

#### PRTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

## September 15, 2022 | 10:00 – 11:30 **Zoom Meeting – Login Below**

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#### 10:05 - 10:10**Consent Calendar**

**ACTION** 

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes from July 21, 2022

#### 10:10 - 10:30**2023-2028 RTIP** (Attachment, under separate cover) 3.

**ACTION** 

The draft 2023-2028 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) includes projects submitted by local and tribal members and WSDOT. The TAC is asked to review the RTIP and forward a recommendation to the Board on its

Edward Coviello, PRTPO Coordinator

approval.

#### 10:30 - 10:50**2023 Transportation Outlook** (Attachment)

**DISCUSSION** 

PRTPO is developing its 2023 Transportation Outlook legislative folio, coordinated by its ad hoc Legislative Working Group. Efforts are underway now to develop a list of projects for the folio; all projects received as of September 14th will be shared with the TAC. A copy of the working draft cover letter is attached. Support for a federal funding swap pilot program and including Clallam, Jefferson, and Mason Counties in that program is the "ask" this session. The TAC is asked to discuss candidate projects and messaging. Input will be used by the Legislative Work Group to develop a draft folio for approval by the Board in October.

Thera Black, PRTPO Coordinator

10:50 – 11:00 Human Services Transportation Plan / Consolidated Grants Update

BRIFFING

The draft HSTP is on the streets for public review and comment through September 28. You can find it here on PRTPO's website. It is available in a standard pdf format as well as an interactive StoryMap format, a first for PRTPO. The Consolidated Grants review process will commence immediately after the Board approves the HSTP in October. The TAC will not be directly involved in the review of Consolidated Grants projects in 2022 because of WSDOT's deadlines.

Thera Black, **PRTPO Coordinator** 

11:00 - 11:15**Other PRTPO Updates**  **BRIEFING** 

This is a chance for quick updates on other fast-moving activities of interest to members, including matters related to: data reporting for locally owned NHS routes; transportation electrification grants; Clean Fuel Standards; possibly more.

Thera Black, PRTPO Coordinator

11:15 – 11:30 **Member Roundtable**  ALL

This is an opportunity to share recent activities of interest to TAC members.

11:30 Adjourn

## **NEXT TAC MEETING – November 17, 2022**

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84519889982?pwd=RHBSUGN1dG4wRHN5VkFNckg0eU41UT09

Or by phone:

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma). Meeting ID: 845 1988 9982. Pass Code: 4780

## **Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization**

### **TAC Meeting Summary**

### Meeting Location:

Remote Meeting via Zoom software per Washington Governors order #20-28-15 of the Open

Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act

#### July 21, 2022

#### **Attendees**

#### **Technical Advisory Committee Members**

Ken Gill – City of Shelton, PRTPO TAC Chair
Steve Gray – Clallam County, PRTPO TAC Vice
Chair
Chris Hammer- City of Port Orchard
Dick Taylor – Port of Shelton
Miranda Nash – Jefferson Transit
Jayme Brooke – Jefferson Transit
Paul Hampton – City of Forks
Gary Abrams – Clallam Transit
Michael Bateman – City of Poulsbo
Melissa Mohr – Kitsap County
Amy Asher – Mason Transit
Steffani Lillie – Kitsap Transit
Susan Matthews – Lower Elwha Tribe
Wendy Clark-Getzin – Jamestown S'Klallam

Kobree Glaser – Mason County
Tracy Parker – Squaxin Island Tribe
Laura Parsons \_ City of Port Townsend
George Mazur – WSDOT Olympic Region
Mark Epstein – City of Bainbridge Island
Katie Cole – City of Sequim
Eric Kuzma – Jefferson County
David Forte – Kitsap Transit
Marty Allen – Skokomish Tribe
Jonathan Boehme – City of Port Angeles

#### Staff/Guests

Michael Williams – Consultant Thera Black, PRTPO Coordinator Edward Coviello, PRTPO Coordinator

#### **Welcome & Introductions**

Tribe

TAC Chair Gill opened the meeting at 10:00 AM and initiated self-introductions.

### Approval of the July 21st 2022 TAC Agenda and the May 19th TAC Meeting Minutes

The TAC approved, with a motion and seconded.

### **Critical Rural Freight Corridor Designation**

The WSDOT had undesignated miles of rural freight corridors. They asked the rural Regional Transportation Planning Organizations to recommend additional corridor segments for designation with help of the local jurisdictions. Working with local agencies, the PRTPO staff created a list of 9 corridor segments in the Region. One of the nine is in Thurston County as it connects to the PRTPO Region. The corridors were submitted to WSDOT Olympic Region for comment and some corrections were made. All the segments are along designated truck routes.

Thera Black asked the TAC for approval to bring the nine segments to the Executive Board for approval. Questions were fielded from the TAC. The TAC approved the recommendation. There was no opposition.

#### 2022 FMSIB Project Recommendations

The PRTPO had been asked by Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board for projects. Local agencies interested in receiving project funding through the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board over the next five years were asked to submit project concepts to PRTPO. Thera explained the background and process to the TAC. Three projects were submitted. A recommendation to submit to the Executive Board was brought forth.

There was a question related to the recommended projects and the local Transportation Improvement Programs. Coordination between the project applicants and WSDOT is ongoing.

The TAC approved the recommendation. There was no opposition.

#### **Regional Transportation Improvement Program Updates**

Mr. Coviello reminded the TAC about RTIP projects which are due August 1st.

#### **Accommodating All Modes with Edge Lane Roads**

The City of Port Townsend is deploying Edge Lane Roads (ELR), an innovative road standard to accommodate bike and pedestrian travel on constrained facilities without bike lanes or sidewalks. This presentation showcased the work of Port Townsend and other communities that have repurposed existing right-of-way to make room for cyclists and pedestrians using striping and other treatments.

Michael Williams, a consultant from Mt. Shasta specializing in this road treatment, presented about Edge Lane Roads and their application and safety benefits. Laura Parsons presented local examples in Port Townsend and early lessons from the City's experience with its first application on Water Street and its most recent application, a temporary installation on Blaine Street.

Many questions were asked and answered by the presenters. A link to the Edge Lane Road website will be provided on the PRTPO website

#### Member Roundtable

Amy Asher of Mason Transit announced that the Belfair Park & Ride has opened. She noted the roundabout is working well. She added the WSDOT Consolidated Grants process open for applications. Mason Transit is starting work on its fleet transition plan.

Miranda Nash of Jefferson Transit announced they are installing the transformer needed to support upcoming electric bus deliveries and administration vehicles.

Michael Bateman reported the SR305 roundabout in Poulsbo has opened and is functioning well.

George Mazur reported the WSDOT SR302 Study will start in the next few weeks. The study will cover the route from SR 3 to SR 16.

Marty Allen of the Skokomish Tribe updated the TAC on recent pavement maintenance projects. He thanked Mason County for their help.

## Adjourn

11:43 a.m.



#### **PRTPO Members**

Clallam County

Jefferson County

Kitsap County

Mason County

Bainbridge Island

**Bremerton** 

Forks

Port Angeles

Port Orchard

Port Townsend

Poulsbo

Sequim

Shelton

Clallam Transit

Jefferson Transit

Kitsap Transit

Mason Transit

Port of Allyn

Port of Bremerton

Port of Port Angeles

Port of Shelton

WSDOT Olympic Region

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe

Makah Nation

Skokomish Tribe

Squaxin Island Tribe

www.PRTPO.org

# To our legislators in the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 35<sup>th</sup> Districts,

Thank you for all you accomplished in 2022 to improve transportation funding and policy direction for our local partners. This annual collaboration with you, our legislative delegation, supports the work of our partners who build, operate, maintain, and manage all aspects of our transportation system and keep our communities moving. We value your partnership.

We look to 2023 with anticipation for what lies ahead and a sober dose of reality. Our major accomplishments this past year were just the next few steps on the challenging road before us, but they were important steps in the right direction.

We appreciate your support for completion of our remaining *Connecting WA* projects and timely delivery and coordination of the new *Move Ahead WA* investment package. These will have benefits throughout the region. And increased taxing authority for Transportation Benefit Districts is a welcome addition to the funding toolbox available to local agencies. It offers much-needed discretionary transportation revenue to take care of hard-to-fund essentials like the upkeep of neighborhood roads.

Your on-going efforts to increase the fairness and sustainability of transportation revenues helps our local partners working to assemble the complicated revenue packages necessary to finance big projects. It can take 10-20 years for a big project to go from plan to construction, whether it is a street realignment, ferry terminal upgrades, transit fleet transitions, or completion of the Olympic Discovery Trail. Our local partners must stack multiple revenue sources, each with their own constraints and timelines, and juggle the many different revenue requirements to deliver projects as efficiently as they can over a decade or longer.

One way to do more with existing revenue is by de-federalizing small local projects, swapping federal "STBG funds" for state funds. A pilot program to evaluate the merits of this federal funding exchange is included in the JTC's Federal Funding Work Group recommendation to the Governor. PRTPO urges you to join us in requesting that Clallam, Jefferson, and Mason Counties be included in this pilot program. The experience of these three counties and their local partners will be an asset in standing up an equitable funding swap program and documenting the financial and project delivery benefits for local agencies and the traveling public. Our members can demonstrate the value of this pragmatic funding exchange for rural counties across the state and the benefits this will have for Washington State.

PRTPO and its members continue to look for ways to increase the resilience of our rural, tribal, and small urban communities, reducing system disruptions and increasing the ability to respond and recover when disruptions do occur. Transportation and access are the foundation of rural resiliency.

Your efforts to make broadband access universal is one such measure that not only addresses gaps in coverage but contributes to a more resilient region. Our communities have responded to these recent opportunities and are working to close service gaps and expand access to 21<sup>st</sup> century opportunities. We encourage your continued support for broadband while our partners work to connect every community in the region to high-speed internet.

Other regional resiliency needs will entail a combination of measures and innovative partnerships. A priority for PRTPO is making Hood Canal Bridge operations more efficient and reducing disruptions on both sides of this critical lifeline connection between the Kitsap and Olympic Peninsulas. Impacts of bridge closures are felt from Silverdale to Port Angeles. Closures directly impact commerce, emergency services, and transit in addition to the tens of thousands of passenger vehicles traveling this impacted corridor every day. It's important the reasons for bridge closures are commensurate with the impacts those closures cause. Improvements will take coordination and collaboration among diverse stakeholders. Working together, we can improve system performance today and create greater capacity to recover from unexpected disruptions in the future with a mix of investments and coordination. It's time to start this discussion.

Finally, we are grateful for the increased opportunities your efforts have produced to expand electric vehicle infrastructure into our rural and tribal communities. This is an important equity consideration where rural economies of scale can't compete with metro areas and interstate corridors. Impacts of these investments in our under-served communities will have far-reaching benefits and help ensure our rural, tribal, and small urban communities and businesses are on equal footing and have access to the same funding resources for decarbonizing transportation and reducing fossil fuel dependency as their more urban counterparts. Continued support for funding criteria that recognize the EV infrastructure needs of tribal and other rural communities will help our partners making the transition to a greener and more resilient transportation future.

Thank you for your on-going interest and support. We look forward to working with you this next year to improve mobility throughout the Peninsula region and keep travel safe and reliable.

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