

AGENDA

Transportation Policy Board

Wednesday May 10, 2023 - 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Remote Meeting Via Zoom

Note: Remote meeting.

Watch the meeting live on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/trpc.org>

Public: To register to attend the meeting remotely, click on : https://trpc-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ubHN7kOtSe-hq-XxkwBY3q.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Note: Policy Board members will be pre-registered and will receive a separate link to join the meeting.

Note: For anyone opting to attend the meeting in person, TRPC will provide access at:

Thurston Regional Planning Council

2411 Chandler Court SW

Olympia, WA 98502

1. **7:30 am** **Introductions** – Andy Ryder, Chair
2. **Executive Director's Report & Announcements** – Marc Daily, TRPC
3. **Approval of Agenda** – Andy Ryder, Chair **ACTION**
4. **Consent Calendar** **ACTION**
 - a. **Approval of Meeting Notes** (Attachment) – April 12, 2023, Andy Ryder, Chair
5. **Public Comment Period**

Public comment for this meeting will be accepted in written and oral format.

 - The deadline for submitting written public comments or registering for oral public comment at the meeting is noon (12:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time) the day preceding the meeting, May 9, 2023.
 - For written public comment, please provide: 1) your name and address and 2) your comments. Send them to info@trpc.org. Written comments received by the deadline will be provided to the Policy Board members prior to the meeting.
 - Commenters may attend the meeting in person or choose the remote option. For either, please register to comment through this link https://trpc-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ubHN7kOtSe-hq-XxkwBY3q.
 - Check the box indicating you wish to provide public comment; and 2) list a general topic.

The Chair may accept public comment from individuals that did not pre-register after registered public comment has been provided. The Chair may also limit oral public comment to three minutes or less, depending on the meeting agenda and number of people wishing to comment.
6. **7:40 – 7:50** **Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Funding** (Attachment) – Katrina Van Every, TRPC **ACTION**

10 min
10 min. presentation.
Staff will provide an overview of the Carbon Reduction Program funding TRPC has been allocated.
7. **7:50 – 8:35** **Martin Way Corridor Study Update** (Attachment) – Allison Osterberg, TRPC **PRESENTATION**

45 min
25 min. presentation, 20 min. discussion.
Staff will present an update on the Martin Way Corridor Study, a joint planning project between Thurston Regional Planning Council, Thurston County, City of Olympia, City of Lacey, and Intercity Transit. The study identified a preferred alternative for land use and transportation facilities along the corridor that would improve safety and mobility while supporting increased vibrancy and accommodating growth. An action plan for the study will outline next steps for achieving the corridor vision.
8. **8:35 – 9:00** **2023 State Legislative Session** – Karen Parkhurst, TRPC **PRESENTATION**

25 min
20 min. presentation, 10 min. discussion.
9. **9:00 am** **Adjourn**

NEXT MEETING

June 14, 2023 – REMOTE

Note: For anyone without the ability to access the meeting remotely,

TRPC will provide access to the meeting in the conference room at 2411 Chandler Court SW, Olympia, WA 98502

Public Comment:

The following is not acceptable as either written or oral public comment and is considered disruptive behavior.

- Promoting or advertising commercial services, entities, or products.
- Supporting or opposing political candidates or ballot propositions.
- Distributing obscene content.
- Engaging in illegal activity or encouragement of illegal activity.
- Promoting, fostering or perpetuating discrimination on the basis of creed, color, age, religion, gender, gender identification, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, national origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation information that may tend to compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems.
- Threatening or intimidating language, including cyber bullying.
- Otherwise engaging in disruptive behavior.

Members of the public engaging in disruptive behavior may have their emails blocked (for written comments) or be removed from the meeting (for oral comments).

Thurston Regional Planning Council ensures full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination against any person based on race, color, national origin, or sex in the provision of benefits and services resulting from its federally assisted programs and activities. For questions regarding TRPC's Title VI Program, you may contact the Title VI Coordinator at 360.956.7575 or email info@trpc.org.

If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please call us at 360.956.7575 by 10:00 a.m. three days prior to the meeting. Ask for the ADA Coordinator.

For TDD users, please use the state's toll-free relay service, 711 and ask the operator to dial 360.956.7575.

MINUTES OF MEETING

Regular Meeting TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD Wednesday, April 12, 2023 Remote Meeting

Call to Order

Vice Chair Dani Madrone called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Attendance

Members Present:

City of Olympia	Dani Madrone, First Vice Chair
City of Rainier	Ron Kemp, Council member
City of Tenino	John O'Callahan, Council member
City of Tumwater	Peter Agabi, Council member
Intercity Transit	Don Melnick, Authority member
WSDOT	Gaius Sanoy, Staff
Business Rep	Jessica McKeegan-Jensen
Business Rep	David Wasson
Community Rep	Travis Millar
Community Rep	Michelle Murray
Emeritus Rep	Pete Kmet

Members Absent:

Nisqually Indian Tribe	Heidi Thomas, Staff
Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation	Amy Loudermilk, Staff
City of Lacey	Andy Ryder, Chair
City of Yelm	Brian Hess, Council member
North Thurston Public Schools	Garrett Kendall, Staff
Port of Olympia	Joe Downing, Commissioner
Thurston County	Carolina Mejia, Commissioner
Business Rep	Renee Radcliff Sinclair, Second Vice Chair

Staff Present:

Marc Daily, Executive Director
Karen Parkhurst, Planning & Policy Director
Burlina Lucas, Executive Assistant
Dorinda Merrill, Office Specialist IV
Dave Read, IT Manager
Katrina Van Every, Transportation Manager
Paul Brewster, Senior Planner
Theresa Julius, Senior Planner
Sara Porter, Assistant Planner
Krosbie Carter, Associate Planner

Others Present:

Emily Bergkamp, Intercity Transit
Rob LaFontaine, Intercity Transit
Eric Phillips, Intercity Transit
Martin Hoppe, City of Lacey
Mary Heather Ames, City of Tumwater
Matt Unzelman, Thurston County
Sophie Stimson, City of Olympia
Michelle Swanson, City of Olympia

Agenda Item 1
INFORMATION

Introductions/Announcements/Updates

Members were introduced.

Agenda Item 2
INFORMATION

Executive Director’s Report & Announcements.

Executive Director Marc Daily announced that (1) the Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) took action at their April 7, 2023, meeting to approve an amended award letter for the Intercity Transit East Martin Way Gateway Project. Intercity Transit was originally awarded \$735,250 in STBG funds for the preliminary engineering and design phase for the East Martin Way Gateway Project with the obligation deadline of June 2024. The requested amendment is to award the same amount with the obligation date of June 2023; and (2) TRPC is in the process of updating the Thurston County Bike Map.

Agenda Item 3
ACTION

Approval of Agenda

Board member O’Callahan moved, seconded by Board member Melnick, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 4
ACTION

Approval of Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of Meeting Notes – March 8, 2023

Board member O’Callahan moved, seconded by Board member McKeegan-Jensen, to approve the consent calendar. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 5

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 6
ACTION

Regional Transportation Improvement Program Amendment (RTIP)

Assistant Planner Sara Porter advised TPB on proposed amendments to the 2023-2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). The amendments include adding the City of Lacey’s Safety Action Plan and the City of Tumwater’s Percival Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal project.

Board member O’Callahan moved, seconded by Board member Melnick, to amend the 2023-2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program to include the Lacey Safety Action Plan and the Percival Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal project. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 7
ACTION

Federal Transportation Performance Measures

Transportation Manager Katrina Van Every reviewed the updated Federal Transportation Performance Measures that includes pavement, bridges, highway system, and freight. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) adopted these updated performance measures on December 16, 2022. TRPC has until June 14, 2023, to take action on those targets or adopt their own.

Board member O’Callahan moved, seconded by Board member Melnick, to recommend that the Council take action at their May 5th meeting to support the WSDOT performance measures and continue to adopt WSDOT measures as they are periodically updated. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 8
PRESENTATION

State Fiscal Year 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Executive Director Marc Daily reviewed the draft State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The program is a requirement to receive federal and state planning funds.

The UPWP describes how TRPC conducts its regional transportation work program, must meet federal and state requirements, and covers a major portion of TRPC’s budget.

TRPC will review the draft UPWP at their May meeting.

Agenda Item 9
PRESENTATION

Thurston Regional Trails Draft Plan Policy-Connected Recommendations

Senior Planner Paul Brewster reviewed the Regional Trails Plan's Draft Policy-Connected Recommendations. This project is funded by the UPWP. The goals of the plan are:

- A connected and accessible network.
- A user-friendly network.
- A safe and secure experience.
- A collaborative effort.
- A well-maintained network.

Agenda Item 10

Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice Chair Madrone adjourned the meeting at 8:53 a.m.

Andy Ryder, Chair

*Minutes prepared by Burlina Lucas, Executive Assistant, Thurston Regional Planning Council.
These minutes are not verbatim. A recording of this meeting is available upon request.*



MEMBERS:

- City of Lacey
- City of Olympia
- City of Rainier
- City of Tenino
- City of Tumwater
- City of Yelm
- Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
- Nisqually Indian Tribe
- Town of Bucoda
- Thurston County
- North Thurston Public Schools
- Olympia School District
- Tumwater School District
- Intercity Transit
- LOTT Clean Water Alliance
- Port of Olympia
- PUD No. 1 of Thurston County

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

- Lacey Fire District #3
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- The Evergreen State College
- Thurston Conservation District
- Thurston Economic Development Council
- Timberland Regional Library

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Policy Board

FROM: Katrina Van Every, Transportation Manager

DATE: May 3, 2023

SUBJECT: Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Funding

PURPOSE

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an overview of the Carbon Reduction Program.

Summary:

- Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) has about \$500,000 annually in Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funding to program out between 2022 and 2026.
- CRP funding can be used on many of the same projects as Transportation Alternatives and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) eligible projects.
- As with other funding pots, there is a geographic split for CRP. Programming out the urban medium funding will be fairly easy, but programming out urban small and rural funding will be more difficult.
- Staff is crafting a recommendation for Council’s consideration in July and is working with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to identify.
- Staff will come back to the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) in June to review staff’s recommendation. The TPB will take action on a recommendation.

REQUESTED ACTION

None – this is for information only. Staff will return to TPB in June for action.

kve:bl



Marc Daily
Executive Director

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EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

How has equity been considered in this agenda item?

As in the last Call for Projects process completed in 2022 programming out CRP funds will utilize regional evaluation criteria - including equity – to assess, score, and rank proposals. In the short term, projects that are already obligated, awarded funding, or on the contingency list will be considered.

BACKGROUND

On November 15, 2021, the President signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (also known as the “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law”) (BIL) into law. The BIL authorizes a new Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) to reduce transportation emissions. CRP funding can be used on a variety of projects that reduce transportation emissions (CO2), including many of the Transportation Alternatives- (TA) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality- (CMAQ) eligible projects. Eligible CRP projects include:

- Bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- Energy-efficient street lighting and traffic control devices.
- Projects that support deployment of alternative fuel vehicles (ex: EV charging stations).
- Public transportation projects.
- Advanced transportation and congestion management technologies.
- Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) capital improvements and vehicle-to-infrastructure communications equipment.
- Other projects (see the Carbon Reduction Program Guidance).

Between 2022 and 2026, TRPC has approximately \$2.6 million in Carbon Reduction Program funding to program out:

Geographic Area	Actual Obligation Authority		Conservative Estimates based on 2023 Allocation			TOTAL
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Urban Medium	\$323,413	\$281,101	\$281,101	\$281,101	\$281,101	\$1,447,817
Urban Small	\$94,011	\$81,711	\$81,711	\$81,711	\$81,711	\$420,855
Rural	\$169,355	\$147,198	\$147,198	\$147,198	\$147,198	\$758,147
TOTAL	\$586,779	\$510,010	\$510,010	\$510,010	\$510,010	\$2,626,819

TRPC staff is working with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to identify existing projects that are currently obligated, awarded funding, or on the contingency list that can obligate CRP funding between now and June 30, 2024.

ISSUES/CONSTRAINTS

- The CRP funds are only guaranteed for five years. We assume, but do not know for sure, that they will continue past 2026.
- Urban Small and Rural funding pots present a challenge because there are few existing projects (both projects already awarded funding and those on the contingency list) that qualify. Additionally, the amount is so small year to year that federalizing projects may not make sense.
- Many jurisdictions are facing staffing/contracting challenges that make it difficult to get existing projects done.
- New projects that “move the needle” are not in the works. Given staffing/contracting constraints, creating new projects that can use CRP funding is not realistic in the short term.
- Once TRPC officially becomes a Transportation Management Area (TMA), the geographic areas will change (Urbanized, Urban Small, and Rural), as will the allocation amounts (though not to a great extent).
- The Rural Community Support Program (RCSP) will issue a Call for Projects this fall. While willing, Thurston County may not have the capacity (i.e. a rural project they can put CRP funds on) to flip rural funds to add to the RCSP call.
- The next Call for Projects is anticipated in 2024 to program out dollars for 2028-2030.
- It is unclear at this time if there are different reporting requirements for CRP vs. STBG/CMAQ/TA that might increase administrative work associated with the award.

MEMORANDUM

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May 3, 2023

NEXT STEPS

Taking into consideration TAC's feedback, TRPC staff will formalize our recommendation for programming out the existing and anticipated CRP funds.

Anticipated Timeline:

- May 18 – TAC review of staff's recommendation.
- June 2 – Council's first review.
- June 14 – TPB recommendation.
- July 7 – Council action.



MEMBERS:

- City of Lacey
- City of Olympia
- City of Rainier
- City of Tenino
- City of Tumwater
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- Thurston Conservation District
- Thurston Economic Development Council
- Timberland Regional Library

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Policy Board

FROM: Allison Osterberg, Senior Planner
Aidan Dixon, Associate Planner

DATE: May 3, 2023

SUBJECT: Martin Way Corridor Study Update

PURPOSE

Staff will provide an update on the Martin Way Corridor Study.

Summary:

- The Martin Way Corridor Study is a joint planning effort between Thurston Regional Planning Council, Thurston County, the City of Olympia, the City of Lacey, and Intercity Transit.
- The project looked at transportation and land use alternatives for Martin Way, and identified a preferred future alternative for the corridor that emphasizes proactive investment, dense development at key nodes, an emphasis on affordable housing, transportation improvements to improve safety and mobility, and continued support for the expansion of transit options.
- An action plan will identify strategies to address issues raised in the current conditions report and identify specific infrastructure improvements and opportunities to achieve the preferred alternative and increase connectivity for everyone who lives, works, and travels Martin Way.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only. No action at this time.

ao:bl.



Marc Daily
Executive Director

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EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

The Martin Way Corridor disproportionately serves many vulnerable and historically disadvantaged populations, including low-income communities, people of color, seniors, people with disabilities, and others. Corridor residents are more diverse, more likely to experience poverty and be cost burdened (spending more than 30 percent of household income on housing, including utilities), and are more likely to be renters than the general population of Lacey, Olympia, and Thurston County as a whole. One in five residents speak a language other than English at home (21 percent), and nearly 5 percent of households in Census tracts overlapping the Martin Way Corridor are considered “limited English speaking.” Martin Way is an important connector for vulnerable residents throughout the region to access jobs and services, including health care, and bus routes that serve Martin Way are among the most popular throughout Intercity Transit’s network. This study has looked at options for transportation and land use that consider the benefits and impacts of policies and projects on vulnerable populations. Through our public engagement efforts, staff have worked to identify the preferences of specific communities that rely on Martin Way, including where they differ from majority perspectives. This input helped inform a focus on affordable housing, antidisplacement strategies, multimodal transportation improvements, and transit options in the development of corridor alternatives.

BACKGROUND

Martin Way is a major regional roadway serving the communities of Olympia, Lacey, and Thurston County. This former state highway serves as the area’s primary alternative to Interstate 5, has frequent transit service, and is home to a variety of business activities and destinations. Looking forward, the corridor is forecast to grow in importance as a population and housing hub, strategic transportation link, and business destination.

The Martin Way Corridor Study is a joint planning effort between the Thurston Regional Planning Council, Thurston County, City of Olympia, City of Lacey, and Intercity Transit. The purpose of the project is to develop a coordinated vision for the future of Martin Way, and identify transportation improvements, regulatory changes, and other tools and infrastructure needs that may be necessary to achieve that vision.

The study, which began in late 2019 and will end in late 2022, has three main products:

- A **Current Conditions Report** was completed in October 2021. The report summarizes existing conditions along the corridor including information about the people who live and work within the corridor, land use and transportation patterns, and preferences among the public and business community. It also identifies some of the challenges to achieving the vision of the corridor. A Market Study identified economic opportunities and constraints for private development along the corridor.
- An **Opportunities/Alternatives Analysis**, completed in summer 2022, considers different options for redevelopment, land use standards, and transportation facilities along the corridor. The alternatives were presented to the public as part of a virtual open house in May-June and a virtual public meeting held on May 12th. A Pro Forma Analysis also has been completed during this phase which identifies the feasibility of various residential, commercial, and office development.
- An **Action Plan** (to be completed by mid-2023) will identify future strategies to address issues raised in the current conditions report as well as policies and investments needed to achieve the preferred alternative.

Additional information on the project, included the materials mentioned above, can be viewed on the project website: www.trpc.org/martinway

Public Engagement

A steering committee of staff representatives from Thurston County, City of Lacey, City of Olympia, Intercity Transit, and Thurston Regional Planning Council provided guidance and oversight throughout the study. Though limited by public health precautions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the project has used various forms of public engagement to gather community input at different stages, including:

- A residential survey
- A business survey, administered by the Thurston Economic Development Council
- Focus group interviews with key stakeholders on the corridor
- A visual preference survey
- Two online open houses – one focused on identifying needs and preferences (June/July 2021) and one focused on alternatives (May/June 2022)
- Two virtual public meetings (June 23, 2021 and May 12, 2022)

Preferred Alternative

The Alternatives Analysis showed that sticking with a business-as-usual approach to permitting and investing in development and transportation means the vision for Martin Way is not likely to be attainable in the next 25 years. There is strong public support for proactive action by local government partners to improve the corridor. Interventions in land use can build vibrancy, investment, economic activity, and accommodate growth. Investments in transportation can improve safety and mobility for all modes of travel (car, bus, bike, and foot), and ensure the corridor provides accessible connections for all members of the Thurston region.

The project Steering Committee identified a preferred alternative for Martin Way that would achieve the following:

- **Land Use:** Cultivate dense hubs of affordable housing, services, and gathering places at key nodes (~1/4-mile area around certain intersections).
- **Transportation:** Make high-impact investments that improve safety and mobility, while balancing the needs of all travelers. Continue a regional discussion on how to support more transformative options for the corridor, such as a transit-priority lane.

Next Steps

The results of the study can be used to inform future updates to Comprehensive Plans, Transportation Improvement Programs, Capital Facilities Plans, zoning and development regulations, and other plans and programs. Staff also are reviewing potential opportunities to fund early actions through state and federal funding opportunities, as the Martin Way Corridor vision aligns with broad goals for improving safety and active transportation options, and reducing VMT and transportation emissions.

In December WSDOT offered \$700,000 in funding from the Connecting Communities Program to TRPC to develop a Martin Way Crossing Strategy. The project will identify appropriate locations for mid-block crossings and further scope specific improvements necessary to enhance pedestrian safety and mobility. Public comments throughout the project identified additional pedestrian crossings one of the highest priority, short-term needs on the corridor. This project will kickoff in summer 2023.