



Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC)
Transportation Policy Committee (TransPOL) Meeting Summary
January 18, 2024 Meeting | 3:00 – 4:30 PM | Remote Meeting
v. 1/31/2024

Decisions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">TransPOL members decided to retain the criteria setting a maximum number of applications per jurisdiction.TransPOL members agreed to bring forward the 2024 Call for Projects with the criteria as an appendix to the KRCC Board.		
Actions	Who	Status
Upload approved meeting summary to the KRCC website.	KRCC Staff	Complete
Clarify with PSRC if the countywide criteria is encouraged or required to align with PSRC's regional criteria.	KRCC Staff	In Progress
Add Hood Canal to the agenda as a standing item in the Corridor Updates section	KRCC Staff	Complete

A. WELCOME AND OLD BUSINESS

Sophie Glass, KRCC Program Lead, welcomed participants to the KRCC Transportation Policy Committee (TransPOL) virtual meeting (see Attachment A for a list of TransPOL members and observers). TransPOL members approved their October 2023 meeting summary with one abstention Commissioner Rolfes. Sophie reviewed the agenda, topics of discussion, and purpose of the meeting.

B. PRESENTATION

Gary Simonson, Senior Transportation Planner at PSRC, presented on the Regional Safety Action Plan. The slides to this presentation are posted on the KRCC website for reference ([see pages 4-20](#)).

PSRC provided data on the transportation challenges the region is facing, specifically highlighting how traffic related deaths and serious injuries disproportionately impact people of color. Given these statistics, PSRC is developing a regional safety action plan and relying on the Safe System Approach as a guiding principle for the plan. The Safe System Approach is focused on preventing crashes and deaths and serious injuries when crashes do happen. USDOT, WSDOT and local agencies have already begun shifting from traditional road safety practices towards adopting this new approach. USDOT has established the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) which allocates five billion dollars years over five years. As a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), PSRC is responsible for consolidating local jurisdiction applications for the region and to date has run two rounds of SS4A Safety Planning Awards. PSRC has selected a technical support consultant and will select by mid-late January an engagement consultant. Additionally, last June PSRC held its first Regional Safety summit with approximately 140 attendees.

PSRC defined regional safety action plans and shared an overview of their scope of work outline. Key next steps include:

1. Finalizing consultant selections and executing contracts by the end of January 2024.
2. Completing an initial public engagement in spring/summer 2024.
3. Completing the data analysis and state of the region report in summer 2024.

4. Drafting a plan with strategies completed in winter 2024/2025
5. Target final plan adoption in winter/spring 2025

C. 2024 COUNTY AND REGIONAL COMPETITIONS

Sophie shared an overview of PSRC's competition policy framework and the changes PSRC has made to the categories of safety, climate, and equity.

- **Safety:** The Transportation Policy Board agreed to update the safety criterion and language to align with the Safe System Approach and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) safety countermeasures. The Transportation Policy Board agreed to require each agency to have or commit to developing a safety plan based on a Safe System Approach to be eligible to compete for PSRC funding. This is a broad commitment that will not be part of the scoring criteria. The Transportation Policy Board agreed on a hybrid scoring approach (2a) to take some points away from the center's criteria and double the points for safety in the application.
- **Climate:** The proposed changes regarding preventing any increases in road capacity did not go forward.
- **Equity:** The Transportation Policy Board agreed to incorporate Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) recommendations, specifically improving the current equity criterion and point values and embedding equity throughout the entire application.

TransPOL members discussed these changes. Regarding safety, TransPOL members posed the question of whether KRCC is required or encouraged to make changes to the county-wide competition scoring to align with the regional competition. TransPOL members expressed the importance of capacity projects for jurisdictions seeing rapid growth and discussed how to align capacity projects with air quality improvements.

TransPOL members continued their discussion by turning towards the Draft 2024 Call for Projects and Schedule. TransPOL members decided to retain the criteria setting a maximum number of applications per jurisdiction. TransPOL members discussed how to implement guidance from PSRC, specifically regarding the relative weights of competition criteria. Historically, KRCC has used a high, medium, low scoring system. PSRC is concerned KRCC's scoring system does not align with PSRC's changes to the weight attributed to categories in the new regional competition policy framework. Sophie shared that TransTAC members preferred to retain their high-medium-low evaluation approach. TransPOL members agreed and emphasized that their current scoring system has historically given more points to the safety category than the regional application. TransPOL members agreed with the TransTAC members' suggestion to make the criteria an appendix to allow more time for discussion.

TransPOL members discussed how the Safe System approach would coincide with the pre-existing safety plans at the Port of Bremerton and Kitsap Transit. Some TransPOL members expressed support for the Safe Systems Approach while others still had questions.

D. CROSS- JURISDICTIONAL TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

TransPOL members had no updates on areas of policy interests for the 2024 legislative session.

E. TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD AND OTHER PSRC UPDATES

Sophie reported on the latest Transportation Policy Board meeting.

F. CORRIDOR UPDATES

TransPOL members shared updates on the main corridors in Kitsap County. The Gorst Corridor is getting positive community responses, and the project is doing well. Commissioner Rolfes shared she has been working on mitigating congestion from the Hood Canal bridge. TransPOL members agreed to add Hood Canal as a standing item under Corridor Updates.

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

TransPOL members added a meeting to their calendar on February 15th.

H. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Attachment A: Meeting Attendees

NAME	JURISDICTION
TRANSPOL MEMBERS:	
Council Member Schneider	City of Bainbridge
Mayor Wheeler	City of Bremerton
Mayor Putaansuu	City of Port Orchard
Mayor Erickson	City of Poulsbo
Commissioner Rolfes	Kitsap County
Council Member Coughlin	City of Bremerton
David Forte	Kitsap County
Steffani Lillie	Kitsap Transit
Commissioner Strakeljahn	Port of Bremerton
OBSERVERS:	
Gary Simonson	PSRC
STAFF:	
Sophie Glass	KRCC
Emilie Pilchowski	KRCC