

SUQUAMISH COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 4, 2024

In person only – Suquamish Police Classroom
18490 Suquamish Way, Room 118B

Suquamish Board Members Present:

Tom Curley
Patty Charnas
Erin Bischaff
Martha Burke
Brynn Felix
Bruce McCain
Ed Mullaney
Steve Warnert

Quorum: Yes

Kitsap County Staff: Alex Jarrett, Administrative Specialist, County Commissioners Office

David Forte, Public Works, Kitsap County

Community Members:

James Dean – Suquamish Police Dept.
Lynn Schorn
Stuart Scadron-Wattles

Meeting Called to Order: 6:35 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

Opening Items

1. *Land Acknowledgement*

2. *Approval of March meeting minutes.* The March minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business

1. *Traffic in Suquamish.* **Sgt. James Dean** from the Suquamish Police Dept. gave a report on traffic conditions in Suquamish. There were 127 traffic stops last month. The Dept. has initiated an effort at better enforcement to respond to the concerns of the community, partly just by being very visible in their cars at critical intersections. The

machines that show a car's speed do work, he said, but their batteries can wear out, or they sometimes get stolen. A lot of the Police Dept.'s "business" in terms of such things as DUIs comes from the Casino according to Sgt. Dean. He noted that they now have three new positions, one marine and two land based, plus they are looking for a new police chief. The Dept. is very selective in their recruiting, but that ensures the quality of those they hire. Due to the MOU the Tribe has with the State, Tribal police can respond to calls and events, although the County can take over an investigation if it involves non-Tribal suspects.

2. *Bicycle Safety.* **Lynn Shorn** from Port Gamble presented her idea for "Share the Road" signs on key streets in North Kitsap, and maybe to also decrease the MPH on rural roads to something like 35 MPH. Patty Charnas said that on Bainbridge all roads are 35 MPH everywhere except SR 305. The idea of adding "traffic calming" structures was brought up and David Forte said that Christine DeGeus (cdegeus@kitsap.gov) is the County staff person in charge of traffic calming projects. He said that road signs are not that effective and gave the example of Gunderson where the speed changes three times in just a few miles, making it difficult for people to notice. He said that the County has 913 miles of center lane roads that connect commuters. These roads have a higher priority but often cannot be expanded because of topography, use, or the environment. They do have a study to look at SR 305 to Gunderson to begin, but not until 2028.

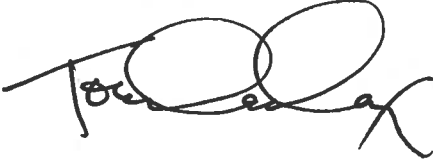
3. *Transportation Improvement Plan.* **David Forte** provided some maps showing where the County has identified severe traffic injuries and collisions in Kitsap. Besides the cluster of such collisions in the Silverdale area, there was a cluster in the area around Suquamish. He then discussed the process for developing the Transportation Improvement Plan or TIP. There are 108 projects on the list. The first three years are funded and the second three years are close to funding. Possible funding sources include the PSRC Rural Contracts, and the State Bi-ped Grant. The County does further analysis on the first half of the list, and they add in other projects that are suggested by the community. David said Suquamish can suggest projects to include; we should describe the need, and if possible, suggestions for how to address it. This prompted a discussion in the group of various projects to propose:

- Sidewalk on Division from the light to Old Man Park
- Winfred and Augusta – make it one-way so you can't enter Augusta from Winfred
- Improve and expand shoulders on Miller Bay Road
- Speed tables on Augusta
- Add street light at Winfred
- Problem with traffic at Brockton and Columbia
- Deer sign at Totten

Public Comment & Good of the Order

- The Suquamish Cleanup will be Saturday, April 20, from 9:00-12:00. Meet at the United Church of Christ, Division and Geneva.
- Alex shared a list of "Points of Interest" pertaining to the Comprehensive Plan Update (attached)

The next meeting will be on May 2 at 6:30 at the Police Classroom.

~~APPROVED~~: 

6 JUNE 2024