

Skagit County Planning Commission’s Recorded Motion Recommending Approval of the 2015-2020 Skagit County Capital Facilities Plan and Transportation Improvement Program

Proposal publish date:	September 4, 2014
Proposal name:	2015-2020 Capital Facilities Plan and Transportation Improvement Program
Documents available at:	www.skagitcounty.net/cfp
Public hearing body:	Skagit County Planning Commission
Public hearing date:	Tuesday, September 23, 2014, at 6 p.m.
Written comment deadline:	Thursday, September 25, 2014, at 4:30 p.m.
PC deliberations:	October 7 and 21, 2014

After considering the written and spoken comments and considering the record before it, the Planning Commission enters the following findings of fact, reasons for action, and recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners.

Findings of Fact and Reasons for Action

1. RCW 36.70A.070(3) requires that a Comprehensive Plan include a capital facilities planning element that provides an inventory of publicly-owned capital facilities, forecast of future needs, identification of the location and capacity of expanded or new facilities, a six-year financing plan for additional projects necessary to support development, and a requirement to reevaluate the land use element if the financing falls short of meeting existing needs. The statute further provides that park and recreation facilities must be included in the capital facilities plan element.
2. WAC 365-196-415(2)(a)(iv) recommends a jurisdiction “periodically” review and update its inventory, at least at every periodic comprehensive plan update.
3. WAC 365-196-415(2)(c)(ii) recommends a jurisdiction update its six-year financing plan at least biennially.
4. Skagit County’s most recent update of its Capital Facilities Plan was the 2014-2019 plan.
5. The proposed Skagit County 2015-2020 Capital Facilities Plan improves upon the 2014-2019 plan with an updated inventory, needs assessment, and six-year financing plan, and by incorporating the most-recent draft of the Transportation Improvement Program.

6. The proposed Plan appears consistent with GMA requirements for capital facilities planning described in RCW 36.70A.070, the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan, and the Countywide Planning Policies, and supports the requirements of SCC Chapter 14.28, Concurrency.
7. RCW 36.81.121 requires a County to adopt a “comprehensive transportation program for the ensuing six calendar years” consistent with the comprehensive plan that “shall include any new or enhanced bicycle or pedestrian facilities identified pursuant to RCW 36.70A.070(6) or other applicable changes that promote nonmotorized transit.”
8. The Transportation Improvement Program is incorporated by reference into the Capital Facilities Plan to fulfill the requirement for the CFP to address transportation.
9. The proposed Plan includes the County’s best efforts to incorporate capital facilities information from special purpose districts throughout the County.
10. The role of the Planning Commission in reviewing the Capital Facilities Plan (and its Transportation Improvement Program component) is to help the county plan for capital facilities and public services to be provided to support development at the time development occurs.
11. Some additional revisions to the proposed Plan could improve the presentation and readability, e.g. trailing single lines at the tops of columns and other layout issues.

Recommendation

The Planning Commission recommends that the Board of County Commissioners **adopt** the proposed Capital Facilities Plan and Transportation Improvement Program with the following changes:

1. Delete the line for the Worksource building from the inventory table on page 14.
2. Rename “Old Jail” to “Public Safety Building” (its formal name) in the projects table on page 15.
3. Correct totals in the project table on page 15.
4. Review carefully the need for the PSB heat exchanger project on page 15; evaluate the need based on condition, not just age.
5. Rename “Worksource remodel” item on page 15 to “Remodel newly-acquired or existing space to accommodate termination of Community Services leased space.”
6. Include 2014 facilities that were planned and financed in the 2014-2019 Capital Facilities Plan update.
7. Include county employee trend data comparable across years.

8. Consider inclusion of an evaluation of maintenance and lifecycle costs associated with county-owned capital facilities, including transportation facilities.
9. Include a summary table of projects and revenues in the TIP.
10. Clarify how the TIP projects fit within the County's Priority Array and include description of how the Priority Array is developed.

The Planning Commission considered a recommendation to remove the two Cascade Trail paving projects from the Transportation Improvement Program, with significant discussion about the lack of definition about the project, ongoing adverse impacts, maintenance costs of trails, public education of trail users about respect for adjoining property owners, safety concerns about trails, impervious surface, and competing uses (e.g. equestrian uses). The discussion ended in a 3-3 tie vote with one abstention.

Approved October 21, 2014:

Commission Vote	Support	Oppose	Absent	Abstain
Annie Lohman, Chair	✓			
Josh Axthelm, Vice Chair	✓			
Keith Greenwood	✓			
Dave Hughes			✓	
Matt Mahaffie			✓	
Kathy Mitchell	✓			
Kevin Meenaghan	✓			
Tammy Candler	✓			
Robert Temples	✓			
Total	7	0	2	0

SKAGIT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Annie Lohman, Chair

10-21-2014
Date


Dale Pernula, Secretary

10/21/14
Date