

# SKAGIT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
SCOG, Room C  
Mount Vernon, WA

## AGENCIES REPRESENTED

- Anacortes ..... Eric Shjarback
- Concrete ..... Cody Hart
- Mount Vernon ..... Esco Bell (entered at 1:39 PM)
- Port of Anacortes ..... Jenkins Dossen (entered at 1:42 PM)
- Sedro-Woolley ..... Mark Freiberger
- Skagit County ..... Forrest Jones
- WSDOT ..... John Shambaugh

## STAFF PRESENT

- Kevin Murphy ..... Executive Director
- Mark Hamilton ..... Transportation Planner
- Gabe Philips ..... Transportation Planner

## MINUTES

The meeting began at 1:35 PM.

1. SCOG Report: Kevin Murphy said that the federal transportation bill has been extended for two months. He also said that the state legislature has approved the transportation budget, but not the broader transportation package, which is still being negotiated.
2. Approval of the May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 TAC meeting minutes: Mark Freiberger moved to approve the May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 TAC meeting minutes. Jenkins Dossen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Regional Transportation Improvement Program Amendment: Gabe Philips presented the following Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) amendment request submitted for consideration:
  - WSDOT-NW
    - I-5/Maddox Creek Fish Passage
    - SR 9/Francis Road Intersection Improvements
    - SR 11/Cook Road Intersection Improvements
    - SR 20 Spur/R Avenue Vicinity ADA Compliance
    - SR 20 Spur/Sharpe's Corner to Commercial Avenue Paving
    - SR 530/Sauk-Suiattle Confluence Chronic Environmental Deficiency Retrofit

Esco Bell moved to recommend the RTIP amendment for approval as presented. Eric Shjarback seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. Guemes Channel Trail Scope Adjustment: Eric Shjarback said that projects the City of Anacortes had received Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for – Guemes Channel Trail, phases II and VI – do not have adequate funding to fulfill the original scope of work. The initial estimate was that the \$210,000 awarded to the projects would complete their design phases. Eric now said that it will more likely get the projects to 30% design. Because the funds have already been obligated, this project is no longer on the RTIP. However,

in order to amend the agreement with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) has to give formal approval of the scope change. Eric requested that the TAC recommend that the TPB approve the proposed scope changes to the projects.

Esco Bell moved to recommend to the TPB approval of changing the scope of the project prospectus from 100% design to 30% design and to provide flexibility on moving funds between the two Guemes Channel Trail projects, as long as the total funding amount does not change. The motion was seconded by Cody Hart. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Transportation Alternatives Program: Gabe Philips reported on the projects that have been submitted for consideration for Transportation Alternatives Program funds. Project sponsors are currently reviewing the initial scores. The joint Skagit-Island Regional Technical Advisory Committees will review and rank the submitted projects at next week's meeting. A review of the project selection criteria will be included on a future TAC agenda.
6. Skagit Rail Crossing Study: Gabe Philips said that SCOG recently had a kickoff meeting with its consultant on the Skagit Rail Crossing Study. The TAC was asked in what way they would like to be involved with the study. The TAC did not establish a subcommittee to work on the study, as SCOG staff suggested was a potential option. SCOG staff committed to contacting specific TAC members directly and working with them as the study progresses, as some had more interest in participating in the study than others.
7. Regional Transportation Plan, Project List: Gabe Philips presented the projects received from jurisdictions so far for inclusion in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Gabe is still waiting on many jurisdictions to submit projects and will be doing more of a formal call for projects soon. Some jurisdictions indicated that they may not know what projects to include until their comprehensive plans are substantially done, in spring 2016. Gabe noted that the RTP has to be adopted by April 2016, and SCOG will be getting a draft together in December 2015, so will need to have all project information by then, at the latest. Gabe also noted that the RTP can be amended at any time, so if new projects are added, it would not take 5 years until the next update to get them into the plan.

Kevin Murphy gave an update on the financial plan for the RTP and recent work to begin the financial forecasts that will be part of the plan. Kevin asked that jurisdictions with transportation benefit districts provide information to SCOG, including revenue forecasts if available. He will send a more formal request to jurisdictions soon.

8. Roundtable Projects Discussion: TAC members gave updates on their current projects.

The next TAC meeting will be at 1:30 PM on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, in SCOG, Room C.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Attest:



Gabe Philips,  
Skagit Council of Governments

Date

