

MINUTES OF MEETING

Regular Meeting
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
Wednesday, November 8, 2023
Remote Meeting

Call to Order

Vice Chair Madrone called the meeting to order at 7:31 am.

Attendance

Members Present:

City of Olympia	Dani Madrone, Council member
City of Rainier	Ron Kemp, Council member
City of Tenino	John O'Callahan, Council member
City of Tumwater	Peter Agabi, Council member
Intercity Transit	Peter Stackpole, Development Director
WSDOT	Gaius Sanoy, Staff
Business Rep	Renee Radcliff Sinclair, Second Vice Chair
Business Rep	Jessica McKeegan-Jensen
Community Rep	Travis Millar
Community Rep	Michelle Murray

Members Absent:

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

Staff Present:

Marc Daily, Executive Director
Burlina Lucas, Executive Assistant
Dorinda Merrill, Office Specialist IV
Katrina Van Every, Transportation Manager
Allison Osterberg, Planning Manager
Paul Brewster, Senior Planner
Veronica Jarvis, Senior Planner

Others Present:

Emily Bergkamp, Intercity Transit
Justin Belk, Intercity Transit
Becky Conn, Thurston County
Sophie Stimson, City of Olympia
Michelle Swanson, City of Olympia
Martin Hoppe, City of Lacey
Taylor Whitaker, Fehr & Peers
Morgan Shook, Fehr & Peers
Genevieve Rigler, WSDOT
Lorilyn Lirio, The Jolt News
Jennifer Adams, City of Lacey
Molly Paige, Dept. of Ecology

Agenda Item 1
INFORMATION

Introductions/Announcements/Updates

Members were introduced.

Agenda Item 2
INFORMATION

Executive Director's Report & Announcements

Executive Director Marc Daily announced (1) recordings of the Council meetings and TPB meetings will now be posted on TRPC's YouTube channel right after the meeting ends. The meetings will continue to run live on Facebook; and (2) rural Transit (rT) service is now running on Saturdays with the same routes and times as the weekday schedule.

Agenda Item 3
ACTION

Approval of Agenda

Board member O'Callahan moved, seconded by Board member Kemp, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 4
ACTION

Approval of Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of Meeting Notes – October 11, 2023

Board member O'Callahan moved, seconded by Board member Kemp, to approve the consent calendar. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 5

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 6
PRESENTATION

High Capacity Transportation Phase 2 Update

Taylor Whitaker and Chris Breiland, Fehr & Peers, updated the Policy Board on the High-Capacity Transportation (HCT) Project Phase 2. The purpose of the project is to explore options that the region can take to enhance High-Capacity Transportation between Thurston and Pierce Counties.

Some of the key takeaways from the study are:

- Express bus and vanpool are existing HCT options that can be further enhanced.
- There is not enough density for the foreseeable future to support light rail.
- Household and employment densities are marginal for commuter rail.

Any HCT expansion will require additional transportation revenue and more collaboration between agencies in Pierce and Thurston County.

Agenda Item 7
PRESENTATION
ACTION

Obligation Authority Policy Updates

Transportation Manager Katrina Van Every provided an overview of updates to TRPC's Obligation Authority (AO) policy. OA is the authority, expressed as a dollar amount, to proceed with submitting projects to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for final approval and reimbursement for eligible project costs.

The proposed changes in the policy are to update WSDOT's timeline and critical target dates, add contingency list development documentation, expand contingency list resources to include Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Appendix A projects, and allow funding requests to be updated to account for inflation and cost changes.

Staff requests that the Policy Board recommend the Council adopt the updates to TRPC's Obligation Authority policy, as presented by staff.

Board member O'Callahan moved, seconded by Board member McKeegan-Jensen, to recommend that Council adopt the updates to TRPC's Obligation Authority policy, as presented by staff. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 8
PRESENTATION
ACTION

Regional Trails Plan Recommendation

Transportation Manager Katrina Van Every and Senior Planner Paul Brewster provided an update on the draft Regional Trails Plan and reviewed public comments received.

Updates to the draft Regional Trails Plan include:

- Correct typos and formatting errors throughout the document.
- Replace some photos.
- Include information and feedback from members of the public based on the 2023 community survey.
- Add a new Table 4.2 that identifies trails.
- Add a clarifying footnote to Table 2.2 Population.
- Add copies of Maps 4.1 and 4.2 to Appendix A.

Staff requests the Policy Board recommends that Council adopt the updated Thurston Regional Trails Plan, as presented by staff.

Board member O’Callahan moved, seconded by Board member Kemp, to recommend that Council adopt the updated Thurston Regional Trails Plan, as presented by staff. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 9

Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice Chair Madrone adjourned the meeting at 8:56 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.*