

Washington State Transportation Commission

Proposed Topic Discussion – County Transportation Agenda Item #4

Frank Abart, Director Whatcom County Public Works

1. Whatcom County Public Works 101

- 161 System Bridges (20 foot or greater)
- 1,000 centerline miles of system roadway
- International border to the North, five border crossings
- Point Roberts, remote population, service challenges via border crossings
- Approximately 2/3 of the County is Federal Lands
- Baker Lake Road, service challenges, access via Skagit County
- Lummi Island population, service via Ferry System

2. Focus Information

- Project objectives, in order 1) Safety, 2) Preservation, 3) Capacity
- 2007/2014 Improve Clear Zone Recovery efforts
 - o #1 Safety effort to achieve this is shoulder improvement
- RAP Rural Arterial Program Funds
 - o Example of a very good program
 - o Meets the need for flexibility by the County
 - o Meets the need for reporting criteria by the politicians

3. Major County Wide Transportation Emphasis

- SubArea, includes area cities, WSDOT, and others in partnership
- Recognize and plan for current and future transportation needs
- Safety & Capacity concerns
- Largest population and I-5 overall capacity impacts