Level of Service	Each RTPO should develop transportation level of service standards appropriate to its needs.	Revisited with every plan update	RCW <u>47.80.023</u> ; RCW <u>47.80.030</u>	
Establish RTPO	An RTPO shall be a formal organization with membership of counties, cities and towns within the region. RTPO must determine its own structure. All cities and counties are subject to certification and consistency requirements.	Once, can be redesignated	RCW <u>47.80.020</u>	

REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON 47.80 SUMMARY

Following are summaries of selected provisions from RCW 47.80 Regional Transportation Planning Organizations:

- 47.80.010 - RTPO's are established to ensure that the state's transportation system functions as one interconnected system
- 47.80.011 – The legislature intended this law to address public initiatives regarding transportation and comprehensive planning in an innovative way, improving integration between transportation and land use planning
- 47.80.020 – Each RTPO shall be formed through the voluntary association of local governments within a county, or within geographically contiguous counties. Each organization shall:
 1. Encompass at least one county
 2. Have a population of at least 100,000, or contain a minimum of three counties
 3. Have as members all counties within the region, and at least sixty percent of the cities and towns within the region representing a minimum of 75% of the cities' and towns' population

In urbanized areas, the regional transportation planning organization is the same as the metropolitan planning organization designated for federal transportation planning purposes.

- 47.80.023 – Responsibilities of RTPO's include:
 1. Prepare and periodically update transportation strategy for the region
 2. Prepare a regional transportation plan that is consistent with countywide planning policies and county, city, and state transportation plans
 3. Certify that transportation plans adopted by cities and towns in the region are consistent with the regional transportation plan and have all of the required elements

4. Certify that the countywide planning policies and regional transportation plan are consistent
 5. Develop a six-year transportation improvement program which proposes regionally significant transportation projects and programs and transportation demand management measures. The TIP must also include a financial plan that demonstrates how the TIP can be funded. The TIP must be updated at least every two years
 6. Prepare a coordinated transit-human services transportation plan
 7. Designate a lead planning agency
 8. Review level of service methodologies to promote consistent regional evaluation of transportation facilities
 9. Develop level of service standards or alternate transportation performance measures
 10. Update prioritized regional human service and transportation project list every two years
- 47.80.040 – Transportation Policy Board shall allow representatives of major employers within the region, WSDOT, transit districts, port districts, and member cities, towns, and counties to participate in policy making. Members of the house of representatives or state senate whose districts are within the RTPO shall at least be ex officio nonvoting members of the policy board.