



**Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC)**  
**Draft Transportation Policy Committee (TransPOL) Meeting Summary**  
 October 17, 2019 Meeting | 3:15-4:45 PM | Kitsap Transit, Bremerton  
 v. 11/1/19

Decisions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TransPOL approved the draft July 18, 2019 TransPOL meeting summary as final.</li> </ul>		
Actions	Who	Status
Post the July 18, 2019 TransPOL meeting summary to the KRCC website.	KRCC staff	Complete
Follow up with Kitsap County regarding the implications of their de-federalized projects for the annual project status report.	KRCC staff	Complete

**A. WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT JULY 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). Councilmember Ashby moved to approve the draft 7/18/2019 TransPOL meeting summary as final. Commissioner Strakeljahn seconded. The motion carried without abstention or opposition. Sophie also reviewed the KRCC meeting calendar and 2019 TransPOL Work Plan.

**B. REVIEW ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

**Overview of status of projects funded through PSRC’s 2018-2020 and 2021-2022 Regional and Kitsap Countywide Competitions:** TransPOL reviewed the Annual Transportation Project Status Report populated by TransTAC. Note that the report is only for projects funded through PSRC’s 2018-2020 and 2021-2022 Regional and Kitsap Countywide Competitions. Projects are on track to obligate funds, suggesting that contingency funds being available from projects unable to obligate funds is unlikely.

**Question and answer with technical staff:** There were questions around the implications of Kitsap County’s defederalized projects. KRCC staff will follow up with County staff to understand the implications of those projects being defederalized. Diane Lenius, City of Poulsbo shared that Poulsbo’s projects on the list are components of a larger project, one third of which is funded through federal funds, one third of which is funded through local funds, and another third of which is funded through Washington State Connecting Washington funds. TransTAC members will have a final opportunity to compete the report before it is provided to the KRCC Board for review.

**C. PROJECT SELECTION TASK FORCE UPDATES**

**Review Project Selection Taskforce’s recommendations to date regarding the Regional and Countywide Competitions:** Councilmember Ashby shared that at the last PSRC TransPOL meeting, TransPOL took the Taskforce’s recommendation to have the upcoming transportation funding cycle competition be based on VISION 2040, which focuses on Regional and Countywide Centers (and the corridors that serve them), rather than VISION 2050, which is still in progress and focuses on High Capacity Transit Centers. The preservation set aside would remain at 20%, and the bicycle-pedestrian set aside would remain at 10%. She added that unlike at the PSRC Regional Project

Evaluation Committee (RPEC), there was no discussion at the Taskforce meeting regarding having Regional funds be exclusively Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) dollars.

**Discuss proposal at PSRC to move STP funding from Regional to Countywide competition:** KRCC TransTAC recently held a call to discuss a proposal made at RPEC to move all STP funding to the Countywide Competition and all CMAQ funding to the Regional Competition, rather than having a combination of both funding sources in both competitions. This proposal would not change the amount of funding at the Countywide level but would eliminate Kitsap's ability to compete regionally. Kitsap and other counties are likely to advocate to have this proposal postponed to the following funding cycle when it can be examined more closely. The original intent of the proposal was to streamline the competition process, but concerns have been raised about unintended consequences. Councilmember Ashby asserted that Kitsap would need to determine the average award Kitsap receives in the Regional Competition and make sure that Kitsap is guaranteed that amount if the proposal were to move forward. If CMAQ funds are used exclusively for the Regional Competition, then likely only large jurisdictions would benefit.

Diane Lenius, City of Poulsbo, agreed that Kitsap would need a guaranteed funding amount in order to support the proposal and noted that at RPEC, there was a lot of energy behind the proposal but not enough time to figure out details in time for the 2020 competitions. She added that as the CMAQ funding source gets bigger, there is the potential for Kitsap to have less access to funds since Kitsap is not eligible for CMAQ funding. TransPOL agreed that vigilance is important because this proposal will come back at some point.

#### **D. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION ON REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

**Review Project Selection Framework Elements:** The Framework outlines the administrative parameters, set asides, and project evaluation criteria. TransTAC did not recommend any changes to the Policy Framework.

**Review best practices for successful Regional Projects from 2018 debriefs:** TransPOL reviewed an excerpt of their debrief of the Regional Competition at the June 21, 2018 TransPOL meeting. Mark Dorsey, City of Port Orchard, reiterated that Kitsap jurisdictions need to show solidarity around Kitsap's Regional Competition projects at RPEC and other PSRC venues.

Councilmember Ashby noted that the Project Selection Taskforce has not fully discussed the criteria and scoring for the Regional Competition, though the Taskforce has discussed whether a preference should be given to jurisdictions using local funding tools, but significant changes based on this are unlikely.

The call for Regional Projects will be open in February 2020.

#### **E. CORRIDOR UPDATES**

- **SR 305:** Diane shared that the roundabout in Poulsbo will be the first roundabout constructed on the corridor. High priority projects are on Day Road and near the Clearwater Casino, as it is critical to the Suquamish Tribe's casino revenue.
- **SR 16/Gorst:** Mayor Wheeler shared that Bremerton has the Navy's support to obtain funding to potentially alleviate congestion without adding infrastructure.

- **SR 104:** Commissioner Mary McClure, Port of Kingston, shared that two projects are underway. One of which is the realignment of ferry traffic off the main highway, which is in final design. The other project is a holding lot outside of downtown that would feed ferry traffic into the realigned roadway. The two projects will fit together operationally. The Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Washington State Ferries (WSF), Kitsap Transit, and the Port of Kingston are all partnered for these projects. The traffic management component of this project will attract attention and have applications elsewhere in the ferry system.
- **SR 303:** Mayor Wheeler shared the project to develop infrastructure to support commercial development and residential housing in the area is through the initial data collection phase. Commercial vacancy rates are below pre-Recession levels indicating an economic revival and a growing confidence in the area. The group is working with WSDOT on the project.

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

**Report out on the July 11 Transportation Policy Board meeting:** Councilmember Ashby shared that PSRC TransPOL received several presentations including one on the Sound Transit Redmond Link project, SR 99 Tolling, and PSRC's Bicycle/Pedestrian Work Program. PSRC will be reaching out to jurisdictions regarding bicycle/pedestrian policies in Comprehensive Plans.

#### **G. KRCC TRANSTAC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On September 12, 2019, TranSTAC received several updates from PSRC, including a Maintenance and Preservation presentation. They briefly reviewed the Policy Framework elements and did not suggest any amendments. They also discussed jurisdiction Transportation Plan updates and implications for Comprehensive Plan updates. On a call on October 10, 2019, TranSTAC discussed the proposal made at RPEC to shift CMAQ and STP funds and recommended advocating to postpone a decision until the following funding cycle. At the next TranSTAC meeting on December 12, 2019, TranSTAC will pick up a tabled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) transition plan item, discuss Regional Competition projects for the next cycle, and receive a WSDOT presentation on funding cycles.

#### **H. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS**

**Review draft 2020 Transportation Work Plan and Schedule:** Many items in the KRCC Transportation Work Plan are a continuation of 2019 Work Plan items. New KRCC Work Plan items are related to the transportation competitions. The KRCC Board is set to approve the 2020 KRCC Work Plan at their November 5 meeting. TransPOL acknowledged that PlanPOL and LUTAC are interested in coordinating on Countywide Competition project criteria in order to make sure they align with Comprehensive Plans and regional goals. Councilmember Ashby noted that there will likely not be any major transportation budget items coming out of the short legislative session so it may not be useful to convene the West Sound Alliance (WSA).

**Roundrobin of Announcements:** TransPOL members provided the following announcements:

- Commissioner Strakeljahn shared that WSA will be dormant until transportation items are taken up by the State Legislature. He also noted that meetings are taking place regarding the Belfair corridor and that the Airport Diner is being remodeled.
- Mayor Wheeler noted that the meetings around the Belfair corridor are intended to determine where the Belfair bypass will exit, the design of the bypass, and whether it would

be in the Bremerton city limits. He added that he was pleased with the formal endorsement of the Navy for transportation funding.

- Councilmember Mills reported that the family that owns the property near the planned roundabout in Suquamish is negotiating being relocated before construction can begin.
- Councilmember Ashby relayed a compliment to transit agencies overheard on the ferry regarding the ease to travel between Kitsap and Tacoma.
- Councilmember Nystul noted that education will be needed for when the new roundabout in Poulsbo is complete.

The next TransPOL meeting is tentatively on February 20, 2020.

#### **I. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mark Dorsey, City of Port Orchard, noted that at the recent Public Works Board meeting, the Board discussed a list of public works projects that are risk of losing funding if Initiative-976 passes. He encouraged jurisdictions to evaluate which projects are at risk and to plan accordingly.

Diane Lenius, City of Poulsbo, shared that the Department of Commerce held a Short Course on Planning in association with the American Planning Association Conference, which included a history of planning laws, an overview of GMA and comprehensive plans, an overview of roles and administrative decisions versus legislative decisions, and a required training related to the Public Records Act. She noted that engineers interact with all these elements but typically don't have a formal education on these topics. Staff at Poulsbo are coordinating to hold the same training in Poulsbo for colleagues to attend.

#### **J. ADJOURN**

**Attachment A: Meeting Attendees**

NAME	JURISDICTION (ALPHABETICAL)
<b>TRANSPOL MEMBERS:</b>	
Mayor Greg Wheeler	City of Bremerton
Councilmember Bek Ashby	City of Port Orchard
Councilmember Gary Nystul	City of Poulsbo
Commissioner Axel Strakeljahn	Port of Bremerton
Luther Mills Jr.	Suquamish Tribe
<b>OBSERVERS:</b>	
Chris Wierzbicki	City of Bainbridge Island
Ned Leven	City of Bremerton
Shane Weber	City of Bremerton
Mark Dorsey	City of Port Orchard
Diane Lenius	City of Poulsbo
Ed Coviello	Kitsap Transit
Mary McClure	Port of Kingston
Katrina Radach	Triangle Associates
Dennis Engel	Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
<b>STAFF:</b>	
Sophie Glass	KRCC Transportation and Land Use Program Lead
Mishu Pham-Whipple	KRCC Coordination Lead