



Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC)
Transportation Policy Committee (TransPOL) Meeting Summary
 September 16, 2021 Meeting | 3:00 – 4:30 PM | Remote Meeting
 v. 9-16-21

Decisions		
Actions	Who	Status
Upload 3/18/21 subgroup meeting summary to the KRCC website.	KRCC staff	Complete
Add agenda items to discuss regional project priorities, funding, and Countywide criteria to the 10/14/21 TransTAC agenda.	KRCC staff	Complete
Breakdown historical awards data by UGA.	KRCC staff	Complete

A. WELCOME AND OLD BUSINESS

Betsy Daniels, KRCC Staff Lead, welcomed participants to the KRCC Transportation Policy Committee (TransPOL) virtual meeting (see Attachment A for a list of TransPOL members and observers). The March 18, 2021 subgroup meeting summary was approved without abstention or opposition. Betsy reviewed the agenda, topics of discussion, and purpose of the meeting.

B. SUPPORTING LARGE REGIONAL PROJECTS IN KITSAP

Betsy reminded the group that TransPOL had previously discussed the development of a broader approach to funding large regional projects in Kitsap due to the small amount of available funds for these projects. TransPOL shared the following comments in discussion:

- State Funding: Councilmember Ashby reviewed the funding mechanisms currently available to jurisdictions via PSRC. The group discussed the importance of securing sustainable and consistent state funding and reflected on the outcomes of the previous state transportation funding package referred to as “Connecting Washington”. Mayor Erickson and Commissioner Gelder pointed to the effectiveness of a corridor-wide approach used the SR 305 project as successful example. Mayor Erickson noted the importance of involving all impacted parties and levels of government in the implementation of these projects.
- New Revenue Sources: Commissioner Gelder pointed to the limitations of state funding and suggested that TransPOL evaluate new funding streams. Some of the TransPOL members suggested raising local taxes to allocate funds towards transportation and exploring other federal funds, others indicated that there were other methods to achieve broader funding for transportation. TransTAC will address this topic at their October 14 meeting.
- Regional and Individual Projects: Several TransPOL members discussed approaches for prioritizing regional and individual projects and interests. Members agreed that regional collaboration is important but had different view points on prioritizing individual jurisdictions priorities over regional priorities. Councilmember Schneider expressed interest in regional collaboration and highlighted Bainbridge’s focus on climate change.

Betsy asked TransPOL how they would like to approach developing a regional strategy. TransPOL members suggested the following to support discussion at their November meeting:

- Review the West Sound Alliance list of projects and identify still-relevant projects.
- TransTAC brings forward key priorities for their jurisdictions.

- TransTAC discussion on funding mechanisms.
- TransTAC discussion on potential multimodal and electrification projects.

C. UPDATES ON 2022 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION COMPETITION PROCESS

Councilmember Ashby, Mayor Erickson, and Commissioner Gelder shared the following updates on the upcoming Federal Transportation Competition as discussed at the PSRC Project Selection Committee:

- Conversations focused on equity and safety criteria.
- Kitsap County will continue to receive their set-aside funds.
- There is discussion around increasing the multimodal set-aside from 5% to 15% and adding a 10% racial equity set-aside. TransPOL members shared concerns about how the new set-asides may affect overall regional funds and the Rural Towns and Centers funding.

Commissioner McClure asked how the equity criteria will be applied to transportation projects. Councilmember Ashby shared that the details of the criteria are still being discussed. TransPOL members shared the following thoughts:

- How Kitsap County will perform against the equity criteria, and if poverty will be included as a metric.
- The equity criteria may serve to reconnect impacted communities, which may be less relevant in Kitsap.
- Concerns around Kitsap’s competitiveness in the regional competition moving forward.

Betsy asked TransPOL how TransTAC and KRCC staff can support TransPOL policy discussions. TransPOL suggested the following:

- Breaking down historical awards data by Urban Growth Areas. Mayor Putaansuu mentioned the Growth Management Act recently passed by the legislature that does not require petitions for annexation ([SB 5522](#)).
- A discussion on refining Countywide competition criteria
- Limiting the number of applications or amount of requested funding.

TransTAC will discuss these topics at their October 14 meeting.

D. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES AS NEEDED

Betsy noted that the Federal transportation package has not yet passed. TransPOL members will wait for funding updates from PSRC.

E. TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD AND OTHER PSRC UPDATES

There were not updates on the Transportation Policy Board. The Task Force needs to bring forward their recommendations first.

F. CORRIDOR UPDATES

Mayor Erickson will share the ribbon-cutting date for SR 305 with TransPOL.

Commissioner Strakeljahn shared an update on the Gorst Coalition which is working on a 2022 budget.

Commissioner McClure shared progress updates for SR 104 and plans for an automatic traffic management system in the ferry terminal. Mayor Erickson will share committee meeting dates for SR 307 and 104.

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

Betsy reviewed the action items and next steps discussed in the meeting, including:

- Adding regional corridor projects, electrification, transit and multimodal projects to the October 14 TransTAC agenda.
- Adding taxation options to the October 14 TransTAC agenda.
- Breaking down historical awards data by Urban Growth Areas.

Dennis Engel announced his retirement in mid-2022 and the retirement of John Wynands, WSDOT Olympic Region administrator.

Betsy shared the dates of the upcoming Executive Board meetings: November 2 and December 7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:30

Attachment A: Meeting Attendees

NAME	JURISDICTION
TRANSPOL MEMBERS:	
Councilmember Schneider	City of Bainbridge
Mayor Wheeler	City of Bremerton
Commissioner Gelder	Kitsap County
Councilmember Ashby	City of Port Orchard
Director Clauson	Kitsap Transit
Mayor Erickson	City of Poulsbo
Commissioner Strakeljahn	Port of Bremerton
Mayor Putaansuu	City of Port Orchard
Dennis Engel	WSDOT
Commissioner McClure	Port of Kingston
Allison Satter	Naval Base Kitsap
OBSERVERS:	
Andrew Nelson	Kitsap County
Chris Wierzbicki	City of Bainbridge Island
David Forte	Kitsap County
Mark Dorsey	City of Port Orchard
STAFF:	
Betsy Daniels	KRCC Program Manager
Claire Wendle	KRCC Transportation Program Lead