

**KITTITAS COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS STUDY SESSION MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109
Special Meeting**

MONDAY

1:30 PM

APRIL 27, 2026

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

Others: Joshua Fredrickson, Arden Thomas, Lisa Godden, Public Works; Stephanie Hartung, Kittitas County Prosecutor's Office; One member of the public.

At 1:30 PM Vice Chairman Brett Wachsmith opened the Public Works Study Session.

NO CITIZEN COMMENTS

APPROVE A NOTICE OF CALL FOR SEALED BIDS FOR THE BOWERS FIELD HANGAR TAXILANE COMPLEX PROJECT

Joshua Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners regarding the Bowers Field Hangar Taxilane Complex Project. He advised the project area is located south of the T-hangars between the DNR building and the CWU main hangar and has been identified in the airport master plan and airport layout plan for future hangar development. Joshua Fredrickson stated the design is complete and staff is requesting approval of a Notice of Call for Sealed Bids to proceed with construction during summer 2026.

Joshua Fredrickson reported the project is funded at 95% through the Federal Aviation Administration, with a 5% local match. He further advised the County applied for a Washington State Department of Transportation Aviation grant to assist with one-half of the local match. He stated the estimated project cost is approximately \$890,000 to \$950,000, bids were expected to be opened on May 21, 2026, and construction was anticipated to be completed by mid to late fall 2026.

Commissioner Laura Osiadacz motioned for Public Works to prepare the enabling documents, Vice Chairman Brett Wachsmith seconded the Motion.

Motion passed.

APPROVED

5/5/2026

HUNGRY JUNCTION ROAD PROJECT CIVIL ENGINEERING DESIGN TASK ORDER WITH CURRENT ON-CALL CONSULTANT

Joshua Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners regarding the Hungry Junction Road Project. He stated the County received funding through the County Road Administration Board Rural Arterial Program for design and construction improvements on Hungry Junction Road between State Route 97 and Reecer Creek Road. Joshua Fredrickson explained the project is intended to improve sight distance by flattening vertical curves and widening shoulders.

Joshua Fredrickson advised additional consultant services are needed to complete the design, including work associated with the creek crossing at Faust and environmental permitting. He reported Ardurra Group, Inc., the County's selected on-call consultant, prepared a scope of work and fee in the amount of \$315,000, with contract duration through the end of 2028 to complete design and provide bidding support. Because the task order exceeds his authority to execute, Joshua Fredrickson requested direction to prepare enabling documents for future Board consideration. He further advised delay could risk loss of the state funding and require the County to reapply.

SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL GRANT-SNOQUALMIE PASS COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY PLAN

Joshua Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners regarding the Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant and the Snoqualmie Pass Comprehensive Safety Plan. He stated Public Works began meeting in 2022 with stakeholder partners, including King County, the Washington State Department of Transportation, community members, and business owners, to address roadway and safety concerns in the Snoqualmie Pass area. Joshua Fredrickson advised the County was successful in obtaining planning funds through the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All program to develop the plan.

Joshua Fredrickson explained the planning process included regular stakeholder meetings, in-person meetings in the pass area, and collection of community input identifying both crash locations and near-miss concerns. He stated the plan uses a Safe System Approach and includes recommendations such as roundabouts, turn phases, lighting, and designated crosswalks to improve safety for all roadway users. He further reported the draft plan was released for public comment in November 2025 and comments were reviewed and incorporated as appropriate. Joshua Fredrickson requested direction to prepare

enabling documents for future consideration of adoption of the final report. He also noted completion of the planning phase creates eligibility for implementation funding at 75% federal participation with a 25% percent local match.

LOWER KITTTITAS COUNTY REACH FLOODPLAIN RECONNECTION PROJECT CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Arden Thomas briefed the Board of County Commissioners regarding the Lower Kittitas County Reach Floodplain Reconnection Project and a requested contract amendment. Arden Thomas provided project background and stated the Flood Control Zone District initially focused on the Hanson Pits to Ringer Loop area due to repeated flooding impacts to County infrastructure, including damage to Ringer Loop Road and the County's inability to maintain the Hanson Pits levee in a functional manner.

Arden Thomas explained the project is part of implementation of the Yakima River Corridor planning work adopted by Board resolution in 2015 following public comment. She stated County priorities include divesting from the Hanson Pits levee in a responsible manner, reducing flood risk, protecting infrastructure, and maintaining flood-compatible land uses, including agricultural compatibility associated with the Twin City Spray Field site.

Arden Thomas advised the County solicited design, engineering, and permitting services in 2024 and has since executed the professional services agreement and two contract amendments. She stated the project has reached the 60 percent design stage; however, staff determined the current design was not adequately meeting project objectives because the site would flood too frequently. Arden Thomas reported additional project costs may be up to \$130,000 and stated it is important to maintain design momentum in order to preserve implementation funding timelines. She requested direction to prepare an amendment and bring the matter forward at a regular business meeting. Arden Thomas advised funding is available in the Flood Control Zone District budget and, if necessary, a budget amendment could be brought forward later in the year when costs are better known.

ROAD PRESERVATION - CHIP SEAL

Joshua Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners regarding road preservation and the annual chip seal program. He stated chip seal is a long-standing, cost-effective preventative maintenance tool used to preserve the County's paved road network, which includes nearly 500 miles of paved roads.

Joshua Fredrickson explained the annual preservation program includes crack sealing, pre-leveling, selective roadway preparation, chip sealing, rolling, sweeping, and restriping. He stated chip seal is most effective on roads that remain in serviceable condition and after appropriate preparatory work has been completed. Joshua Fredrickson further advised the County targets a seven-year chip seal cycle, though the cycle can vary depending on traffic volumes, roadway conditions, and available funding. He noted the program was reduced in 2025 due to funding constraints and staff is working toward returning to a seven-year cycle in 2026.

OTHER BUSINESS - NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN

Joshua Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on additional Public Works matters. He advised Public Works has been coordinating with the developer of the Bullfrog Flats development regarding required improvements to Bullfrog Road, including construction of a roundabout for one of the development entrances. Joshua Fredrickson stated notice would be provided to residents, traffic would be detoured through roads constructed by the developer, the work was expected to take approximately three months, and project costs, including County inspection costs, would be borne by the developer.

Joshua Fredrickson also advised the Board that Public Works is pursuing available public assistance funding related to the December 2025 storm and flooding event. He stated staff documented eligible roadside, shoulder, tree removal, and flood-related repair costs and has begun the application process. Joshua Fredrickson reported the federal share may reimburse 75 percent of eligible costs, with an additional 12.5 percent potentially available through the State, which could reduce the County share to 12.5 percent, subject to approval and eligibility. No action was taken.

Meeting concluded at 2:23 PM.

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER:
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Lisa Godden, Administrative
Assistant



Cory Wright, Chairman