

SKAGIT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2026
Microsoft Teams Remote Meeting

AGENCIES REPRESENTED

- City of Anacortes.....Sidney Neel
- City of BurlingtonBrian Dempsey, Tyler Stamey
- City of Mount VernonFrank Reinert
- City of Sedro-WoolleyPeter Lane
- Skagit CountyGiven Kutz, Tom Weller
- Skagit PUD.....Mark Semrau
- Skagit Transit.....Crystle Stidham, Maleah Kuzminsky, Rebekah Tuno
- Town of La ConnerScott Thomas
- Washington State Department of TransportationMehrdad Moini, Erica Nolan, Ryan Clemens

STAFF PRESENT

- Skagit Council of GovernmentsJill Boudreau, Mark Hamilton, Grant Johnson, Sarah Reuther

OTHERS PRESENT

No members of the public attended the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 1:32 p.m.

Roll Call: Roll was taken with a quorum present.

2. December 4, 2025 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes: Mr. Dempsey moved to approve December 4, 2025 Technical Advisory Committee meeting minutes and Mr. Reinert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. January Regional Transportation Improvement Program Amendments: Mr. Hamilton presented this agenda item. He explained that the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) has not been approved yet, but approval is anticipated within the next week. This is the first round of monthly amendments to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). Two amendments were submitted by Burlington, and one amendment was submitted by WSDOT. The Burlington amendment for the Burlington Blvd Overlay projects adds this project to the RTIP. The

project has 100% federal funding with no local match, for a total estimated project cost of \$2,206,000. The Burlington amendment for the SR20 Nonmotorized and Safety Improvements project adds the project to the RTIP. This project was awarded \$3,395,000 in funding through the state Pedestrian & Bicycle Program with a local match of \$500,000. Total estimated project cost is \$4,706,248. The WSDOT amendment for the SR 536/Skagit River Bridge – Painting project adds the project to the RTIP. The construction phase was programmed in 2025 and is being reprogrammed in 2026 with a mix of federal, state and local funds. Total estimated project cost is \$15,254,562. Mr. Hamilton stated that with these amendments the RTIP remains fiscally constrained.

Mr. Weller moved to approve the January Regional Transportation Improvement Program Amendments as presented and Mr. Reinert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. National Highway Freight Program Call for Projects: Mr. Johnson presented this agenda item. He explained that in November of 2025 WSDOT requested that SCOG coordinate a regional process and submit eligible National Highway Freight Program (NHFP) project applications to WSDOT by February 27, 2026. The proposed call for projects is very similar to the process that was used for the regional NHFP call for projects in 2022. Mr. Johnson then gave an overview of the call for projects and the timeline for submission.

Mr. Lane moved to recommend that the Transportation Policy Board approve the National Highway Freight Program Call for Projects as presented, and Mr. Weller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Anacortes Transportation Element Certification: Mr. Johnson presented this agenda item. He explained that the Growth Management Act (GMA) requires regional transportation planning organizations (RTPOs) to certify comprehensive plan transportation elements. Anacortes submitted their draft transportation element to SCOG staff on July 10, 2025. After reviewing the draft, SCOG staff notified Anacortes that the transportation element met the requirements for certification on September 9, 2025. On December 15, 2025 the Anacortes City Council adopted the 2025 Anacortes Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Reinert moved to recommend that the Transportation Policy Board adopt a resolution to certify the 2025 Anacortes Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element as presented. Mr. Stamey seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

6. 2026 Regional Highway Safety Performance Targets: Mr. Johnson presented this agenda item. He explained that these targets come to the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) every year and are related to federal performance measures. He stated that the TPB has two courses of action to choose from for safety targets: (1) set quantifiable targets for the region; or (2) agree to plan and program projects to assist with meeting statewide targets for highway safety. The TPB has always opted to agree to plan and program projects when provided these two options. Mr. Johnson then gave an overview of the safety targets, and displayed data both statewide and for the Skagit region. He stated that next month the 2026 Highway Safety Targets would be coming back to the Technical Advisory Committee for a recommendation to the TPB.
7. FFY 2025 Federal Local Obligation Authority Delivery Summary: Mr. Hamilton presented this agenda item. He stated that because SCOG exceeded its Obligation Authority (OA) target, it received approximately \$705,000 in sanctioned funds from other parts of the state that failed to meet their

targets. Approximately \$86,000 in redistributed OA also went to Burlington. He then gave an overview of the statewide target and SCOG's role in helping meet that target.

8. 2026 Obligation Authority Plan: Mr. Hamilton presented this agenda item. He explained that the OA plan had just been updated a few days before this meeting. The STIP has not been approved yet, so project sponsors are unable to obligate projects at this time, but once the STIP is approved projects can begin to obligate federal funds. He then gave an overview of the 2026 Obligation Authority Plan and the deadlines for obligation. He then went over the extension and appeals process. He stated that currently the 2026 target is expected to be around \$400,000 because of the amount obligated in the previous year, and that we will probably know our final target by March. He concluded his presentation by stating that the region is looking to be well positioned to seek redistributed OA if it is available.
9. Upcoming Schedule for Regional Transportation Plan: Mr. Hamilton presented this agenda item. He gave an overview of the project timeline and stated that staff are currently working with the consultants to finalize the list of projects for the Plan. The draft materials will be sent out to the TAC at the same time they are sent to the Transportation Policy Board for their meeting this month. The Plan will come back to the TAC in February as a discussion item, with adoption anticipated in March.
10. Roundtable and Open Topic Discussion: Technical Advisory Committee members provided project updates for their jurisdictions.
11. Next Meeting: In person meeting at the SCOG Conference Room on February 5, 2026, 1:30 p.m.
12. Adjourned: 2:32 p.m.

Attest:

Date: _____

Mark Hamilton, Senior Transportation Planner
Skagit Council of Governments