



**Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC)**  
**DRAFT Transportation Policy Committee (TransPOL) Meeting Summary**  
 February 19, 2021 Meeting | 3:00-4:30 PM | Remote Meeting  
 v. 3-15-21

Decisions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No decisions were made by TransPOL.</li> </ul>		
Actions	Who	Status
Upload the 11/19/20 meeting summary to the KRCC website.	KRCC staff	Complete
Schedule a meeting for TransPOL members to discuss topics related to the Project Selection Task Force.	KRCC staff	Complete
Update the Transportation Funding Mechanism Inventory with additional information requests provided by TransPOL members.	KRCC staff	Ongoing
Distribute the Gorst Project 1-pager and project schedule that were included in the Gorst Coalition meeting materials.	KRCC staff	Complete

**A. WELCOME AND OLD BUSINESS**

Sophie Glass, KRCC Program Director, welcomed participants to the virtual meeting (see Attachment A for a list of TransPOL members and observers). Commissioner McClure moved to approve the November 19, 2020 meeting summary. Councilmember Ashby seconded the motion. The meeting summary was approved without abstention or opposition. KRCC staff will post the summary to the KRCC website. Sophie also provided an overview of the 2021 TransTAC-TransPOL meeting topics, which includes TransPOL’s funding strategy discussions throughout the year.

**B. PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON DRAFT COUNTYWIDE PLANNING POLICIES (CPPs) UPDATES**

Sophie reminded TransPOL that the KRCC Board will review a complete draft of the CPP updates at the May KRCC Board meeting. She asked TransPOL to consider the following discussion questions:

- What is the appropriate level of detail/flexibility for CPP regarding transportation and Essential Public Facilities?
- What kinds of policies demand specificity?
- What kind of policies should be flexible?

TransPOL provided the following comments in response:

- Essential Public Facilities: Mayor Erickson, Commissioner Gelder, and Commissioner McClure emphasized the importance of referencing state siting standards in the CPPs so there is no confusion about local versus state control.
- Transit: Director Clauson noted the importance of supporting transit routes. He requested that language about siting capital facilities near public transit routes be kept or even strengthened in the CPPs.
- Airports and other major facility siting: Members expressed concern about the impacts of a potential airport siting process. Commissioner Strakeljahn shared that airport development falls under the purview of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). As such, airports are not exclusively under local control through the CPPs and changes to airports have established public processes through FAA. Language in the RCW describes the level of local control depending on the type of facility. Mayor Wheeler noted that the Port of Bremerton’s Long Term Master Plan intends to

expand its airport as part of its mission to bring economic development to the region. He encouraged Kitsap to align the region's planning process with the Port's vision. Commissioner Gelder noted that some jurisdictions have been contacted regarding the siting of a community treatment facility, a relevant example of the significance of the CPPs related to facility siting.

- "Other low emission vehicle" language: Director Clauson noted that this language is appreciated given that Kitsap Transit is looking at the potential of using hydrogen fuel cells for its fleet.
- Land Capacity Analysis: Commissioner Gelder noted that perhaps siting essential public facilities might have impacts on the land capacity analysis conducted by LUTAC.
- Countywide Centers: Commissioner Gelder noted that KRCC is awaiting legal guidance on whether a full ratification process is needed for designating Countywide Centers as part of an amended appendix to the CPPs.

### **C. UPDATES ON TRANSPORTATION FUNDS AVAILABLE**

Kelly McGourty, Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), provided a briefing on incoming transportation funds:

- Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds: \$15 million of set aside funds under the FAST Act is available for the Puget Sound region. 50% of funds will be distributed to the regional contingency list and 50% will go to the countywide contingency lists, allocated based on population.
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds: Approximately \$4.5 million is available annually from 2021-2023 for community-based investments such as bicycle/pedestrian and environmental mitigation projects. The Transportation Policy Board has recommended that \$4.5 million for 2021 be distributed to countywide contingency lists and to conduct a regional competition for the \$13.5 million for 2022-2024 funds.
- Supplemental 2021-2022 FHWA funds: \$49 million is available. 50% of funds will be distributed to the regional contingency list and 50% will go to the countywide contingency lists, allocated based on population. Current 2023-2024 awarded projects may choose to advance their projects ahead of schedule.
- Rural Town Centers and Corridors Competition: The competition will be conducted in the spring/summer of 2021.

PSRC is working with the Countywide Chairs on project recommendations and plans to present the recommendations to the PSRC Boards by April.

### **D. UPDATES ON 2022 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION COMPETITION PROCESS**

Councilmember Ashby shared that the Project Selection Taskforce is set to convene soon. There has been discussion at the PSRC Transportation Policy Board of having Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds dedicated to the Regional Competition and Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds dedicated to the Countywide Competitions. This would be a significant shift in the competition process, as Kitsap is not eligible for CMAQ funds and therefore would be excluded from the Regional Competition. She noted the importance of retaining the Kitsap set aside, which Kitsap receives to compensate for its ineligibility for CMAQ funds. There are several Countywide Competition policies that Kitsap will need to be in alignment on ahead of the next competition such as a potential limit on the dollar amount per application, a potential limit on the number of applications a jurisdiction can submit, or a potential process specific to contingency list projects.

Mayor Erickson noted that funding from a federal infrastructure package may come through typical funding channels and that Kitsap should prepare projects to accept funds. Commissioner Gelder also noted that

Senator Murray's office is beginning to collect information on projects. Steffani Lillie, Kitsap Transit, shared that the agency is preparing for an allocation process specific to transit providers to obtain federal infrastructure package funding.

TransPOL requested holding a special meeting in March to discuss topics relevant to the Project Selection Taskforce. KRCC staff will schedule a meeting for interested TransPOL members.

#### **E. SUPPORTING LARGE REGIONAL PROJECTS IN KITSAP**

##### **Review inventory of local transportation funding mechanisms and discuss desired areas of coordination and shared learning.**

Sophie reminded TransPOL that at their last meeting, this group discussed a coordinated approach to support large regional projects in Kitsap. This first TransPOL meeting will look at the local strategy, with the subsequent TransPOL meetings looking at countywide, state, and federal strategies. The transportation funding mechanisms inventory was put together with the help of TranSTAC to show which local funding mechanisms are being used by local jurisdictions. The funding mechanisms reviewed were ones TransPOL previously expressed interest in. Other funding mechanisms identified by jurisdictions were included in the list below the matrix. The inventory is intended to show which jurisdictions are using which tools and does not capture the total amount or breakdown of jurisdictions' funding streams. TransPOL members made the following comments regarding the inventory:

- Councilmember Ashby noted that Port Orchard implemented impact fees and a Transportation Benefit District to be eligible for additional funds for their Tremont project. She added that any increase in sales tax under a Transportation Benefit District should be coordinated across Kitsap to keep sales tax amounts consistent.
- Mayor Erickson and Commissioner Gelder shared that efforts to implement car tab fees were paused in response to the passing of Initiative 976. However, now that the initiative has been revoked, discussions on local car tab fees are resuming.
- Commissioner Gelder noted that only the County can collect the Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), a tax on the sale of real estate. 2% of the collected funds goes to public works.
- Director Clauson shared that Kitsap Transit benefited from a partnership with Bainbridge Island where a dedicated amount of the City's car tabs were allocated to the agency to promote transit.
- Commissioner McClure recommended updating the inventory with more information about funding mechanisms.

#### **F. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

##### **Report out on relevant legislative activities from session that began on January 11, 2021.**

Mayor Wheeler shared that in regards to the Gorst Coalition's legislative activities, Thompson Consulting has been brought on to support messaging efforts during and after the state legislative session. He also shared that staff from Senator Murray's office plans to attend future Gorst Coalition meetings and that Senator Cantwell's office is also engaged. Commissioner Strakeljahn commented that a legislative sponsor is in place for the Gorst project. Chairman Forsman expressed concern that the project is not well defined and asked for the Gorst materials to be distributed to this group. Mayor Wheeler clarified that the project scope is defined to the extent that it can be given the information available. Part of the project is additional scoping. KRCC staff will distribute the Gorst Project 1-pager and project schedule that were included in the Gorst Coalition meeting materials.

#### **G. PSRC TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD UPDATES**

##### **Report out on the latest PSRC Transportation Policy Board meeting:**

The last PSRC Transportation Policy Board meeting was on February 11 and the next meeting is on March 11. Agenda topics from the February 11 meeting included review of the 2022-2023 Budget and Work Program, the Regional Transportation Plan Financial Strategy, and the State of the System presentation.

#### **H. CORRIDOR UPDATES**

- **SR 305.** Construction on the roundabout retaining walls is underway. Indigenous art will be included in the roundabout. The SR 305 Committee is meeting to mobilize for the legislative session.
- **SR 16/Gorst.** The Gorst Coalition Executive Committee meets on March 19.
- **SR 104.** The SR 104 Committee is engaging state legislators regarding the project.
- **SR 307.** The largest residential construction project ever built in Poulsbo is underway. With an anticipated 3,000 added trips per day; members recognized the importance of forming a committee soon.

#### **I. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS**

The next TransPOL meeting will be on Thursday, May 20, 2021.

#### **J. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were made.

#### **K. ADJOURN**

**Attachment A: Meeting Attendees**

NAME	JURISDICTION (ALPHABETICAL)
<b>TRANSPOL MEMBERS:</b>	
Councilmember Schneider	Bainbridge
Mayor Wheeler	Bremerton
Commissioner Gelder	Kitsap County
Director Clauson	Kitsap Transit
Councilmember Ashby	Port Orchard
Mayor Erickson	Poulsbo
Commissioner McClure	Port of Kingston
Chairman Forsman	Suquamish Tribe
<b>OBSERVERS:</b>	
Chris Wierzbicki	Bainbridge Island
Shane Weber	Bremerton
David Forte	Kitsap County
Steffani Lillie	Kitsap Transit
Fred Salisbury	Port of Bremerton
Mark Dorsey	Port Orchard
Kelly McGourty	Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)
Dennis Engel	Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Gaius Sinoy	Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
<b>STAFF:</b>	
Sophie Glass	KRCC Program Director
Mishu Pham-Whipple	KRCC Transportation Program Lead