

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

MONDAY

1:30 PM

June 26, 2023

Board members present: Chairman Cory Wright and Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Mark Cook, Josh Fredrickson, Rebecca Cruse, Public Works; Jessica Miller, Jeremy Larson, Jamey Ayling, Zach Torrance-Smith, Community Development Services; Neil Caulkins, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; 8 members of the public.

At 1:30 PM Chairman Cory Wright opened the Public Works Study Session.

No Citizen Comments.

PUBLIC FACILITY DISTRICT UPDATE

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the results of efforts to identify a revenue stream for funding Upper Kittitas County Recreation Center. Sufficient bond funding could come from an area encompassing Upper County School District boundaries. Mark Cook stated a 2/10 of 1% sales and use tax could support operation costs. Direction was given to discuss with Non-Profit a funding plan for offsetting operation costs. Questions pursued. Claire Nichols, UKCRC Representative, stated that the group does have a report drafted with potential fees and a forecast of operation costs for the recreation center. The Board was supportive of the efforts of Staff.

THORP MILL FEASIBILITY REPORT

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on a feasibility study completed for bathroom facilities at the Thorp Mill. Estimated cost to build, secure the water supply and install wastewater treatment is approximately \$400,000 and additional funding through Lodging Tax could help keep the museum operational. Richard Mack, Thorp Mill Board Member, stated the mill site encompasses approximately 20 acres and if desired could have potential for RV and camp areas. Richard Mack believes the property may have access to the Town of Thorp's water supply. Question pursued. Dan Leavitt, President of Thorp Mill Board stated he has seen a decline in interest by the community, the Thorp Mill Board recently sent out 400 letters to area residents and received one response. Currently, to maintain open hours they partner with Central Washington University and get assistance from Museum Studies Students each season from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Direction was given by the Board to prepare a funding packet for consideration.

STATE AUDITOR PERFORMANCE AUDIT UPDATE

Mark Cook stated that CDS and Public Works have been supporting a State Permitting Performance review. Staff have now received notice that the State Auditor received transmittal of data collected and should receive response from the State Auditor in a few months.

KING COUNTY SUBAREA PLAN FOR SNOQUALMIE PASS

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on recent meetings at Snoqualmie Pass with King County Staff. Mark Cook reviewed King County's Subarea Plan and Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan. Questions pursued. Mark Cook stated that King County Subarea plan is an attempt to plan all King County Rural areas and may not align with addressing specific issues unique to the area such as water and waste capacity and the limitation to growth. Recognition was made that the Board of County Commissioners have supported infrastructure at Snoqualmie Pass including upgrades to Snoqualmie Pass Utility District (SPUD). The Board asked Staff to work on messaging to engage stakeholders.

KITTITAS COUNTY ROAD STANDARDS

Josh Fredrickson stated Public Works Staff and a Review Committee have worked on updating Title 12 Roads & Bridges chapter of County Code. Josh Fredrickson stated this is the first comprehensive approach in 18 years and a successful collaboration between Departments and Developers to make necessary changes.

OTHER BUSINESS- BOARD OF EQUALIZATION UPDATE

Mark Cook gave an update to the Board of County Commissioners on Board of Equalizations and efforts to delineate qualifications for an appointed hearing examiner. Neil Caulkins affirmed that a hearing examiner with an appraisal background would be applicable. Staff will prepare further information for a future meeting and board direction.

OTHER BUSINESS- CDS BRIEFING SCHEDULE

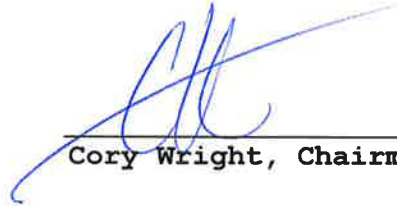
Mark Cook requested the Board of County Commissioners to consider Community Development Services returning to a schedule of multiple study sessions per month. The Board is in favor and directed staff to prepare code changes for further consideration.

Meeting concluded at 2:16 PM

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Rebecca Cruse, Administrative
Assistant



Cory Wright, Chairman