

FREIGHT MOBILITY STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2011
Pasco, WA

Board members present: Ms. Pati Otley, Chair; Mr. Cliff Benson; Mr. John Creighton; Mr. Dave Edler; Mr. Terry Finn; Mr. Brian Ziegler; Mr. Larry Paulson; Mr. Dave Gossett; Mr. Paul Ingiosi; Ms. Rebecca Francik; and Mr. Brock Nelson.

WELCOME: Chair Pati Otley opened the meeting with introductions.

MINUTES: Mr. Larry Paulson moved and Mr. Dave Edler seconded the motion to adopt the March 11, 2011 minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

FMSIB BUDGET: Director Karen Schmidt reviewed the operating budget stating that FMSIB is on budget with a slight surplus. The Director explained the WSDOT, AG and Auditor costs. In reviewing the capital budget, the Director stated that some projects that are completed still appear on the project list since they have not been closed out. The UP Funds recap sheet shows the interested adjustment. The Director questioned the January interest amount on the recap and will follow up.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Director Schmidt updated the Board on the activities of the legislative session. The Transportation Budget is scheduled to be signed by the Governor on Monday, May 16, 2011. There has been discussion of a fee bill this session. The Director discussed her trip to Walla Walla and meetings with the Walla Walla and College Place city councils, the project consultant and city staff. The Myra Road project is having some difficulty and will be addressing the Board during the meeting.

The Director discussed another Executive required staff activity. Marsha Gehring has been assigned to develop a policy on Compute Trip Reduction which entails a three-hour training course.

The Director updated the Board on an invitation from the WSDOT Freight Office to participate in a study of a new freight plan. Both UP and BNSF have been invited to participate. The Board expressed concern for the need for such a study and the time required by the Board.

Director Schmidt discussed the TATS study and the potential Joint Transportation Committee briefing; the status on the ARGO project; the Granite Falls project draft letter; and the Golden Cone Award from Senate Transportation.

The Director alerted the Board to the issues for discussion at the July Workshop which will include the required report from the JTC study last interim; contracting out; hiring; and furlough days.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

Seattle Freight Board: Mr. Terry Finn reported on the status of the Seattle Freight Board and the Mayor's Complete Streets program. Mr. John Creighton commented on the Complete Streets issues.

PSRC: Mr. Cliff Benson reported that the last PSRC meeting was cancelled; and the PSRC Executive Board directed a committee of PSRC to evaluate land use planning. Mr. Benson and Mr. Gossett explained the increase members to PSRC Executive Board.

Joint Port of Seattle Commission and Port of Moses Lake Meeting – Mr. Creighton reported on a follow-up meeting of the Port of Seattle with the Port of Moses Lake; and the global aspect of the national league of cities.

ARGO Project – Mr. Brock Nelson reported on the progress at UP on the ARGO project. Mr. Nelson stated that it is accurate to say there are some snarls. They are having internal meetings at UP. UP realizes that drastic changes in the project can hinder the project as a whole.

Snohomish County – Mr. Dave Gossett reported on a project by Snohomish County to establish a framework for projects. FMSIB Board member Steve Holtgeerts will serve on the panel working this issue.

PROJECT UPDATES: Director Schmidt discussed the status and recommendations on all active FMSIB projects for the Board's consideration.

The Director reviewed the status on Lincoln Avenue Grade Separation which will be completed later this month with a delayed the ribbon cutting for a year due to a temporary closing of the bridge for a city project; the Yakima Grade Separation delayed 5 months is now on track to be completed November 2011; Havana Street is scheduled to be completed with the dedication this fall; Strander Blvd received additional funding from the Legislature; 70th Avenue portion of the 70th and Valley project is complete; the Port of Tacoma Road Interchange Project will be coming to the Board meeting in July for action by the Board; and Freya Street Bridge is completed and has returned \$600,000 to FMSIB which can be allocated to other projects.

The Board took action on the following projects:

Project #20 – North Canyon Road, Pierce County - Mr. Gossett moved and Ms. Francik seconded the motion to move the project to the deferred list. Mr. Ziegler abstained. ***MOTION CARRIED***

Project #35 – S. 228th Street, Kent – Mr. Ziegler moved and Ms. Francik seconded the motion to approve the City of Kent's request to extend the funding until March of 2012. ***MOTION CARRIED***

Project #48 – Bigelow Gulch, Spokane County – Mr. Ziegler moved and Ms Francik seconded the motion to follow the Director's recommendation to move the funds to the 2011-13 biennium.

MOTION CARRIED

Project #53 – Canyon Road North, Pierce County – Mr. Gossett moved and Ms. Francik seconded the motion to move the project to the deferred list. Mr. Ziegler abstained. ***MOTION CARRIED***

Project #54 – Granite Falls, Snohomish County – Mr. Ziegler moved and Ms. Francik seconded the motion to confirm the contribution of \$5M to the project. Mr. Gossett abstained. ***MOTION CARRIED***

Project #59 – S. 212th Street, Kent – Mr. Ziegler moved and Ms. Francik seconded the motion to accept the City of Kent's request to extend the funds until the spring of 2012. ***MOTION CARRIED***

Project #60 – Willis Street, Kent – Mr. Ziegler moved and Ms. Francik seconded the motion to accept the City of Kent’s request to extend the funds until the spring of 2012. **MOTION CARRIED**

Project #67 – Green River Valley, Renton – Mr. Ziegler moved and Ms Francik seconded the motion that the funds be moved from the current biennium to the 2011-13 biennium. **MOTION CARRIED**

Project #73 – East Marginal Way Diagonal/ARGO Gates, Seattle – Mr. Gossett moved and Ms. Francik seconded the motion to authorize a conference call in the month of May or June to make a decision on the project with a qualifying statement that if everything comes together the conference call may not be needed. **MOTION CARRIED**

MYRA ROAD: Mr. Nabiel Shawa, WallaWalla City Manager; Councilman Jerry Cummins; Ki Bealey, Public Works Director, and Neal Chavre, Interim City Engineer, presented the status on the Myra Road Project and distributed a handout. Mr. Shawa opened the discussion, and Mr. Chavre discussed the historical and background on the other transportation projects leading up to the current project. Mr. Chavre discussed the recent activities on the project and indicated the WallaWalla City Council and the College Place City Council will be reconvening to discuss the project and decide how to proceed. Mr. Chavre discussed the funding on the project.

Mr. Bealey identified the problems with the project and the recommendations that will be presented to the two councils. Mr. Bealey stated that they have a clear path on where they want to go with the project. Mr. Bealey displayed maps showing the current project as it stands today.

Councilman Cummins outlined the connectivity between SR 125 and Highway 12. Councilman Cummins discussed the goals of the project to remove truck traffic off 9th and concentrate on moving freight through WallaWalla.

Project #71 – Myra Road/Military Road, WallaWalla – Mr. Ziegler moved and Mr. Gossett seconded the motion that the Board defer the decision on the pending actions by the WallaWalla and College Place councils to the September Board meeting with an amended language “if they haven’t reached an agreement.”

MOTION CARRIED

TRICITIES FREIGHT MOVEMENT: Mr. Mark Kusher, Benton-Franklin COG; Stan Stribbel, City of Pasco; Mr. Dennis Piatek, ConAgra Foods; Malcom Bowie, Benton County; and Randy Hayden, Port of Pasco. Issues of freight movement in and through the TriCity area was discussed and projects both past and future to assist in freight movement were outlined.

RIVER TRANSPORT UPDATE: Mr. Jim Toomey, Executive Director, Port of Pasco, gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Columbia Snake River system and the 10-year plan.

FUTURE MEETINGS: Mr. Creighton moved and Mr. Edler seconded the motion that the next FMSIB Board meeting be held in Suquamish, WA on July 15, 2011.

MOTION CARRIED

PROJECT FUNDING: Mr. Ziegler discussed the Active Project list and the funding which uses up most of the FMSIB dollars. There is \$42M in unfunded needs. Mr. Ziegler emphasized the need for new projects for new monies. Mr. Ziegler recommended another Call for Projects in 2011.

Mr. Ziegler moved and Mr. Edler seconded the motion to have staff initiate a Call for Projects for this year.

MOTION CARRIED

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:05 PM.



Pati Otley
Chair



Attest: Karen Schmidt
Executive Director