



Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC)
Draft Transportation Policy Committee (TransPOL) Meeting Summary
July 18, 2019 Meeting | 3:15-4:45 PM | Kitsap Transit, Bremerton
v. 8/14/19

Decisions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">TransPOL approved the draft April 18, 2019 TransPOL meeting summary as final.TransPOL recommended that Councilmember Ashby, Mayor Erickson, and Commissioner Gelder serve again on the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Project Selection Taskforce, if possible. In the event that Mayor Erickson is not eligible to participate on the Taskforce, there are several other eligible KRCC members who could serve as a member on the Taskforce.		
Actions	Who	Status
Add SR 303 updates as a new standing agenda item for TransPOL and TransTAC.	KRCC staff	Ongoing
Connect with Kelly McGourty, PSRC, regarding Mayor Erickson's eligibility as a member of the Project Selection Taskforce and follow up with KRCC TransPOL with the result of that conversation.	Mayor Erickson	Ongoing
Coordinate to have the Passenger Only Ferry Study added as an agenda item for the Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization.	Director Clauson	Ongoing
Add a proposal to the Executive Committee to have the Road Usage Charge Assessment presentation at a KRCC Board meeting.	KRCC staff	Complete

A. WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT APRIL 18, 2019 MEETING SUMMARY

Sophie Glass, KRCC Transportation and Land Use Program Lead, welcomed participants to the meeting (see Attachment A for a list of TransPOL members and observers). TransPOL approved the draft 4/18/2019 meeting summary as final. Director John Clauson abstained from the motion, as he was not present at the April meeting. Sophie also reviewed the KRCC meeting calendar and TransPOL 2019 Work Plan.

B. RECRUIT PROJECT SELECTION TASKFORCE MEMBERS

Sophie shared that the Taskforce makes recommendations on the policies and procedures for the federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) project selection process at PSRC. TransPOL noted the importance of having robust representation on the Taskforce, as it affects the availability of federal transportation funds in Kitsap. Councilmember Ashby, Mayor Erickson, and Commissioner Gelder have served on the Taskforce over the years. Councilmember Ashby asked whether there was a limit to representation on the Taskforce and whether Mayor Erickson would be eligible to be a member, as she is currently the Chair of PSRC's Transportation Policy Board. Mayor Erickson intends to connect with Kelly McGourty, PSRC, regarding her eligibility as a member of the Taskforce and will follow up with KRCC TransPOL with the result of that conversation. TransPOL recommended that Councilmember Ashby, Mayor Erickson, and Commissioner Gelder serve again if possible. In the event that Mayor Erickson is not eligible to participate on the Taskforce, there are several other eligible KRCC members who could serve as a member on the Taskforce. Gil Cerise, PSRC, clarified that Taskforce members must sit on a PSRC policy level board. Commissioner Gelder noted that it may be more convenient for Taskforce members to be those on PSRC TransPOL due to the timing of the meetings.

C. UPDATE ON PASSENGER ONLY FERRY STUDY

Gil Cerise, PSRC, gave a presentation on the Puget Sound Passenger Only Ferry Study that will be carried out summer 2019 through winter 2021.

[View presentation here.](#)

Following the presentation, TransPOL members had the following questions and comments for Gil:

- Councilmember Ashby asked what the goal of the study is.
 - Gil shared that the study is intended to assess the viability of passenger only ferries as a form of public transportation and support regional planning for passenger only ferries.
 - Director Clauson added that the study would determine potential rider demand and therefore the demand for necessary facilities.
- Mayor Erickson noted the demand for passenger only ferries from counties around the region and expressed concern that there is a lack of discussion around how to fund this ferry service.
- Commissioner Strakeljahn shared that Pierce County is also interested in foot ferry service.
- Director Clauson noted that the Department of Corrections has expressed interest in Kitsap Transit ferry service. He also proposed that a regional entity, such as the Port of Seattle, be the one to manage a conceptual “ferry port,” or hub, in which passenger only ferries operate.
- Councilmember Ashby asked how stakeholders would be involved in the process of the study.
 - Gil responded that PSRC would engage stakeholders throughout the process by providing presentations and meeting with interest groups to gather feedback, as well as providing regular updates. He intends to stay in touch with the Kitsap jurisdictions over the course of the study.
 - Mayor Erickson shared that KRCC is an appropriate venue to mobilize a stakeholder group for this study.
 - Director Clauson shared that he can have the passenger only ferry study presentation added as an agenda item for the Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization (PRTPO).
- Councilmember Tirman asked how the pricing of passenger ferries will be studied, expressing concern that many ferry systems around the world only cater to those with a higher income level. He emphasized the importance of focusing on the greatest impact to the largest population.
 - Gil shared that the study will look at the full capital and operation costs of passenger only ferries and how this might impact passenger fares.
- David Forte, Kitsap County, noted that the land side access of the ferry terminals needs to be considered in the feasibility analysis, adding that parking and loading areas are important considerations for the flow of ferry traffic.
 - Director Clauson agreed that land side access is critical, particularly on Lake Washington where there is high interest in operating passenger only ferries.

- Mayor Erickson shared that she has heard interested in a foot ferry terminal in Poulsbo but the area's lack of land side access makes such a terminal improbable.
- Roger Gay, Kitsap resident, noted that as a taxpayer, he is curious what funding resources will be available to fund such passenger only ferries. He added that having these ferries be considered high capacity transit would have implications on the transportation funding at PSRC.

D. CORRIDOR UPDATES

- **SR 305:** Commissioner Gelder shared that there will be a community meeting at the Clearwater Casino in the Chico Room on July 18 regarding the non-motorized coordination. He added that WSDOT is moving forward with the design for specific intersections. The top-ranking project, the roundabout, was not originally in the budget but because it is still a priority, funding for other projects may shift. Mayor Erickson shared that artwork for the roundabout and retaining walls in Poulsbo will be designed by a stakeholder group and will be complete in about 6 weeks.
- **SR 16/Gorst:** Director Clauson shared that a consultant is studying the feasibility for Park and Ride locations at SR16 and Tremont and SR16 and Sedgewick. The Park and Rides would serve residents at a new development nearby.
- **SR 104:** Commissioner Gelder shared that Senator Rolfes was successful in obtaining funding for SR 104. The Port of Kingston is conducting a feasibility study for a holding lot at the Kingston ferry terminal. Kitsap County received \$1.4 million in funding from the Rural Town Center and Corridor competition for right of way acquisition, which will cover a portion of the anticipated total cost of \$4-5 million. An FAQ document to help with messaging about project is underdevelopment. Councilmember Ashby noted that the funding the City of Poulsbo received from the Rural Town Center and Corridor competition is not subject to federal timelines ("countdown clock"), as the project is to develop a plan, rather than implement a plan.
- **SR 303:** Mayor Wheeler shared that a SR 303 corridor study is underway, which will be considering Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) through the corridor. SR 303 will be added as a new standing agenda item for TransPOL and TransTAC.

E. PSRC TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD UPDATES

Report out on the July 11 Transportation Policy Board meeting: Councilmember Ashby shared that there was a Road Usage Charge Assessment presentation from the Washington Transportation Commission and recommended that this presentation be given to the KRCC Board. KRCC staff will follow up with the Executive Committee on a presentation to the Board. She noted that the Pierce County delegation is interested in having military centers recognized in the project selection criteria. TransPOL confirmed that KRCC would support that criteria. Commissioner Gelder shared that the Transportation Commission meeting/bus tour in Kitsap was a rare opportunity to have them as a captive audience. Mayor Erickson noted that a common question Commissioners asked was whether jurisdictions have used all possible local tools to fund transportation. She expects it to be criteria for applying for transportation funding in the future. Director Clauson was pleased that the Transportation Secretary consistently asked how efforts were benefitting transit. Commissioner Garrido added that the State Parks Commission also went on a tour of Kitsap.

Report out on Port Orchard's Tremont funding request: Councilmember Ashby shared that funds were available at PSRC due to the high number of projects unable to obligate funds in the recent funding cycle. She expressed appreciation to Pierce County for making the motion to approve the funding, appreciation to Mayor Erickson, as Chair of the Transportation Policy Board for getting it on agenda, and appreciation to Kelly McGourty and her staff for helping Port Orchard explore solutions. The Transportation Policy Board ultimately approved the funding by defining the request as a hardship need. Councilmember Ashby noted that Port Orchard had received less funding than they had asked for in the first place and that receiving the money did not impact any other jurisdictions financially, making the decision palatable to the Board. Mayor Erickson added that Pierce County Councilmember Derek Young was critical in providing details of the last time a special funding request was made in 2010 to the PSRC Executive Committee, supporting the justification of Port Orchard's special request.

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

- Councilmember Ashby shared that the Port Orchard is holding a Tremont celebration on August 2.
- Mayor Erickson expressed concern about the messaging around the transition from the gas tax to the Road Usage Charge (RUC) has not been consistent from her perspective. Councilmember Ashby noted that the gas tax is not going away by direction of the legislature, but that it would naturally decline with the increase of fuel-efficient cars. Therefore, the legislature will bond again both sources of revenue at the same time.
- Director Clauson shared that there will be major modifications to the Annapolis ferry dock, causing it to be shut down for a time. During the closure, Kitsap Transit will bus people to the Port Orchard dock.

The next TransPOL meeting is on October 17, 2019.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

Attachment A: Meeting Attendees

NAME	JURISDICTION (ALPHABETICAL)
TRANSPOL MEMBERS:	
Councilmember Matthew Tirman	City of Bainbridge Island
Mayor Greg Wheeler	City of Bremerton
Councilmember Bek Ashby	City of Port Orchard
Mayor Becky Erickson	City of Poulsbo
Councilmember Gary Nystul	City of Poulsbo
Commissioner Robert Gelder	Kitsap County
Commissioner Charlotte Garrido	Kitsap County
Director John Clauson	Kitsap Transit
Commissioner Axel Strakeljahn	Port of Bremerton
OBSERVERS:	
Shane Weber	City of Bremerton
David Forte	Kitsap County
Ed Coviello	Kitsap Transit
Mary McClure	Port of Kingston
Gil Cerise	Puget Sound Regional Council
Roger Gay	Resident
Dennis Engel	Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
STAFF:	
Sophie Glass	KRCC Transportation and Land Use Program Lead
Mishu Pham-Whipple	KRCC Coordination Lead