

**KITTITAS COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES STUDY SESSION MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109
Regular Meeting**

MONDAY

1:30 PM

September 23, 2024

Board members present: Chairman Brett Wachsmith, Vice Chairman Laura Osiadacz, and Commissioner Cory Wright.

Others: Josh Fredrickson, Cameron Curtis, Reid Burbank, Rebecca Cruse, Public Works; Chad Bala, Jessica Miller, Community Development Services; Stephanie Hartung, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; 2 members of the public.

At 1:30 PM Chairman Brett Wachsmith opened the Public Works and Community Development Services Study Session.

Citizen Comments- Pat Kelleher shared a photo of a wrecked vehicle and comments on the No.6 Road and Kittitas Highway intersection. Pat Kelleher expressed a lack of urgency of the county to remove arborvitae, approved removal of the shrubs, and stated the fence is still in the right of way.

2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DOCKET UPDATE

Chad Bala briefed the Board of County Commissioners on items presented to the Planning Commission and on October 23, 2024, items will be presented to the Board for consideration.

ANNUAL ROAD PLAN UPDATE

Cameron Curtis briefed the Board of County Commissioners on requirements for submissions to CRAB in the past and that the agency has updated some reporting requirements thus the timeline is shorter than in the past. Cameron Curtis stated CRAB has demonstrated flexibility in the past for budget related constraints to projects.

UPPER COUNTY NON-HOLIDAY WEEKEND SPEED STUDY RESULTS

Cameron Curtis shared with the Board of County Commissioners an update as requested from August to include non-holiday traffic data for Westside Road, Nelson Siding Road, Mohar Road, and Bullfrog Road. Commissioner Cory Wright stated he observed travel on the county roads bypassing I-90 and the lowering of speed limit in the past didn't alleviate the issues as speeding/driver behavior is unmanaged and without enforcement. Vice Chair Laura Osiadacz reiterated that these roads were not designed for the level of heavy traffic experienced during the weekend and working to solve this situation from many angles.

NO.6 ROAD AND KITTITAS HIGHWAY INTERSECTION STUDY UPDATE

Josh Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on request received to lower the speed limit on No.6 Road and Kittitas Highway and staff have been monitoring data. Josh Fredrickson stated the

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APPROVED
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speeds have remained similar and the improvements made at the intersection of No.6 Road and Kittitas Highway include lighted signage in October 2023, painted stop bar in April 2024, and in August 2024 removal of shrubs in the NE corner that were partially in the 60ft right of way. Josh Fredrickson stated the data shows the recent wrecks have been drivers failing to stop on No. 6 Road and a reduction in wrecks. Staff is still resolving the fence in right of way by allowing owners opportunity to salvage the fence before removal. The Board directed staff for an update on the cost for installation of blinking overhead light at the intersection.

ROAD LEVY LIFT UPDATE

Josh Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the current Road Fund Levy Lift Proposition 1 on the ballot and stated the levy currently is .77 cents per \$1000 assessed value and the Road Fund Levy Lift presented to voters is asking for an additional .24 cents per \$1000 for a total of \$1.01 per \$1000. Josh Fredrickson stated the purpose is to maintain the current level of service on county roads and continue with the county's ability to obtain grant funding for road projects. Josh Fredrickson presented outreach material and frequently asked questions and stated that info mailers will be prepared by CONSOR, Vice Chairman Laura Osiadacz asked that the information presented to voters be reviewed by legal to remain unbiased.

BROADBAND PLANNING UPDATE- BEAD

Josh Fredrickson requested the Board of County Commissioners direct staff on the continuation of Broadband expansion. Josh Fredrickson shared a presentation detailing the needs for service providers, including a provider that meets the capability, project area analysis and financial assessment. Josh Fredrickson stated there is a very short turnaround time for BEAD applications of 60 days to finalize application from initiation. The Board of County Commissioners supported moving forward with the Broadband expansion to unserved and underserved broadband serviceable location areas in the county.

Meeting concluded at 2:12 PM

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



**Rebecca Cruse, Administrative
Assistant**



Brett Wachsmith, Chairman