

SKAGIT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, December 3rd, 2015
SCOG, Room C
Mount Vernon, WA

AGENCIES REPRESENTED

- Anacortes Gunnar Christiansen
- Burlington Brian Dempsey
- Concrete Cody Hart
- Mount Vernon Esco Bell, Mike Love
- Port of Anacortes Jenkins Dossen
- Sedro-Woolley Mark Freiberger
- Skagit County Paul Randall-Grutter
- Skagit Transit Carolyn Chase
- Swinomish Tribe Tara Satushek
- WSDOT Elizabeth Sjostrom

STAFF PRESENT

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

MINUTES

The meeting began at 1:30 PM.

1. SCOG Report: Kevin Murphy reported on the progress of the federal transportation act in the United States Congress. Gabe Philips reminded the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members that the SCOG Transportation Policy Board (TPB) is required to certify that each member jurisdiction’s comprehensive plan transportation element is consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Mr. Philips said he would distribute the Comprehensive Plan Consistency Checklist to all of the TAC members.
2. Approval of the November 5th, 2015 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes: Mike Love moved to approve the November 5th, 2015 TAC meeting minutes. Paul Randall-Grutter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Active Community Taskforce Review: Mr. Philips briefly reviewed the past discussions regarding the structure of the Active Community Taskforce (ACT). At the December 1st, 2015 ACT meeting, the ACT reviewed the changes made to the draft ACT bylaws by the TAC at its November meeting. The ACT requested that the TAC revisit their decision to not permit elected officials of SCOG member organizations to serve on the ACT. The TAC suggested that this decision be made by the TPB. The ACT had also requested that a representative of ACT be included as a non-voting member of the TAC. The TAC agreed that it would be valuable to have an ACT representative at the table for TAC meetings. This would require an amendment to the TAC bylaws. Mr. Philips said that the ACT will finalize the recommended ACT bylaws and submit them to the TAC for approval at the January TAC meeting.
4. Regional Transportation Plan Update: Mr. Philips gave an update of the progress that has been made on compiling and ranking projects to be included in the RTP. It was noted that having each member jurisdiction

rank its own projects resulted in rankings that were difficult to compare to each other. Therefore, the TAC recommended that SCOG staff revise the project priority scoring to ensure they are ranked consistently. The rankings will then be reviewed by the TAC at the January meeting.

Mr. Philips also requested that each member jurisdiction submit annual estimates for programmatic expenditures to use in the financial analysis for the RTP. He asked that all of the remaining information that is still needed for the RTP update be submitted to SCOG by December 17th, 2015.

5. Skagit Rail Crossing Study: Mr. Philips gave an update on the progress of the Skagit Rail Crossing Study, being done by a consultant. The final report will include suggested mitigation measures for the at-grade rail crossings that have the largest impact in the future. The information from this study will be used to inform the update to the RTP and local comprehensive plans. The consultant is expected to present the final report at the December TPB meeting.
6. Corridor Sketch Planning: Elizabeth Sjostrom gave a description of the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) effort to be more engaged in planning with its local partners. The corridor sketch planning initiative will encourage WSDOT staff and local agency planners and engineers to identify what the needs of the local transportation system are. Ms. Sjostrom expects to hold consultation meetings with each local partner in mid-to-late January and a countywide workshop in February.
7. Roundtable Discussion: TAC members gave updates on their current projects.

The next TAC meeting will be at 1:30 PM on January 7th, 2016, in SCOG, Room C.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 PM.

Attest:



Gabe Philips,
Skagit Council of Governments

Date

1/7/16