

SKAGIT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 6, 2019
SCOG Conference Room
Mount Vernon, WA

AGENCIES REPRESENTED

- City of Anacortes..... Steve Lange
- City of Burlington Brian Dempsey
- City of Mount Vernon Mike Love
- City of Sedro-Woolley Mark Freiberger
- Port of Anacortes..... Jenkins Dossen
- Samish Indian Nation..... Nora Pederson
- Skagit County Forrest Jones
- Skagit Transit..... Brad Windler
- Swinomish Indian Tribal Community Keri Cleary
- Town of Concrete..... Cody Hart (arrived 1:39 p.m.)
- Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)..... John Shambaugh

STAFF PRESENT

- Katie Bunge..... Assistant Planner
- Mark Hamilton..... Senior Transportation Planner

OTHERS PRESENT

One member of the public attended the meeting.

1. Call to Order: 1:33 p.m.

Roll Call: Roll was taken with a quorum present.

2. Approval of May 2, 2019 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Minutes: Mr. Freiberger moved approval of the May 2, 2019 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes as presented, and Ms. Pederson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Project Selection: Mr. Hamilton presented the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Project Selection schedule to the TAC and said that project applications have been received by SCOG and scored based on all evaluation criteria, including TAC evaluations received.

The Non-Motorized Advisory Committee (NMAC) was provided a chance to see the list of ranked projects, and has given a recommendation to the TAC: to award funding to Sedro-Woolley’s John Liner Road, Reed to Township Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements Project, and Skagit Transit’s Design and Install Speed Bumps at Skagit Station project. The NMAC also commented that Freeway Drive

Improvements is an important project in helping to address a gap in non-motorized connectivity within Mount Vernon.

Mr. Hamilton told the TAC that in this round of project selection, there are an estimated \$5,900,000 of combined Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) and Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) federal funds to award. The Transportation Policy Board approved a minimum 10% set-aside amount for non-roadway projects through this regional call for projects, which is \$523,447. Mr. Hamilton also noted that SCOG has historically been funded through a 10% set-aside of the STBGP allocation, and Board approval would be needed to continue this four-year award from 2022–2025. Mr. Hamilton explained that due to our current programming schedule, most of the projects awarded this year will be programmed in 2024 and 2025, although the HIP funded projects need to obligate sooner, per the requirements of that program.

Mr. Hamilton noted that the two projects submitted by Sedro-Woolley could not both be awarded because one is a component of the other.

TAC members viewed and discussed the ranked list of projects for the STBGP project selection. Some members questioned whether there is an opportunity to add funding later for additional project phases, if the phases are not fully funded through this round of award decisions. Mr. Hamilton confirmed that projects not fully funded through this call for projects can apply again through future SCOG calls for projects, or be funded through other sources.

Concerns were expressed by TAC members about the accuracy of the cost estimate for the construction phase of the SR 20/Campbell Lake Road Intersection Improvement project, especially with preliminary engineering not yet being completed for the proposed roundabout.

Several projects awarded by SCOG through previous project selections did not rank highly in this project selection for their construction phase. George Hopper Interchange Improvements Phase II (Rank #7), Secondary Access Project (Rank #8) and Francis Road – Section 3 (Rank #9) were specifically discussed. Some TAC members expressed that these projects should be more highly favored for this project selection, given past awards through SCOG for earlier phases and current funding requests to complete construction of each project. Other TAC members suggested that awards through SCOG should be leveraged with other funding sources to complete a project – including the County Road Administration Board and Transportation Improvement Board – and that projects should not rely too heavily on the limited funding available through the region. Projects ranked #7, #8 and #9 were proposed for funding at \$800,000 each, divided evenly among the three projects.

Mr. Love moved to recommend the following list of projects be awarded Surface Transportation Block Grant Program and Highway Infrastructure Program funding to the Transportation Policy Board:

Agency	Project	Phase	Recommended Award
Anacortes	R Avenue Long Term Improvements	PE	\$525,488
Burlington	SR 20 (Alder St. to Cascade Hwy) Nonmotorized and Safety Improvements	PE	\$350,000
Burlington	SR 20 (Alder St. to Cascade Hwy) Nonmotorized and Safety Improvements	ROW	\$350,000
Mount Vernon	Freeway Drive Improvements (College Way to Cameron Way)	CN	\$1,082,000
Samish Indian Nation	SR 20/Campbell Lake Road Intersection Improvement	PE	\$570,900
Samish Indian Nation	SR 20/Campbell Lake Road Intersection Improvement	ROW	\$86,500

Agency	Project	Phase	Recommended Award
Sedro-Woolley	John Liner Road, Reed to Township Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements Project	PE	\$58,820
Sedro-Woolley	John Liner Road, Reed to Township Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements Project	CN	\$442,015
Burlington	George Hopper Interchange Improvements Phase II	CN	\$800,000
Concrete	Secondary Access Project	CN	\$800,000
Skagit County	Francis Road - Section 3	CN	\$800,000
Skagit Transit	Design and Install Speed Bumps at Skagit Station	PE	\$7,464
Skagit Transit	Design and Install Speed Bumps at Skagit Station	CN	\$71,622
Total			\$5,944,809

Ms. Cleary seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

TAC members expressed that their recommendation reflects the TAC’s desire to complete the construction phase of projects that are currently programmed or already obligated.

Support was expressed for limiting the amount of funds requested per project in the future, with funding focused on more projects at lower dollar levels, rather than fewer projects at higher dollar levels. No specific threshold/amount was proposed for the maximum request. The highest funding request was \$2,300,000 in this project selection and the lowest was \$79,086.

Mr. Hamilton presented the prioritized list of contingency list projects based on TAC member scoring. TAC members discussed projects recommended for inclusion in the contingency list. Members recommended including funding for the George Hopper Interchange Improvements Phase II, Secondary Access Project, and Francis Road - Section 3 projects in the contingency list in the amounts of the remainder between the TAC recommendation for award to these projects and the funding request.

Mr. Lange moved to recommend the following prioritized projects for the contingency list, and Mr. Hart seconded the motion:

Agency	Project	Phase	Funding Request
Samish Indian Nation	SR 20/Campbell Lake Road Intersection Improvement	CN	\$1,642,600
Burlington	George Hopper Interchange Improvements Phase II	CN	\$200,000
Concrete	Secondary Access Project	CN	\$450,000
Skagit County	Francis Road - Section 3	CN	\$200,000
Skagit Transit	Bus Stop Surveys	Other	\$65,625
Skagit Transit	Design Services for Bus Pullouts along Memorial Highway	PE	\$72,925
Skagit Transit	Solar Light Upgrade to Bus Shelters	Other	\$19,463
Skagit Transit	Fixed Route Transit Coach	Other	\$393,750
Skagit Transit	Digital Signage and Real Time Information	Other	\$105,000
Skagit Transit	Bus Stop Amenities	Other	\$56,437
Skagit Transit	Design Services Sedro Woolley Transit Stops	PE	\$99,475
Total			\$3,305,275

The motion carried unanimously.

- 2020–2025 Regional Transportation Improvement Program: Mr. Hamilton reminded the Technical Advisory Committee that each year, SCOG develops a new Regional Transportation Improvement

Program (RTIP). More details regarding the upcoming 2020-2025 RTIP will be discussed at the next meeting on August 1, 2019.

5. Roundtable and Open Topic Discussion: Technical Advisory Committee members gave updates on their current projects.
6. Next Meeting: August 1, 2019. Mr. Hamilton noted there is not a TAC meeting scheduled in July due to the meeting date falling on Independence Day.
7. Adjourned: 2:58 p.m.

Attest:

Mark Hamilton, AICP
Skagit Council of Governments

Date _____

DRAFT