

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

MONDAY

1:30 PM

November 13, 2023

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

Others: Mark Cook, Arden Thomas, Justin Turnbull, Rebecca Cruse, Josh Fredrickson, Public Works; Jessica Miller, Jamey Ayling, Community Development Services; Stephanie Hartung, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; 2 members of the public.

At 1:32 PM Chairman Cory Wright opened the Public Works Study Session.

Pat Kelleher provided public comment and a site plan in support of the City of Ellensburg Reed Park Design-Option A.

THORP MILL SURVEY

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on survey issues identified at the Thorp Mill Site and requested that the Board support utilizing County Surveyor, Justin Turnbull to conduct survey work and research needed to resolve issues with the property title. Mark Cook stated that the work is supported by the Parks and Recreation Fund. Direction was given to Justin Turnbull to perform necessary survey that assists in the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce acquisition of the site.

SHORT TERM VACATION RENTAL COMMITTEE

Mark Cook requested the Board of County Commissioners support to formulate a committee addressing unregulated short-term rentals impacting Upper County Residents. Mark Cook stated that the Planning Staff can assist in developing legislation for issues addressed. Direction to staff to prepare a resolution and press release to formulate the committee at the next business meeting and BOCC staff can facilitate.

CONSOR TASK ORDER NO.1 AMENDMENT

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the current contract with CONSOR to assist in the 2024 Road Fund Levy. Mark Cook requested the Boards support to amend Task Order No. 1 and focus on informing voters on reduced level of maintenance and service they can expect in the absence of levy funding. The Board supported changes to the Task Order and can provide Staff with a list of stakeholders for participation in developing public outreach.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FLOODPLAIN SUPPORT

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioners on historical land acquisitions to improve floodplain function and improve riparian habitat along the Yakima River. Mark Cook stated Arden Thomas, Water Resource Manager met with design staff from the Bureau of Reclamation that provided valuable design assistance and engineer service to improve the hydrologic function of the land. The Board directed Staff to provide a letter recognizing the Bureau of Reclamation's contribution to County efforts for the Boards approval at the next business meeting.

BOWERS FIELD 2024 DISCRETIONARY GRANT CONSTRUCTING THE PARALLEL TAXIWAY

Mark Cook informed the Board of County Commissioners that the FAA has removed funding for the parallel taxiway that was anticipated for 2024. Mark Cook stated that Staff is renewing their relationship with the FAA to build credibility in the program and would like to address the impacts of 75-year leases to the program. Direction was given to Staff to prepare enabling documents setting the maximum lease term at 30 years with two possible extensions.

VANTAGE BRIDGE DECK REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATES

Mark Cook briefed the Board of County Commissioner on the Washington State Department of Transportation's bridge deck replacement of Vantage Bridge and the response time anticipated for their Traffic Control Specialist. Mark Cook stated that Staff recently met with key stakeholders and are working to address safety and emergency response, it was identified that Vantage is in a radio "hole" restricting communication. Further discussion was had on developing a County companion plan for WSDOT Bridge closures expected to last several years.

2023 ROAD STANDARDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Josh Fredrickson briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the formulation of the Road Standards Review Committee that met and helped review proposed changes to the Kittitas County Road Standards. Josh Fredrickson stated the changes are now prepared to be reviewed by the Planning Commission and requested the Board's support to disband the informal Committee. The Board supports disbanding the Road Standards Review Committee.

Chairman Cory Wright announced they would hold the following Agenda items for discussion at the next Study Session:

KITTITAS HIGHWAY SPEED STUDY RESULTS

NO. 6 ROAD SPEED STUDY RESULTS

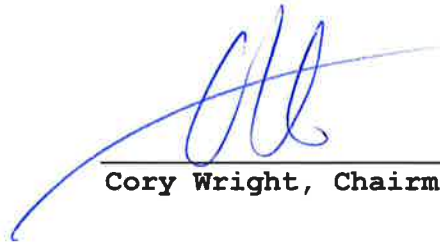
KITTITAS HIGHWAY AT NO.6 ROAD STOP SIGN

Meeting concluded at 2:15 PM

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER:
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



**Rebecca Cruse, Administrative
Assistant**



Cory Wright, Chairman