

MINUTES OF MEETING

THURSTON REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Friday, June 3, 2022

REMOTE ACCESS

Call to Order

Chair Hilary Seidel called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Attendance

Members Present:

City of Lacey	Robin Vazquez, Council member
City of Olympia	Clark Gilman, Council member
City of Rainier	Dennis McVey, Council member
City of Tenino	John O'Callahan, Council member
City of Tumwater	Eileen Swarthout, Council member
City of Yelm	Joe DePinto, Mayor
Intercity Transit	Debbie Sullivan, Board member
Lacey Fire District #3	Sylvia Roberts, Board member
LOTT Clean Water Alliance	Carolyn Cox, Board member
North Thurston Public Schools	Gretchen Maliska, Board member
Olympia School District	Hilary Seidel, Board member
Port of Olympia	Bob Iyall, Commissioner
The Evergreen State College	Scott Morgan, Staff
Thurston County	Gary Edwards, Commissioner
Thurston EDC	Michael Cade, Director
Timberland Regional Library	Cheryl Heywood, Executive Director
Tumwater School District	Mel Murray, Staff

Members Absent:

Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation	Amy Loudermilk, Staff
Town of Bucoda	Steve Purcell, Council member
Nisqually Indian Tribe	David Iyall, Tribal Council Member
PUD No. 1 of Thurston County	Chris Stearns, Commissioner
Thurston Conservation District	Helen Wheatley, Supervisor

Staff Present:

Marc Daily, Executive Director
Veena Tabbutt, Deputy Director
Karen Parkhurst, Planning & Policy Director
Sarah Selstrom, Community & Outreach Specialist II
Dorinda Merrill, Office Specialist III
Dave Read, IT Manager
Paul Brewster, Senior Planner

Others Present:

Mary Heather Ames, City of Tumwater
Ann Freeman-Manzanares, Intercity Transit
Eric Phillips, Intercity Transit
Matt Unzelman, Thurston County
Jessica Gould, Intercity Transit
Joyce Phillips, City of Olympia
Martin Hoppe, City of Lacey

Agenda Item 2 **Introductions**
All Council members were introduced.

Agenda Item 3 **Approval of Agenda**
ACTION
Councilmember O’Callahan moved, seconded by Councilmember Vazquez, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 4 **Approval of Consent Calendar**
ACTION
a. Approval of Minutes – May 6, 2022
b. Approval of Vouchers – May 2022
c. Transit Safety Performance Measure Targets – 2022 Update
d. Outreach Compensation Policy and Procedures

Councilmember O’Callahan moved, seconded by Councilmember Swarthout, to approve the consent calendar. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 5 **Public Comment**
There were no public comments.

Agenda Item 6 **Contingency Project List**
PRESENTATION
ACTION
Deputy Director Veena Tabbutt reviewed a list of projects for potential federal funding through the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). WSDOT received additional funding authority from the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The projects must have been submitted in the 2022 Call for Projects and reviewed by Council, or the projects must be in the unfunded section of the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP).

The State priorities for these federal funds are:

- State Priority 1:**
- Add federal funding to road construction projects with existing federal funding
 - Increased costs (inflation)
 - More than required local match

- State Priority 2:**
- Transit projects
 - Design (preliminary engineering) projects
 - Planning projects

Staff requested Council approve the list of projects to be submitted to WSDOT for consideration of federal funding, as outlined in the staff report, and direct staff to add projects to the list that meet WSDOT’s Priority 1 Criteria – federally funded projects where construction bids come in high – as they rise.

Councilmember O’Callahan moved, seconded by Councilmember Cox, to approve the list of projects to be submitted to WSDOT for consideration of federal funding, as outlined in the staff report, and direct staff to add projects to the list that meet WSDOT’s Priority 1 Criteria – federally funded projects where construction bids come in high – as they rise. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 7 **2022 Mid-year Program Update**
PRESENTATION
Executive Director Marc Daily updated the Council on staff progress in implementing the 2020-2022 Strategic Plan and the 2022 Work Program. Updates included the Martin Way Corridor Study, SW Thurston County Trail Feasibility Study, Thurston Regional Trails Plan Update, Rural Mobility Strategy, Hazards Mitigation Plan Update, Local Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning, School Walk Route Mapping, Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan, Boundary Review Board, Transportation Model Update, and the Capitol Campus Phase 2 Telework Project.

Agenda Item 8 **Update on I-5 Mounts Road to Tumwater**
PRESENTATION
Executive Director Marc Daily provided an update on the progress of the I-5 Mounts Road to Tumwater work, which is the region’s highest transportation priority. This year, the State Legislature passed the Move Ahead Washington transportation package, which includes \$75M for the project. Work is being done with the Legislature to clarify the intent of the \$75M for the project. The discussion will include that \$19M is needed to construct roundabouts near Yelm, \$1.5M to conduct part time shoulder usage engineering on southbound I-5 from Sleater-Kinney to Henderson Boulevard, and the remaining \$54M for preliminary engineering of the Nisqually River Delta.

Agenda Item 9 **Break**

Agenda Item 10
PRESENTATION

Federal Infrastructure and Capacity for Grant Application Processes

Executive Director Marc Daily reviewed a discussion at the April Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting that included either hiring a part time employee at TRPC or a consultant to support member organizations in coordinating and developing regional applications for federal grant opportunities due to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIL).

Staff discussed the suggestion with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) who had multiple concerns, which are outlined in the staff report.

Mr. Daily advised that at the May TPB meeting, the Policy Board took action to recommend that TRPC use the \$100k of contingency funds identified in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to hire a temporary staff person.

After discussion with the Council, no recommendation was made on how to move forward. Mr. Daily will bring back the Council's discussion to the TPB at their July meeting.

Agenda Item 11
INFORMATION

Report from Outside Committee

There was no outside committee report.

Agenda Item 12
INFORMATION

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Marc Daily advised that (1) the Household Travel Survey is still on-going; (2) the Martin Way Open House is open until June 6th; and (3) the Hazard Mitigation Plan Survey is open through July 31st.

Agenda Item 13
INFORMATION

Member Check In

Council members had the opportunity to share information occurring in their organizations/communities.

Agenda Item 14

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Seidel adjourned the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

Hilary Seidel, Chair

Marc Daily, Executive Director

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