

FREIGHT MOBILITY STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

November 22, 2024 • 9:00 am – 1:00 pm • Anacortes, WA

<https://tww.org/watch/?eventID=2024111056>

In Attendance

BOARD MEMBERS

Temple Lentz, Chair

Leonard Barnes

Peter Bennett

Jason Biggs Designee for Roger Millar

Johan Hellman

John McCarthy

Anne McEnery-Ogle

Art Swannack

Phil Wallace

Not Present:

Al French

Erik Hansen

Ben Wick

Aaron Hunt Ex officio

FMSIB STAFF

Brandy DeLange, Executive Director

Fred Wenhardt, Planning Specialist

Sally See, Executive Assistant

GUEST

PRESENTERS

Jay Drye, WSDOT Local Programs

Alex Marach, CPCS

John Eggers, STV

Brett Greenwood, Port of Anacortes

Brian Murphy, BERK

Julia Tesch, BERK

Meeting Convenes

Chair Lentz convened the meeting at 9:05 am.

Chair Lentz requested that Board members, FMSIB staff, and guests introduce themselves.

Public Comment

Chair Lentz asked if anyone would like to share any public comment.

No one stepped forward.

Approve Truck Parking Implementation Plan Transmittal Letter

Chair Lentz introduced Donald Ludlow, Vice President of CPCS.

Mr. Egger introduced colleague *Alex Marach*, who will be assisting in the presentation today. Together they addressed the attached PowerPoint presentation.

Commissioner McCarthy expressed his concern that there may not be a quorum of members attending this meeting. It was determined by Chair Lentz that of the 12 active Board members, nine were present, constituting a quorum.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle moved to approve the Truck Parking Implementation Plan. *Mr. Bennett* seconded.

MOTION APPROVED

(See attachment: Truck Parking Implementation Plan PowerPoint.)

Approve Six-Year Investment Program Transmittal

Director DeLange spoke to the FMSIB Six-Year Investment Program's Transmittal letter.

Commissioner McCarthy moved to accept the Six-Year Implementation Program's Transmittal letter as updated in the attached document. *Mayor McEnerny-Ogle* seconded.

MOTION APPROVED

(See attachment: Six-Year Implementation Program Draft Transmittal letter.)

Approve Changes to FMSIB Committee Structure

Chair Lentz addressed the proposed general admin changes to Board meetings, as well as FMSIB committee names and duties. This is an attempt to proceed with our Board meetings more smoothly and efficiently.

Director DeLange reviewed the specifics of each proposed change, as well as informing the Board that Parliamentary 101 training will be scheduled for a future Board meeting. Additionally, all future Special Board meetings will be recorded, following state retention requirements. Currently the regular Board meetings are recorded on TVW. A consent agenda will also be utilized to help to make Board meetings move more efficiently.

Commissioner McCarthy moved to adopt recording of Special Board meetings and adding the possibility of a Consent Agenda when it helps to move the Board meetings more efficiently as outlined above. *Mayor McEnerny-Ogle* seconded.

MOTION APPROVED

Proposed Committee changes for consideration:

Establish a Six-Year Investment standing subcommittee: The Six-Year Investment committee would be charged with reviewing and providing feedback to staff on recommendations made to update the Six-Year Investment Program including project applications, scoring criteria, project applicant engagement, and project selection. The committee will also provide strategic guidance and feedback on emerging freight mobility issues. This committee would meet monthly following the adoption of the Six-Year Investment Program by the Legislature.

Establish an ad hoc New Board Member Onboarding Committee (Onboarding Committee): The Onboarding Committee would be charged with welcoming new Board Members to FMSIB. Committee members would provide an overview of FMSIB's strategic goals, be available to answer questions, and act as a resource for new members as they become acquainted with FMSIB.

Dissolve the New Directions Committee: The function of this committee is no longer needed. Studies reviewed by the New Directions Committee will be delivered to the Legislature by December 1. FMSIB is not requesting funding for new studies in the 2025-2025. Staff will seek guidance from the FMSIB Board for future studies or initiatives.

Rename the Administrative Committee to the Executive Committee. Aligning moniker with other governing bodies/boards.

New Committee outlines will take place during the June Workshop to be held in Wenatchee.

Commissioner McCarthy moved to adopt Committee Structure changes as outlined above. Mayor McEnerny-Ogle seconded.

MOTION APPROVED

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Note: Board discussed the minutes from October 10th. Minutes contain a motion that did not identify individuals that made the motion. It was determined that whoever made the motion does not affect the resulting work. The motion had been voted on and passed by the entire Board. Whomever made the motion does not affect the motion itself.

Commissioner Swannack moved to accept the Board meeting minutes for September 6, September 24, and October 10, 2024. Mr. Bennett seconded.

MOTION APPROVED

Board Chair Report

Chair Lentz noted that she did not have any additional items outside of the agenda and asked Director DeLange to present her Director's Report and the rundown on the Operating Budget.

FMSIB Operating Budget

Director DeLange reviewed the operating budget spreadsheet for the Board stating that FMSIB is in good financial shape moving forward. She noted that things in 2025 may change due to the Governor's future budget cut requests.

(See attachments: FMSIB Operating Budget Spreadsheet)

Executive Director Report

Director DeLange presented the new business cards made with new logo and asked that they let the Executive Assistant know if they would like some made for them as Board members.

She noted that staff is working to put together the 2025 FMSIB Annual Report for the Legislature in folio form. Members will have the opportunity to share these during their Legislative meetings on the Hill in January illustrating activities by the FMSIB Board over the last year.

She noted that she will be working to update the FMSIB WACs with the help of staff from CRAB as FMSIB has not updated this for several years.

Work is being done to complete correspondence that is going to project applicants so that each local agency is aware of what's being recommended by FMSIB for Legislative consideration.

FMSIB Capital Budget Report

Chair Lentz requested that Jay Drye, Director of Local Programs, WSDOT address the FMSIB Capital Budget.

Mr. Drye addressed the attached FMSIB Capital Budget Spreadsheet included in the Board packet. He addressed each project's current status that had been awarded during previous Legislative sessions.

(See attachment: Capital Budget Spreadsheet.)

Board Member Reports

Chair Lentz asked Board members to provide information relevant to FMSIB.

Mr. Bennett asked what will be done by FMSIB to continue to learn about 6PPDQ (presentation was given on this subject at the Workshop on the 21st), as well as the future of EVs.

Director DeLange informed the Board that FMSIB will continue to follow up on changes or updates to the 6PPDQ. There is a lawsuit currently in California that may have some bearing on how Washington will be approaching this important issue. Director DeLange will be personally following this issue and others like it and will be reporting back to the Board. The same efforts will be made regarding the future of EVs. She also stated that as FMSIB Director

she will be tracking any Legislation that may affect FMSIB, and she would be reporting that to the Board.

Commissioner McCarthy suggested that FMSIB keep track of projects that were recommended to the Legislature and approved so that the Board is aware of any delays that may be happening.

Director DeLange noted that now that FMSIB has a Transportation Planner onboard, much more follow up with the Local Agencies and WSDOT regarding these projects will occur. She also suggested that during the Day-on-the-Hill, Members bring up these concerns so that our Legislators are aware.

Mr. Biggs presented an update on WSDOT operations. During the current winter operations. Significant importance has been given by WSDOT to work closely with trucking and travel issues that include the importance of the use of chains where needed, particularly while driving through our passes. For the recent release of Washington's revenue forecast, it appears that Transportation nationwide has a \$2B shortfall in funding for the next ten years, starting with the coming biennium. Even the General Fund is short by \$10 - \$12B for next four years. WSDOT is also waiting for decisions on transportation funding from the new Governor-Elect. They're working closely with the Governor's office moving forward.

Commissioner Swannack noted that last week was WSAC's annual conference for all Commissioners, Council Members, Engineers, and others. He did speak to the group regarding the open FMSIB seats and encouraged those with an interest to apply quickly with the Governor's office. CRAB is moving forward to request funding from our state for local roads that are not getting help from the state or federal governments.

Director DeLange noted that she had the opportunity to present to WSAC Board regarding what FMSIB is currently doing. She also spread the word about the vacant FMSIB Board positions. We're also looking to replace our Heavy Construction seat as Commissioner Wallace is stepping down effective the end of December 1, 2024.

Chair Lentz thanked Commissioner Wallace for his service.

Mr. Barnes asked for a list of open seats and what role they'll be expected to play for FMSIB.

Director DeLange listed those seats that are currently open. FMSIB has six vacancies on the Board. She also noted that it's important for the Board to spread the word regarding these vacancies.

Chair Lentz provided an update on the Interstate Bridge Project. Public Comment deadline came and went, so the committee is reviewing the 3000+ comments that came in from individuals and different agencies. Project is still hoping for decisions to be made in order to move forward by the end of 2025.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle stated that the committee is requesting that all decisions be made by September 8, 2025, so that the project can move forward to "shoveling the dirt", with much happening in 2026.

Commissioner McCarthy noted that during the 2025 Legislative Session, a new Attorney General will be coming into office. FMSIB is assigned a Deputy Attorney General. He would like to see that person at a future Board meeting so that the Board will have an opportunity to meet them

Director DeLange agreed with this action. Currently the AG's office is in transition, so tracking down the Deputy AG assigned to FMSIB is in flux. As soon as their office makes some decisions regarding their staff, she will propose that that person introduce themselves to the Board during a future Board meeting and provide any news of changes for our Board.

Mr. Bennett asked about the work being done on the road usage change (RUC) and what the trucking position is on this.

Director DeLange stated that she's been keeping up on the issues. In most RUC models, heavy-duty trucks have not be included in the rollout of the charge. Most RUC attempts begin slowly and ramp up as time moves forward. There is a lot of conversation on this regarding how and when the State could implement this program. Revenues from a RUC will be slow to offset the decline in gas tax.

Note: WiFi was lost, so a short break was taken until it was re-established.

Unscheduled presentations from the Port of Anacortes

FMSIB's agenda allowed time for an extra presentation. *Executive Director Brett Greenwood* and his *Manager Brenda* were able to share an update regarding the Port of Anacortes that had originally been presented to Senator Maria Cantwell.

(See attachment: Port of Anacortes Presentation.)

Next Day-on-the-Hill and Board Meeting

Commissioner Swannack moved to Affirm that the next Day-on-the-Hill will be held on January 16th and Board meeting will be held on January 17th, 2025 in Olympia, WA. Commissioner McCarthy seconded.

MOTION APPROVED

Overburdened Communities Best Practices Study

Chair Lentz re-introduced Brian Murphy, Principal of BERK Consultant Services and Julia Tesch, Senior Assistant.

Mr. Murphy, assisted by Ms. Tesch, reviewed the attached Overburdened Communities Best Practices presentation. Ms. Tesch also demonstrated the Overburdened Communities Mapping Tool, Case Studies, Study Board that will be accessible on the FMSIB website once ready to go.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle requested that the designation of "Second Largest City" be removed from the City of Vancouver. BERK agreed to follow through on that request.

Mr. Bennett moved to approve the Overburdened Communities Best Practices Study as written, accompanied by the cover letter presented here. Commissioner Swannack seconded.

MOTION CARRIED

(See attachments: *Overburdened Communities Best Practices Study presentation.*)

Mr. Bennett has asked that the BERK presentation be presented to Joint Transportation Board (JTC).

Director DeLange thought that this would be a good idea, although the contract with BERK does expire at the end of December, she will speak with JTC about getting this on their agenda.

Meeting Adjourned

Chair Lentz adjourned the meeting at 1:01 pm.

Summary of Board Motions:

- 1) Motion to approve the Truck Parking Implementation Plan. Motion Carried. (Page 2)
- 2) Motion to approve the Six-Year Implementation Plan Transmittal. Motion Carried. (Page 2)
- 3) Motion to approve Committee Structure Changes. Motion Carried (Page 2)
- 4) Motion to accept Board meeting minutes for September 6, September 24, and October 10, 2024. Motion Carried. (Page 3)
- 5) Motion to approve the Overburdened Communities Best Practices Study as written, accompanied by the cover letter presented here. Motion Carried. (Page 6)
- 6) Affirmation of next Day-on-the-Hill on January 16, 2025 and Board meeting January 17, 2025, in Olympia, WA. Motion Carried. (Page 6)



Temple Lentz
Board Chair



Attest: Brandy DeLange
Executive Director