

Quarterly Roads update

September 2, 2020

11 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson, County Manager Erik Martin, Tim Fife, Josh Metcalf, Geoff Soderquist

Recorder: Rieva Lester

STP funding

Tim Fife said the allocation for STP funding is 55 percent for urban projects and 45 percent for rural projects. He said upcoming projects include Tucker Road, Harrison Avenue and Centralia Alpha. Tim said the COVID has limited public hearings regarding a proposed project on Centralia Alpha and instead will use mail-in comments to determine the best course to present to the commissioners.

Tim discussed small cities opting to take turns pooling their resources to allow for intermittent but larger projects. The group discussed the need to improve conditions on Highway 12.

Roads funding / program and project updates

Tim discussed projects that have been placed on hold due to funding constraints.

Josh Metcalf discussed projects on Wilson and Hyatt Road. Josh said Hyatt had terrible drainage and was in rough shape. He said Wilson was deteriorating daily.

Tim discussed improvements completed on Meade Hill. He said Ceres Hill has problems similar to those that were on Meade Hill.

Tim said other projects have included

- Borst Avenue
- Mickelsen Parkway
- Fish culverts
- Snyder Road

Tim said upcoming projects include:

- Flexible guideposts
- Guard rails on Highway 603
- Improvements to Harrison

Tim said a proposed fix for Cousins Road would have required all county funding as there was no grant funding available for the project.

Commissioner Stamper asked to have no parking signs posted along a turnaround at Coal Creek along the river, a site where individuals have been parking to access the river.

Tim said 2021 will include:

- Three FEMA projects:
 - Replacing a culvert on Wildcat Creek
 - Addressing problems near the Kiona bridge
 - Addressing a problematic culvert in Morton
- Stohl Bridge scouring
- Townsend Road Bridge
- Cousins Road
- Cowlitz River Public Access Park

Tim said a culvert at Salzer Valley also will need to be replaced but that it's likely the county will have to pay for the entire project as grant funding may not be available.

Bucket truck purchase for Public Works

Josh said the truck being considered was not the right fit.

Budget

Tim said gas tax collection hasn't dropped as much as feared.

Josh said he has heard that Secure Rural Schools funding may be in jeopardy.

Tim discussed work the county performs for area cities.

Meeting ended at 12:02 p.m.