



Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TransTAC)

DRAFT Meeting Summary

October 14, 2021 | 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Remote: Zoom Meeting

Actions	Person Responsible
Post the April 22, 2021 TransTAC/LUTAC meeting summary on the KRCC website	KRCC Staff
Include project overviews and discussions as an agenda item for TransTAC meetings in 2021 and early 2022	KRCC Staff
Add population growth estimates to historical awards data	KRCC Staff
Develop a summary of TransTAC Countywide competition recommendations for TransPOL and send to TransTAC for review	KRCC Staff
Review 2022 Work Plan and send comments to Sophie or Claire	TransTAC

A. Welcome and Administration

Sophie Glass, facilitator of the KRCC Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TransTAC), welcomed the group and reviewed the meeting’s agenda (See Attachment A for a list of participants). Sophie introduced Claire Wendle as the new KRCC staff Transportation Coordinator.

TransTAC approved the April 22, 2021 TransTAC/LUTAC meeting summary.

B. Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) and other PSRC Updates

Jennifer Barnes, Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), shared updates for upcoming transportation competitions. The Transportation Alternatives Programs call for projects will occur on October 15 and applications will be due on December 3. The Rural Town Centers and Corridors call for projects will occur on October 18 and applications will be due December 6. David Forte, Kitsap County, shared that the County will be seeking support letters for their application.

PSRC’s Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) is continuing discussions around revised equity and safety criteria updates for the Regional Competition for federal transportation funds. PSRC is working to accommodate new set asides for equity pilot projects and bicycle and pedestrian projects without impacting existing set asides. PSRC is also looking into ways to streamline the application process and will create examples to help guide jurisdictions through the process.

C. Countywide Competition

Sophie reminded TransTAC of the request from the September 16 TransPOL meeting to provide recommendations on the 2022 application and project recommendation process for the Countywide Competition for federal transportation funds in the following areas: developing a more specific criteria scale, limiting the number of applications, and placing a cap on the amount requested in each application.

To begin the conversation, Sophie and TransTAC members provided context on the Countywide Competition application and project selection process. TransTAC spent time discussing the benefits and

drawbacks for each of the three proposed changes before determining their final recommendations for TransPOL's consideration.

In their discussion around developing a more specific evaluation scale instead of using high, medium, and low scores, TransTAC shared the following:

- High, medium, and low categories allow for a more flexible approach to evaluate projects but can also lead to subjective scoring.
- Category definitions are unclear and could be interpreted differently by members.
- There is a desire to streamline the process and avoid unnecessary complications.

Instead of changing the evaluation approach, TransTAC determined that a better understanding of project context and jurisdictional needs and priorities would assist with scoring. TransTAC recommended discussing projects in more detail leading up to the cycle. KRCC staff will adjust the 2022 meeting plan to allocate time for project discussion in TransTAC meetings.

In their discussion around changing the number of applications jurisdictions can submit, TransTAC shared the following:

- The current lack of an application limit allows KRCC to respond to jurisdictional needs.
- The contingency list provides flexibility, but there are concerns around single jurisdictions having multiple projects on the contingency list.
- Submitting project applications takes significant work and jurisdictions that are better-resourced have more capacity to submit more applications.
- There are questions around whether jurisdictional equity in terms of awarded funds should be pegged to current population levels or projected population levels. KRCC staff will include projected population levels for each jurisdiction in the historical awards data as a point of reference only.

After discussing the concerns and benefits of limiting the number of applications, TransTAC will propose to TransPOL: (1) maintain status quo of no cap on the number of applications and (2) limiting applications to the countywide competition to three or four with an unlimited contingency list.

In their discussion around limiting or changing the application funding amounts that jurisdictions can apply for, TransTAC discussed the following:

- No financial cap allows jurisdictions to respond to needs and take advantage of available resources.
- Implementing a cap decreases flexibility for projects and hinders larger projects that may provide increased benefits.
- The requirement to balance funds by year creates an informal cap.

TransTAC will recommend that the amount of funding requested in a single application be no larger than half the allocated funds, which is essentially the informal cap created by the requirement to balance funds.

In summary, TransTAC will recommend the following changes to the Countywide Competition for TransPOL to consider at their November 18 meeting:

Changing scoring criteria

- Continue using a high, medium, low scoring mechanism.
- Discuss projects in more detail leading up to the competition.

Limit the number of applications

- No action

- Limit the number of Countywide Competition applications to three or four, with no limits on the contingency list.

Changing the amount of funding requested in applications

- Formalize limiting the amount of funding requested in a single application to half the allocated funds.

D. Review 2022 KRCC Transportation Work Plan

TransTAC will review the 2022 Work Plan and send comments to KRCC staff by email. KRCC staff will adjust the workplan to accommodate TransTAC's request to meet more frequently.

E. Supporting TransPOL's Discussion on Transportation Funding Streams

TransTAC will discuss this at their December 9 meeting.

F. Corridor Updates

No updates were shared at this meeting.

G. Solutions and Support

No updates were shared at this meeting.

H. Announcements and Next Steps

The next KRCC TransTAC meeting is on Thursday, December 9. The next KRCC TransPOL meeting is on Thursday, November 18.

I. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Attachment A: TransTAC Meeting Participants

Member Name	Member Affiliation (alphabetical)
Chris Wierzbicki	Bainbridge Island
Shane Weber	Bremerton
Ned Barnes	Bremerton
David Forte	Kitsap County
Steffani Lillie	Kitsap Transit
Fred Salisbury	Port of Bremerton
Mark Dorsey	Port Orchard
Diane Lenius	Poulsbo
Dennis Engel	WSDOT
Jennifer Barnes	PSRC
Sophie Glass	KRCC
Claire Wendle	KRCC