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- Intercity Transit
- LOTT Clean Water Alliance
- Port of Olympia
- PUD No. 1 of Thurston County

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- 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: Sara Porter, Assistant Planner

DATE: March 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment to the 2023-2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) - Amendment 23-03

PURPOSE

Act on a proposed amendment to the 2023-2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP).

Summary:

- Thurston County has requested an amendment to the 2023-2026 RTIP to include the new project so that funding can be released:
 - *Thurston County Action Plan* – Planning project.
- Adding this project to the RTIP will trigger a State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) amendment, which will allow the project to go forward.
- This routine project amendment is consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan.

REQUESTED ACTION

Amend the 2023-2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program to include the following project: *Thurston County Action Plan*.

sp:bl
Attachment



Marc Daily
Executive Director

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www.trpc.org

BACKGROUND

About the RTIP and STIP

The RTIP is a four-year programming document derived from the comprehensive six-year Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) that each local agency develops and adopts annually. In turn, the RTIP is used by the state to prepare the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

The RTIP serves these main purposes:

- 1) It identifies a list of transportation projects that will be forwarded to the state for inclusion in the STIP. For federally funded projects, even if project funding has been awarded, it is not available to jurisdictions and agencies until the project is included in the STIP. To be included in the STIP, projects must be programmed for funding (funding-secured) in local Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) in the four-year period for both urban and rural areas and meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - a. Have federal funding
 - b. Are WSDOT projects
 - c. Are regionally significant, regardless of funding source.
- 2) It demonstrates financial constraint for the projects referenced above.
- 3) It demonstrates consistency with RCW 36.70A, Section 70 of the Washington State Growth Management Act requiring transportation planning to be coordinated and consistent with local comprehensive plans.
- 4) It demonstrates that regionally significant projects programmed for funding during the time period will not cause or contribute to any new violation of the federal air quality standards for particulate matter of 10 microns or less (PM₁₀), will not increase the frequency or severity of any existing violation of the standards, nor delay timely attainment of the standards.
- 5) It identifies other programmed and planned transportation projects adopted in local six-year Transportation Improvement Programs.

RTIP and STIP Amendments

Federal requirements stipulate that changes to the RTIP require an amendment to the original document, which then triggers an amendment to the STIP. This is important because a jurisdiction cannot proceed with a project for which it has been awarded federal money until the STIP is formally amended and approved by the federal agencies.

Depending upon the kind of change required of the RTIP, this amendment may be a “formal amendment” process or a streamlined “administrative modification.” TRPC’s amendment and modifying processes for the RTIP incorporates guidance provided by WSDOT on amending and modifying the STIP. The project under consideration today requires an amendment to the RTIP, which in turn will trigger an amendment to the STIP.

In November 2017 TRPC approved a change to the RTIP amendment process such that the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) is now the approving body for formal RTIP amendments.

EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

How has equity been considered in this agenda item?

The RTIP includes a wide range of transportation projects throughout Thurston County including transit, multi-modal (walk and bike), safety, efficiency, and maintenance, identifying improvements which benefit everyone. As federally funded transportation projects receive funding and go to construction, environmental justice review will be conducted on a project-by-project basis.

Thurston County has requested an amendment to the 2023-2026 RTIP, requiring TPB action.

Amendment requested by Thurston County	
Project Title	Thurston County Action Plan
STIP ID #	WA-15034
Project Description	Thurston County's Local County Road Safety Plan (LCRSP) needs an update to meet the criteria for the "Action Plan" required for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program funding. These requirements include but are not limited to expanding public engagement to include more community groups and the private sector, performing an equity analysis, developing and accessing policies/guidelines/standards, evaluating additional facilities, and assessing how improvements installed to date are performing.
Reason for Amendment	The RTIP is being amended to include the new project so funding can be released.
Amount (Secured)	Federal funds: \$264,000 Local funds: \$66,000 Total Est. Cost of Project: \$330,000
Action	Amend the RTIP to include the new project.

TRPC is soliciting public comment through its website from February 14th through March 1st, 2023 (www.trpc.org).

As of the writing of this report, one comment has been received and the comment is attached. Additionally, TRPC will receive a copy of this staff report as an informational item in their packet and can comment to TPB on the amendment if they so choose. If either public or TRPC comment is received, it will be provided at the TPB meeting.

From: [Karen Messmer](#)
To: [Sara Porter](#)
Subject: Re: RTIP amendment information
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 3:39:29 PM

External Email Use caution before clicking links, opening attachments, or replying.

Sara -

I hope the County will include the trails system as part of this Action Plan. Safety on the trail is important. Since we have electric bike/trikes/quads and skateboards and unicycles on the trail now there could be some speed/safety issues.

Also there are safety concerns where the trails cross roads.

Karen Messmer

On 2/14/2023 3:09 PM, Sara Porter wrote:

Hi Karen,

Thanks for pointing out this error. The amendment to the RTIP has been requested by the County, not the City of Olympia. The person who updates the webpage forgot to change that.

The Thurston County Project is called the Thurston County Action Plan. This is the project description:
Thurston County's Local County Road Safety Plan (LCRSP) needs updated to meet the criteria for the "Action Plan" required for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program funding. These requirements include but are not limited to expanding public engagement to include more community groups and the private sector, performing an equity analysis, developing and assessing policies/guidelines/standards, evaluating additional facilities, and assessing how improvements installed to date are performing.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Sorry for the confusion.

Sara Porter, Assistant Planner (she/her)
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From: Karen Messmer <karen@karenmessmer.com>

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 1:56 PM

To: Sara Porter <PorterS@trpc.org>

Subject: RTIP amendment information

External Email Use caution before clicking links, opening attachments, or replying.

Hello Sara -

I am curious what the City of Olympia amendment is for the RTIP. The text on the TRPC web page only shows the title of the project. Is there more detail available?

From the web page -

An amendment has been requested by the City of Olympia to amend the following project into the 2023-2026 RTIP so funding for construction can be released.

- *Thurston County Action Plan – Planning project*

Karen Messmer