

## **Minutes – Kitsap County Non-Motorized Facilities Community Advisory Committee**

**July 15, 2025 – Kitsap County Public Works Building, Port Orchard**

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Members Absent:</b>
Janet Kidd (Chair)	Rick Feeney
Brian Watson (Vice Chair)	
Nathan Menefee	
Deborah Weinmann	
Jessy Osterloh	
Scott Satter	
Jess Chandler	

### **Public Works Staff Present:**

- David Forte
- Melissa Mohr

### **Guests/Public:**

- Matthew Oxford, Project Manager, Kitsap County Public Works
- Laura Shabe

### **Approval of Previous Minutes:**

- Brian Watson moved to approve the minutes from the May 2025 meeting. Jessy seconded. The May 2025 meeting minutes were approved as amended without objection.

**Public Comment:** Laura Shabe addressed the committee regarding vegetation management in travel lanes. Ms. Shabe reported submitting concerns through SeeClickFix about plants planted years ago (after 2018) that are encroaching on Twin Spits NE, Mountainview (Hansville). She noted there is no place to step off the travel lane and no unimproved shoulder, creating unsafe conditions where she has been run off the road and grazed by cars. She has not received a written response to her concerns and requested information about the process for addressing such issues.

David Forte indicated he had forwarded the information to maintenance and provided an explanation regarding the property ownership of shoulders along roads.

Committee members Jessy Osterloh, Scott Satter, and Janet Kidd agreed that this is not an isolated issue and recommended better understanding vegetation rules at a future meeting.

## **Discussion Items:**

### **1. Tracyton Stormwater Project - Bicycle Lane Considerations**

Matthew Oxford presented information about the intersection of Bucklin Hill and Tracyton, where a stormwater treatment center with bioswales and a pocket park concept is being installed. Traffic engineers determined bicycle lanes would need to be provided, proposing:

12-foot travel lane

5-foot bicycle lane

MUTCD Figure 9c-4 configuration with bike lane between turn lane and travel lane

#### **Committee Discussion:**

- Jess Chandler noted she frequently bikes through the area to the transit center and suggested considering a shared-use path through the pocket park instead
- Jessy Osterloh proposed enlarging the existing sidewalk to create a shared-use path
- Brian Watson suggested a generously wide sidewalk (6-7 feet or more), noting the uphill eastbound travel impacts on cyclists and traffic. He recommended adding green crosswalk markings in the mixing zone.
- Matthew Oxford clarified that Kitsap County hasn't adopted optional green markings from the State design standards. The only other county location with green markings is in Kingston for a unique counter-flow situation.
- Jess Chandler emphasized that Ridgetop is very difficult to bike on, making Bucklin Hill her preferred route to the transit center.
- Scott Satter mentioned an alternate neighborhood route that avoids the hill and intersection but is likely on private property.
- Brian Watson noted the need to address the gap where the bike lane disappears by Menards and improve connectivity.
- Matthew Oxford thanked the committee for their feedback.

### **2. Anderson Hill Traffic Study**

David Forte reported that non-motorized facilities are the primary identified need in the study. While congestion may not reach problematic levels of service, safety remains a concern. The standard approach would include 5-foot bike lanes and 6-foot sidewalks on both sides, but railroad constraints present challenges as the Navy owns the bridge and can supersede local needs. Public Works is considering a shared path on the north side due to development in that area.

### **Committee Discussion:**

- Jess Chandler expressed confidence going downhill but concerns about uphill travel, noting a false shoulder on the uphill section. She bikes or runs on the road daily.
- Brian Watson raised concerns about the Sirocco intersection, particularly how a shared-use path would work for downhill cyclists on the north side. He worried about children using shared paths being least prepared for dangers and suggested eastbound cyclists use the downhill lane with sharrows and "bikes may use full lane" signage.
- Jess Chandler noted traffic buildup during school operations due to buses. David confirmed the study incorporated school traffic and acknowledged design limitations under the highway underpass.
- Brian Watson referenced similarities to the Finn Hill Road project
- Jess Chandler inquired whether only the north path option would be considered. David explained that insufficient receivers on the south side make it cost-prohibitive, and double tunnels wouldn't be financially viable.
- Jess Chandler asked about the potential development between the 76 station and the church as an opportunity to get off the road.
- Brian Watson asked about powerline right-of-way opportunities running north-south, noting his changed perspective after experiencing the Cushman Trail near Gig Harbor.
- David Forte noted that Public Works looks at the development opportunities, but may not need the entire route usage. He emphasized wanting to add this to the future TIP but noted extremely limited current funding. The traffic study is not yet complete, and solutions won't be proposed until January when submissions go to the Central Kitsap Citizens Advisory Committee.

### **3. Meetings with County Commissioners Regarding Resolution 053-2025**

**Commissioner Root Meeting (Janet Kidd's Report):** Commissioner Root was very receptive to committee concerns and appreciated the planning efforts for park development. He acknowledged not realizing the full picture and asked about the process for rescinding the resolution, stating he would look into it. He had not visited the park but was receptive to a future visit.

**Commissioner Walters Meeting (Janet Kidd's Report):** Commissioner Walters immediately dismissed the importance of the passed resolution despite its language. Janet clarified this was not the committee's understanding nor Public Works' understanding, and requested to be kept informed of developments.

- David Forte noted Parks is conducting a wildlife study, and nothing can move forward outside the parking lot and D1 segment until completion. There are concerns about bears or wildcats in the area. David noted that the resolution clearly states not to continue work, and Public Works is not positioned to advance anything currently. Before the resolution, Public Works lacked commissioner consensus on how to proceed and needed clarity on support for completing segments, surfacing, timing, and engineering design to pursue grants and construction bids.
- Brian Watson expressed surprise at Commissioner Rolfes' comment that the trail didn't need to meet ADA standards and could be unpaved.
- Janet Kidd sensed potential for coalition building to consider a gravel path option.
- David Forte referenced an ADA-compliant trail in Illahee improved by stewards.
- Janet Kidd stated she would circle back with Commissioner Walters on her understanding of the resolution.

#### **Member and Staff Update:**

- Melissa Mohr announced that this would be her last meeting due to an upcoming relocation to Japan. The committee thanked her for all of her support and wished her the best of luck on the move to Japan.

#### **Adjournment:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 19:06.