

Transportation Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC)

Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2009, 7-9p,
Fairgrounds Training Center

TPAC Members Attending - Ralph Marsh, Gary Anderson, Andrea Archer, Tom Curley, Ray Pardo, Jay Spady, Linda Berry-Maraist, T.J Nedrow, Gary Lindsey, Annie Humiston
Visitors – Matthew Keough, Don Willott, Josh Brown
Kitsap County Staff – Jim Rogers, Jeff Shea, Bill Zupancic

The following documents were handed out at the meeting:

- January 20th, 2009 Meeting Minutes
- Summary Analysis of Project Selection Process
- Land Use & Climate Change Advisory Committee – Meeting Highlights
- Vision, Goals and Policies for Trails
- Planning to Encourage Physical Activity

Welcome and General Information

Jim Rogers welcomed the committee members and visitors. Members reviewed and adopted minutes from the January 20th meeting.

Terms for members Shane Phillips, Gary Lindsey and Gary Anderson end this month. Please let staff know soon if you would like to remain on the committee, as appointments need to be confirmed by your respective County Commissioner. Gary Anderson has decided not to continue with the committee, but would like to remain in contact and stop in from time to time. Gary Lindsey also decided to drop from the committee, but would like to present a report from the Home Builders Association, regarding impact fees, at our May 19th meeting.

The process for forwarding TPAC recommendations to the Board Of County Commissioners was discussed. Staff recommended that someone from the committee draft the recommendation, and that the committee vote to forward it to the BOCC. It was suggested that at least one committee member be there to present the recommendation to the BOCC. Ray Pardo volunteered to draft the next recommendation, and to work via email with the committee to have something ready for vote by the May 19th meeting. The recommendation is that the County maintain several projects that are “shovel ready” in case unexpected money is made available, such as this last round of federal stimulus money.

Legislative Update

Central Kitsap Commissioner Josh Brown outlined his participation on the State’s Land Use & Climate Change Advisory Committee. One of the big concerns the committee had in regard to planning for climate change is the likely appeal of any new legislation, and how much those appeals could cost.

Josh noted that some jurisdictions are already considering climate change as part of their regular business. For example: PSRC is now looking at the climate change aspect of projects seeking to compete for regional money.

Some of the other highlights of the discussion were: Alternative fuel use, Incentives for local governments to take action, Federal stimulus money, and the need for transportation concurrency to include a true multi-modal aspect.

The current legislative session will be ending soon, so we should know of any new legislation, which could affect transportation, by our next meeting.

Transportation Improvement Program

Jim updated the committee on the recommendation that additional points be given to non-motorized projects in the project scoring and selection process, which was outlined during the November meeting. Jim reported that after presenting the recommendation to the BOCC, the Board agreed that non-motorized projects should be awarded more points if the project served a school or was located in an urban area. Staff will amend the project scoring criteria to award non-motorized projects, or projects with a non-motorized component, an additional 5 points, if the project is located within an urban area or if it serves a school.

Non-motorized Planning

Bill gave a presentation of non-motorized planning in the county, and discussed how the Greenways plan, the Bicycle Plan, and portions of the Parks Plan could all be integrated into one Non-motorized Plan, and how the new plan will focus on connectivity of non-motorized systems. Bill also discussed some of the barriers to building non-motorized facilities, such as new storm water rules, costs of right-of-way, and design standards. Staff will be looking into the possibilities of lowering design standards in order to make building non-motorized facilities more affordable. However, there are potential risks involved with this, so careful study will be needed.

Public Comment

Don Willott, of the Non-motorized Transportation Committee on Bainbridge Island, shared their new “Guide to Walking, Cycling, and Paddling” map with the committee. Don also spoke of his committee’s plan to have a “Burke-Gilman” type trail on the Island that would connect to the regional trail system.

Meeting Adjourned - 9:10 PM

Next meeting: May 19th