



## SKAGIT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

December 6, 2018 – 1:30 PM

Skagit Council of Governments Conference Room

[315 South Third Street, Suite 100, Mount Vernon, WA 98273](#)

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of [October 4, 2018 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
3. Non-Motorized Advisory Committee – *Liz McNett Crowl*
  - a. Progress Report
  - b. [Proposed 2019 Work Program](#)
  - c. [Proposed 2019 Membership](#)
4. 2019 Project Selection – *Mark Hamilton*
5. 2019 Project Schedules – *Mark Hamilton*
6. Roundtable and Open Topic Discussion
7. Next Meeting: January 3, 2019
8. Adjourned

Please contact [Mark Hamilton](#) at (360) 416-7876 if there are any other items that need to be brought up for discussion.

[Meeting Packet](#)



## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND VOTES

### VOTING MEMBERS

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Anacortes.....                      | 1 |
| Burlington.....                     | 1 |
| Mount Vernon.....                   | 1 |
| Sedro-Woolley.....                  | 1 |
| Skagit County.....                  | 3 |
| Skagit Transit.....                 | 1 |
| WSDOT.....                          | 1 |
| Ports.....                          | 1 |
| • Port of Anacortes                 |   |
| • Port of Skagit                    |   |
| Towns.....                          | 1 |
| • Concrete                          |   |
| • Hamilton                          |   |
| • La Conner                         |   |
| • Lyman                             |   |
| Tribes.....                         | 1 |
| • Swinomish Indian Tribal Community |   |
| • Samish Indian Nation              |   |

### NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Skagit PUD

## QUORUM REQUIREMENT

A quorum consists of half the total votes (5), with Skagit County consisting of one seat toward the quorum calculation. Formal recommendations to the Transportation Policy Board can only be made when a quorum is present.

Title VI Notice: SCOG fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, visit SCOG’s website at <http://scog.net/about/nondiscrimination/>.

Notificación del Título VI: El SCOG cumple plenamente con el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, así como los estatutos y reglamentos relacionados. Si desea más información o tener acceso al formulario de denuncia del Título VI, visite la página web del SCOG <http://scog.net/about/nondiscrimination/>.

# SKAGIT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 4, 2018  
SCOG Conference Room  
Mount Vernon, WA

## AGENCIES REPRESENTED

- City of Anacortes..... Steve Lange
- Port of Anacortes..... Jenkins Dossen
- Skagit County ..... Forrest Jones
- Skagit Transit..... Brad Windler
- Swinomish Indian Tribal Community ..... Keri Cleary
- Town of Concrete..... Cody Hart
- Town of La Conner ..... Scott Thomas
- Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)..... Elizabeth Sjostrom

## STAFF PRESENT

- Kevin Murphy ..... Executive Director
- Mark Hamilton..... Senior Transportation Planner

## MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: 1:32 PM
2. Approval of September 6, 2018 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Minutes: Mr. Jones moved approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Hart seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
3. 2019–2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program: Mr. Hamilton presented the draft 2019–2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program to the TAC. He said the 2019–2024 RTIP came to the TAC at the previous month’s meeting and this month’s meeting is an opportunity for a recommendation to the Transportation Policy Board. Mr. Hamilton also noted that a public comment period on the 2019 –2024 RTIP ends on October 5<sup>th</sup> and the RTIP may be acted upon at the next Transportation Policy Board meeting, on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Hart recommended approval of the 2019–2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program as presented. Ms. Sjostrom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Regional Performance Targets: Mr. Hamilton described the new approach to performance-based planning that is being applied across the United States that affects metropolitan planning organizations, such as SCOG. This is in response to new federal rules resulting from the Moving Ahead for Progress Act in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, which was signed into law in 2012. He noted that SCOG is now in the process of setting regional performance targets related to a variety of subject areas. Regional performance targets for transit asset management were set by SCOG in 2017 and safety targets early this year. These two target setting processes began the new performance-based approach at SCOG.

Mr. Hamilton said that regional performance targets for bridges, pavement, travel time and freight reliability need to be set by the October 27, 2018 Transportation Policy Board meeting to ensure SCOG meets the deadline for these targets. He then went over an inventory of current conditions for each of these performance target subject areas using the most recent available data. The inventory and targets only apply to the National Highway System in Skagit County.

Mr. Hamilton mentioned that Regional Performance Targets were discussed at last month’s TAC meeting, and this month’s TAC meeting this agenda item is available for a recommendation to the Transportation Policy Board. Mr. Hamilton said that SCOG has the choice to: (1) to set quantifiable targets; or (2) agree to plan and program projects in the Skagit region to help meet WSDOT statewide targets. He mentioned that the staff recommendation is Option #2.

TAC members discussed ways to focus attention on the need for capacity improvements on Interstate 5. Mr. Murphy explained the work that was done related to this subject when SCOG prepared the Skagit 2040 Regional Transportation Plan in 2015 and 2016. Projects that expanded capacity on Interstate 5 in Skagit County did not fit into the fiscal constraint of the plan and reasonable expectations of what revenues would be available to add additional travel lanes through Mount Vernon and Burlington. TAC members expressed concern with perceived increases to traffic congestion and expected growth coming to Skagit County in future years.

Mr. Windler recommended that SCOG agree to plan and program projects to help WSDOT meet statewide targets. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lange. The motion carried unanimously.

- 5. Transportation Element Consistency Review Process: Mr. Hamilton said that SCOG, as the regional transportation planning organization in Skagit County, has a duty in Washington state law to review and certify transportation elements of local comprehensive plans. SCOG had been using a review and certification process approved by the Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization, but the SIRTPO dissolved several years ago. The review process has not been updated to reflect SCOG as the regional transportation planning organization. This agenda item is to update the review process so that SCOG is referenced in place of SIRTPO. Mr. Hamilton noted the staff recommendation is to approve these revisions as presented.

Ms. Sjostrom recommended approval of the Transportation Element Consistency Review Process to the Transportation Policy Board. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cleary. The motion carried unanimously.

- 6. Roundtable and Open Topic Discussion: TAC members gave updates on their current projects.
- 7. Next Meeting: November 1, 2018
- 8. Adjourned: 2:43 PM

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Hamilton  
Skagit Council of Governments

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **NON-MOTORIZED ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROPOSED 2019 WORK PROGRAM**

Every year, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviews and approves the work program for the Non-Motorized Advisory Committee (NMAC). The NMAC is an advisory committee to the TAC. This process for work program recommendation and approval is described in the NMAC bylaws.

The NMAC discussed their 2019 work program at their October 2, 2018 meeting and recommends the following items for approval to the TAC:

### **1. Bike Maps**

In 2018, the NMAC worked on an update to the Skagit County Bike Map and completed printing new maps in September. For 2019, the NMAC will promote the bike map and assist with distribution to interested parties, along with Skagit Council of Governments staff.

Products: distribution of bike maps that were printed in 2018.

### **2. Walking Trail Guide**

In 2016, the NMAC completed preparation of the Skagit County Walking Trail Guide. The next update to the walking trail guide should be completed in 2020. Work beginning the update process will begin in late 2019.

Products: completion of Skagit County Walking Trial Guide in 2020.

### **3. Annual Bicycle and Pedestrian Count**

This is an item that NMAC assists with every year. The Washington State Department of Transportation leads the annual bicycle and pedestrian count statewide, and the NMAC provides the local capacity to organize the count, recruit volunteers and analyze the results.

Products: bicycle and pedestrian counts taken at locations around Skagit County and entered into WSDOT's count database.

### **4. Provide Technical Input to the TAC on Project Selection Criteria and Ranking**

The Transportation Policy Board is anticipated to select projects for Surface Transportation Block Grant Program and Set-aside funding in the second quarter of calendar year 2019. The TAC provides advice to the Transportation Policy Board on the selection process and the NMAC is available to provide advice to the TAC as necessary.

Products: input to the TAC on non-motorized aspects of the project selection process for Surface Transportation Block Grant Program and Set-aside funds in early 2019.

### **5. Assist Member Organizations and Volunteer Groups to Improve Non-motorized Transportation and Safety**

Provide a non-motorized transportation resource to the member organizations of SCOG and volunteer groups that are actively involved with non-motorized transportation in Skagit County.

Products: no specific products have yet been identified with this work program item, but may be later in 2019.

No further activities were recommended by the NMAC for their 2019 work program.

## NON-MOTORIZED ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROPOSED 2019 MEMBERSHIP

The Non-Motorized Advisory Committee (NMAC) is an advisory committee to the Technical Advisory Committee. Per the NMAC bylaws, membership to the NMAC will be reviewed and approved annually at the December meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee. Jeroldine Hallberg, a longtime member of the NMAC, resigned from the committee in 2018 to pursue other interests.

Membership proposed by the NMAC for 2019 is in the following table.

| Name                     | Status                       | Notes  |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Liz McNett Crowl</b>  | Coordinator & Current Member |  |
| <b>Linda Talman</b>      | Current Member               |  |
| <b>Marie Erbstoeszer</b> | Current Member               |  |
| <b>Steve Jahn</b>        | Current Member               |  |
| <b>Walt Farmer</b>       | New Proposed Member          | See Attached Résumé                          |
| <b>Keri Cleary</b>       | New Proposed Member          | Tribal Representative &<br>Swinomish Planner |

## WALTER L. FARMER (Walt)

Address: 1518 10th St., Anacortes, WA 98221 (Since 11/2018)

Telephone: (909) 635-5889 (cell/message/text)

Email: [wlfarmer@earthlink.net](mailto:wlfarmer@earthlink.net)

### **Career Summary**

Retired attorney, 1977-2005). After retirement returned to school for several degrees. Active in local transportation improvements, bicycling, photography.

### **Background Highlights**

Graduated law school, passed California Bar Exam and practiced law for twenty-nine years. Outside interests: Studied real estate, photography, Spanish. Sportsman. K-12 substitute teacher.

### **Educational History**

High School Diploma, Crescenta Valley High School, La Crescenta, California, June 1967

Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences, San Diego State University, San Diego, California, 1971

Doctorate in Law (J.D.), California Western School of Law, San Diego, California, 1976

California Teaching Credentials, Social Science and Special Education, Cal Poly Pomona 2012-3 (expired)

A.A. Photography, Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, CA 2012

### **Employment History**

Steadily employed as deputy public defender, associate attorney, or sole practitioner from bar admission in 1976 to 2006. Most recently employed July 1005-Jan 2006 by Melvin Seifert & Associates, Diamond Bar (Travelers/St. Paul Insurance house counsel) as major litigation trial attorney. Admitted to practice in California (Bar # 70796), Southern and Central District California Federal Courts, and U.S. Supreme Court (resigned in good standing, 2017).

### **Transportation-Related Activities**

Commissioner, City of Claremont (CA) Traffic and Transportation Commission, 2015-2017

Active in Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition and Bike SGV (San Gabriel Valley, CA) 2008-2017

Local Advocate & Designer of Adventure Cycling Association Bicycle Route 66 (Chicago to Santa Monica) 2014-16

Litigation Attorney in Motor Vehicle Personal Injury, defense, 1984-1990 and 1992-2004, and plaintiff, 1990-1991

Member, Anacortes Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory and SCOG's Non-Motorized Advisory Committees (2018)

### **Significant Honors and Activities**

Cal Poly Student Newspaper staff, 2012

Visual Media Arts & Sciences (Photo) Club, Mt. San Antonio Community College, 2006-8

Inducted into American Board of Trial Advocates, an honorary national organization of experienced civil trial lawyers, San Bernardino-Riverside Chapter, 2004-2006.

President, Vice President, Secretary, and Board Member of San Gorgonio Search & Rescue Team, Mentone, California (affiliated with the San Bernardino County Sheriff). Active search and rescue team member, performing all types of search and rescue activities, 1992-2003.

Law School Instructor, Citrus Belt Law School, Riverside, CA 1991.

Student Body President, 1969, Elliott Campus of United States International University, San Diego, California