MINUTES OF MEETING
ISLAND RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 14, 2015

Attendance List
Arnie Peterschmidt, City of Oak Harbor
Bill Oakes, Island County
Bob Monize, District 3 Citizen Rep.
Brian Wood, District 2 Citizen Rep.
Connie Bowers, Island County
Doug Cox, RTPO Staff
Pete Schrum, Island Transit
Stan Berryman, City of Langley

Members not in Attendance
Brad Johnson, Island County
Nick Pinch, Island Transit
Town of Coupeville representative
Cac Kamak, City of Oak Harbor
Curt Gordon, Port of South Whidbey
Don Meehan, District 1 Citizen Rep.
John Shambaugh, WSDOT

The meeting began at 1:01 PM.

Approval of March 12, 2015 meeting minutes
Bob made a motion to approve the March 12, 2015 meeting minutes. Brian seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Unified Planning and Work Program (UPWP)
Doug provided a brief overview of the annual UPWP. Brian asked if the UPWP would still be required if the SIRTPO disbands; Bill clarified that it would not be as it is specifically a RTPO requirement. Brian made a motion to recommend approval of the UPWP to the Policy Board. Bob seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

STP Project Obligation Status
The committee reviewed the status of the STP projects that are scheduled to be obligated this year. The $2 Million obligation target is anticipated to be met. The biggest unknown at this point is Oak Harbor’s Transportation Element Update, which was awarded STP funds that were subsequently determined by FHWA to be ineligible because it is a local, not regional, plan update. The committee does not agree with this determination, given that a state highway subject to the unique concurrency mandate specified in RCW 36.70a.070 runs through Oak Harbor. Arnie said he plans to send a letter to FHWA asking for an appeal.

TAP Applications
Doug reminded everyone that TAP applications are due on May 29th. Arnie mentioned that he is planning to submit an application for the next phase of work for Oak Harbor’s Waterfront Trail. Connie mentioned that the County is planning to submit applications for a Central Whidbey Bike Route, and pedestrian countdowns for the County’s traffic signals.

SIRTPO Conversation
The group talked about the future of the TAC and Island sub-RTPO Policy Board in the event that the Skagit-Island RTPO disbands. Bill explained that most likely the TAC would continue to meet as they currently do, and make project and funding recommendations to the Island Council of Governments which would act in place of the current Island sub-RTPO Policy Board.
New Items
Bill brought up the SR 20 paving project from Frostad Road to Sharpe's Corner that is planned for the summer. It will likely entail closing Deception Pass Bridge for five consecutive nights. He stressed the importance of getting the word about the closure to residents so they can plan around it to the best extent possible. This led Bob to enquire about the Disaster Recovery Plan that Eric Brooks briefed the committee on last year. The discussion turned to further thoughts and ideas about emergency preparedness, including the need for Island residents to be ready with emergency food, water and supplies for two weeks in the event of a major catastrophe. Bob requested that staff provide a briefing on this subject at the Camano Senior Center.

Doug provided a spreadsheet with projects in the Island sub-Region that were included in the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update. Gabe Phillips from SCOG has requested the current status of these projects for the upcoming RTP update. Doug asked the relevant agency staff to follow up with the information as soon as possible so he can consolidate it and provide it to Gabe.

The meeting adjourned at 2:13 PM

Next Regular TAC Meeting: June 11, 2015