PRTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 19, 2022 | 10:00 – 11:30
Zoom Meeting – Login Below

1. 10:00 – 10:05 **Chair's Welcome and Introductions**

2. 10:05 – 10:10 **Consent Calendar** — ACTION
   - *Approval of Agenda*
   - *Approval of Minutes from March 17, 2022 (Attachment)*

3. 10:10 – 10:15 **RTIP Amendment Request – Squaxin Island Tribe SR 108/Old Olympic Highway Safety Project** *(Attachment)* — ACTION, *Edward Coviello, PRTPO Coordinator*
   The proposed SR 108 Safety Project will add roundabouts to the US 101 ramp terminals at SR 108/Old Olympic Highway as recommended in the approved safety plan. The Tribe seeks to amend this project into the Regional TIP (RTIP). The TAC is asked to recommend approval to the Executive Board.

4. 10:15 – 10:30 **2022 TAP Process Debrief** — DISCUSSION, *Thera Black, PRTPO Coordinator*
   PRTPO received no applications in response to its 2022 Transportation Alternatives Program call for projects. PRTPO was awarding $516,000 for federal fiscal years 2025 and 2026. The call extended from March 1 – April 11. This discussion is a chance to evaluate the process and factors behind the lack of response and identify any takeaway insights for Executive Board consideration.

5. 10:30 – 10:50 **Local Programs Overview of Rural County STBG Program** — DISCUSSION, *Bryan Dias, WSDOT Local Programs Manager*
   PRTPO's support for local agency use of federal funds has focused primarily on the use of rural Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program funds administered by the three rural counties. Differences in how the three counties approach this program pointed to the need for clarity from WSDOT Local Programs on its expectations about programming and existing flexibilities already available to local agencies in the use of these funds. This informal discussion is a chance to update our baseline understanding of the STBG funding program and get answers to questions you may have about how it works.

6. 10:50 – 11:10 **Federal Obligation Target Check-in and Additional Funding Opportunities** — DISCUSSION, *Thera Black*
   This is a check-in on the status of expected 2022 project obligations and what opportunities, if any, members have for obtaining one-time additional funding this summer from Local Programs.

7. 11:10 – 11:15 **FMSIB Request for Freight Project Funding Needs** *(Attachment)* — BRIEFING, *Thera Black*
   The Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB) requests input from cities, counties, and ports on freight projects to fund over the next three biennia. Members are asked to provide project information to PRTPO by July 11th.

7. 11:15 – 11:30 **Member Roundtable**
   This is an opportunity to share recent activities of interest to TAC members.

   11:30 **Adjourn**

NEXT TAC MEETING – July 21, 2022

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIvdeCrpzkiGtN7ahQuh1_ELe4LlVUHKx59

Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization

TAC Meeting Summary

Meeting Location:

Remote Meeting via Zoom software per Washington Governors order #20-28-15 of the Open

Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act

March 17, 2022

Attendees

Technical Advisory Committee Members

Ken Gill – City of Shelton, PRTPO TAC Chair
Steve Gray – Clallam County, TAC Vice Chair
Bek Ashby – City of Port Orchard Alternate
Chris Hammer- City of Port Orchard
Dick Taylor – Port of Shelton
Vicki Grover- City of Bremerton
Jayme Brooke – Jefferson Transit
Mike Oliver – Clallam Transit
Steffani Lillie – Kitsap Transit
Michael Bateman – City of Poulsbo
Melissa Mohr – Kitsap County
Amy Asher – Mason Transit
Jason Rowe – Mason Transit
Chris Grewell – Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Steve King – City of Port Townsend
Ted Jackson – Port of Allyn
Katie Cole – City of Sequim
Paul Hampton – City of Forks
Mark Epstein – City of Bainbridge Island
Gary Abrams – Clallam Transit Alternate
Dennis Engel – WSDOT Olympic Region
Loretta Swanson – Mason County
David Smith – Mason County

Staff/Guests

Thera Black, PRTPO Coordinator
Edward Coviello, PRTPO Coordinator
Dina Geiszler – OlyCAP
Don Willot – Sound to Olympics Trail
Casey Duff – Senator Cantwell's Office

Welcome & Introductions

TAC Chair Gill opened the meeting at 10:01 AM and initiated self-introductions.

Approval of the March 17th 2022 TAC Agenda and the January 20th TAC Meeting Minutes

The TAC approved, with a motion and seconded.

Discussion of SFY 2023 Potential Work Program Activities

Thera described the UPWP and the work upcoming. The Board is asking the TAC what additional projects may be able to be accomplished with the forecasted extra funds. In February the Board directed PRTPO staff to work with the TAC to determine the activities that can be accomplished starting in October or November.

Amy Asher of Mason Transit asked if the work would be conducted by staff or if it can be used as part of a larger project or study? Thera noted that the funds need to be spent by June 30th. With the right project and funding amount a consultant or other professional can be hired to complete the work.

Initial work program ideas include:

- Increase Resilience of Regional Transportation System
- Strategies to Increase Rural Intercity Bus Service in the Peninsula Region
- Peninsula Region Safety Planning Resources
- Innovations in Rural Transit Service Delivery
- HSTP Follow-up Activity

Loretta Swanson of Mason County indicated her support for an Olympic Region Safety Plan to measure our progress towards Project Zero goals or resilience work along U.S. Route 101.

She noted that for the next funding biennium that bundling of projects for funding may have positive benefits to the PRTPO Region by making proposals more competitive.

Mark Epstein of Bainbridge Island asked that system resilience be looked at including multi-modal options. The funds could be used to support a RAISE Grant application.

Casey Duff from Senator Cantwell's office added information about federal funding opportunities. His contact information is:

casey_duff@cantwell.senate.gov
253-441-0169

Ted Jackson expressed concern about alternate routes and the need to coordinate with property owners such as Tacoma Power, timber companies, the U.S. Forest Service, etc. Bek suggested this could be a good thing for PRTPO to support by convening a work group to begin sketching out the issues to be addressed.

Chris Grewell expressed support for rural transit services and innovation. He also supports the resilience ideas. Michael Bateman discussed that coordination of alternate routes and projects along those routes should be tackled.

Wendy Clark-Getzin suggested that PRTPO develop a model rural STBG development policy in coordination with WSDOT Local Programs.

The ideas will go to the PRTPO Executive Board in April.

2022 Construction Season Overview

Dennis Engel of WSDOT Olympic Region noted he is retiring in 2.5 months. Many TAC members expressed their displeasure with this.

He presented the 2022 projects in the Olympic Region to the TAC using a GIS map. Projects include roundabouts, fish passage barrier removals, and the Elwha River Bridge replacement. TAC Chair Gill asked about the signal replacement at Cascade Ave and SR3 in Shelton. Dennis explained that may be worked on by local maintenance crews and not listed as a new capital project.

Dennis noted the projects along the coastal highways are using design build methods for 29 projects. There are 72 fish passage projects under some level of design with more possible. The design work is being completed with WSDOT staff.

Melissa Mohr asked about projects that may be newer than August last year as she received a list of projects via GIS and noted some additional projects. Dennis was not sure but will help out on this. This was provided to improve project coordination. The TAC was asked to notify Dennis of any issues.

2022 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects Underway

The call for projects is active and applications are due in April. The PRTPO staff is available to help with questions. Kitsap County uses the Puget Sound Regional Council's process. There is about $516,000 available for the three-county area (Clallam, Jefferson and Mason counties). All tribes are eligible as well in those counties.

The May TAC meeting will consist of the review and scoring of the applications.

Local Agency Grant Activities and Resources

TAC Chair Gill spoke about WSDOT grant opportunities and methods. Thera let the TAC know that we can provide letters of support for grants at the State or Federal levels. We are more than happy to help out.

Thera will provide information on the Congressionally Directed Spending process. The deadline is in early April. Congressional staff member Duff recommends projects that are shovel ready. Project funding maximum is about 2.5 million dollars. This year's process should be smoother that last years. The projects, even if selected by the Senators, may not be funded right away given the budgeting processes complexities.

Thera asked what the fund spending window is / time constraint. Mr. Duff didn't know that there is a time limit like formula programs. The funding is written into law and has fewer deadlines than other federal funds. She asked if tribes are eligible. He noted that they are eligible. Multiple grants per jurisdiction can be applied for but must be ranked. All applications should be addressed to all of the Federal representatives.

Michael Bateman asked about guidelines for the applications and Casey Duff responded that he can help out if needed. Operations projects are also eligible.

Thera announced a grant opportunity to promote system electrification called the ZEVIP grant (Zero Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure Partnership). Energy Northwest is working on an application to add high-speed charging infrastructure to the US 101 and SR 3 corridors.

WSDOT has the new ZAP grant (Zero-emissions Access Program) which is for rural and underserved urban areas. Non-motorized applications may be accepted. The applications are due in May and, if awarded, must be spent by June 2023.

Member Updates

Members gave updates on staff retirements.

Steve Grey announced that Clallam County received 20 million dollars for broadband expansion from two grants.

Thera provided information related to some spam emails coming from her company's account and to be on the lookout for them. There has been a recent increase in spam.

Chair Gil explained that the Railroad Ave project is moving along but that the inflation has caused bids to raise a lot. He can provide some cost details for folks if needed to help set bid prices. A discussion followed about the impacts of inflation.

Adjourn

11:47 a.m.

ACTION ITEM

To: PRTPO Technical Advisory Committee
From: Edward Coviello
Date: May 19, 2022
Subject: **PRTPO Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (RTIP) Amendment – Squaxin Island Tribe**

REQUESTED ACTION:

Recommend to the Executive Board approval of the S*quaxin Island Tribe Project - Squaxin 21: SR 108 / Old Olympic Highway Safety Project,* to be included in the PRTPO 2022-2027 RTIP.

Overview

Squaxin Island Tribe has requested that the project titled "Project Squaxin 21: SR 108 / Old Olympic Highway Safety Project" be added to the PRTPO 2022-2027 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) originally approved by the PRTPO Board on October 15, 2021.

The project will complete engineering and design and construct pedestrian crossing improvements and new roundabouts to relieve congestion and address safety issues at the Old Olympic Highway/State Route 108 intersection with US 101. The project total is for $3,285,945. The funds are planned as federal funds at this time.

The project request supports Regional Transportation Plan 2040 Goal 4 – Barrier-free Transportation and Goal 9 – Environmental and Human Health.

For More Information:

Edward Coviello | 360.824.4919 | EdwardC@KitsapTransit.com

Washington State Department of Transportation

Six Year Transportation Improvement Program
From 2022 to 2027

Agency: Squaxin Island Tribe

County: Mason

MPO/RTPO: Peninsula RTPO N Inside Y Outside

Functional Class	Priority Number	A. PIN/Project No. C. Project Title D. Road Name or Number E. Begin & End Termini F. Project Description	B. STIP ID G. Structure ID	Hearing	Adopted	Amendment	Resolution No.	Improvement Type	Utility Codes	Total Length	Environmental Type	RW Required
03		SR108/Old Olympic Highway Safety Project Old Olympic Highway and SR 108 at the US 101 ramp terminals This project will complete pedestrian safety improvements and construct compact roundabouts at the US 101 ramp terminals to relieve congestion and address safety issues as called for in the Strategic Transportation Safety plan developed in coordination with WSDOT and Mason County.	Squaxin 21					38		0.020	CE	No

Funding

Status	Phase	Phase Start Year (YYYY)	Federal Fund Code	Federal Funds	State Fund Code	State Funds	Local Funds	Total Funds
P	PE	2022	Discretionary	681,834		0	0	681,834
P	CN	2022	Discretionary	2,604,111		0	0	2,604,111
			Totals	**3,285,945**		**0**	**0**	**3,285,945**

Expenditure Schedule

Phase	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th & 6th
PE	681,834	0	0	0	0
CN	2,604,111	0	0	0	0
Totals	**3,285,945**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: PRTPO Technical Advisory Committee
From: Thera Black, PRTPO Coordinator
Date: May 12, 2022
Subject: **FMSIB Request for Freight Project Funding Needs**

REQUESTED ACTION:

No action is requested. PRTPO members with interest in potential state freight funding are asked to submit project information by July 11th.

Overview

The 2021 Legislature requested a list from the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB) by December 2022 of *"the highest priority freight investments for the state"* to receive about $100 million in state funds over the next six years. This includes projects that improve freight mobility by truck, rail, or water.

FMSIB is now in the process of assembling freight project investment ideas from multiple sources, which it will then prioritize with input from stakeholders before presenting to the Legislature. It is this process of assembling a list of investment needs that PRTPO members are asked to help with. While all members are welcome to contribute project ideas, we expect this will be of primary interest to ports as well as cities and counties.

There is an Excel spreadsheet FMSIB is using to collect project information. I will send it directly to TAC members from ports in the region as well as from cities and counties. Any other members interested in contributing projects to this list are asked to contact me for the submittal spreadsheet. Local agencies are asked to submit project information to PRPTO staff by July 11th. Information will be shared with the TAC in July before being presented to the Executive Board in August for approval and submittal.

Next Steps

The FMSIB spreadsheet will be distributed with this staff memo to TAC members from ports, cities, and counties in the region, with a return due date of July 11th.

For More Information:
Thera Black | 360.878.0353 | TheraB@PeninsulaRTPO.org