



Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council

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Mary McClure
*Executive Management
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* *Alternate*

** *Ex Officio Member*

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KRCC Executive Board: Study Session

October 6, 2009

Summary Notes

Legislative Issues 2010: Building the KRCC Legislative Agenda

Mary McClure briefly summarized the Legislative issues included in the Study Session Packet (*available at www.KitsapRegionalCouncil.org*), noting that the limited responses were due to the expectation of little action this Legislative Session, and a focus on organizational survival for most. Further to this discussion, and any action points taken from it, a revised set of priorities will be brought to the KRCC Executive Board at the November 3 meeting.

Washington State Coalition for the Homeless

Priorities were distributed at the meeting (see @ www.KitsapRegionalCouncil.org). Kirsten Jewell, Program Manager for housing grant programs, will report back to the Executive Board at the November 3 meeting after soliciting suggestions from the Kitsap Continuum of Care Coalition for Legislative issues specific to Kitsap.

Association of Washington Cities (AWC)

The City Flexibility Package, one of the 3 AWC priorities, is local option and State neutral. The Street Utility Tax, which was the main focus of the discussion of AWC priorities, would be a user (rate) based system, as water and sewer currently are. Several implementation questions, such as who would set the rates; how usage would be tracked; or whether the fee would be flat for all residents, arose at the meeting. It was commented that Cities have communicated their lack of money to the Legislature for a number of years; a unified, clear message from all jurisdictions that there is little financial resource for streets is needed. It was suggested that Jim Justin, Director of State and Federal Relations at AWC, could answer questions about the initiative in further detail at the November 3 Executive Board meeting.

Kitsap Transit (KT)

Dick Hayes presented Kitsap Transit Priorities. In addition to those listed, it was noted that continuing to lobby WSDOT to share ROW (Right Of Way) for vehicles other than motor vehicle along State Routes is included on the KT Legislative Agenda.

Port of Bremerton

Further to the 2009 agenda, in which the Port's priority was to preserve \$15m for the Belfair Bypass Project: this funding has been lost. It would be appropriate to include for 2010 the request to re-instate the funding.

Due to the lack of continued support at the Port for the SEED Project, it would be appropriate to withdraw the SEED funding request.

Kitsap County

The Board of County Commissioners has not yet identified their Legislative Issues for 2010. However, some discussed at the meeting included:

- Higher Education: BoCC to talk with KEDA to discuss their issues on this topic.
- County Utility Tax: As with last Session, one priority was to establish parity with cities on utility tax. The County imposing a tax rate makes annexations more desirable for citizens. Kitsap County would like support from KRCC on this issue. Jim Justin, AWC, could also speak to this issue if invited to KRCC.
- Ferries: Discussion and coordination with citizen ferry advocate groups (Citizens Plan C and Ferry Advisory Committees) can help focus a ferry platform for KRCC.
- Economic Stimulus: Encourage state to leverage more stimulus dollars for the region.