

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2004**

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.                      Work Session – Operations Division Manager/Road District Maintenance Supervisors
- 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.                      Public Works Department – Chal Martin, Director
1.        Public Hearing – Consideration of Vacation of Unopened County Right-of-Way in Similk Beach
  2.        Discussion – Helmick Road Safety Improvement and Environmental Enhancement Project and Northern State Recreation Area Project
  3.        Signature – Resolution Amending the 2004 Annual Construction Program
  4.        Miscellaneous
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.                      Work Session – Shared Strategy for the Skagit Salmon Recovery Plan
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.                        Skagit Transit Board Composition Meeting (Hearing Room C)

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 11, 2004 with Commissioners Ted W. Anderson, Don Munks and Kenneth A. Dahlstedt present.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – CHAL MARTIN, DIRECTOR**

**1.        Public Hearing – Consideration of Vacation of Unopened County Right-of-Way in Similk Beach.**

Assistant Public Works Engineer, Steve Flude, stated that the public hearing was being held to consider vacating a portion of unopened County right-of-way in Similk Beach; two alleys on either side of North Green Street in the Plat of Similk Beach signed October 5, 1927. He showed a photograph of the area in question and indicated that the vacation was requested by Mr. Craig Ford. Mr. Flude said the Department recommends the vacation with no costs associated except for the cost of the public hearing.

There being no public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Munks motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dahlstedt, which passed unanimously. The public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Munks then motioned to approve the vacation of unopened County right-of-way in Similk Beach at no cost to the petitioner except for the cost of the public hearing. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote. **(A resolution will be brought forth by staff at a later date)**

**2.        Discussion – Helmick Road Safety Improvement and Environmental Enhancement Project and Northern State Recreation Area Project.**

Public Works Director, Chal Martin, gave an update regarding the progress on the Helmick Road Safety Improvement and Environment Enhancement Project, which is being managed by Public Works, and the Northern State Recreation Area Project, which is being managed by Skagit County Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Martin explained that design for the Helmick Road Project originally included an underpass, which has now been deemed too expensive. To date approximately \$50,000 has been spent for permitting alone, without any design work. Mr. Martin said the State is against having a signal at the intersection; however, it is the Department's intention to continue with that part of the design anyway.

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Chairman Anderson said that during a recent Hwy 20 Safety Corridor meeting, the idea of a left-hand turn lane with no signal was discussed. He is confident that a light should be the option the County should pursue and asked that the notion of an underpass be deleted entirely.

Commissioner Dahlstedt said the County should push hard for that intersection to be signaled as it would be a benefit to all.

Parks and Recreation Director, Bob Vaux, said he is interested in providing the best way to safely cross the roadway. He will continue to work hand-in-hand with the Public Works Department to achieve the safest possible solution.

Commissioner Munks said the Northern State property may never be developed to the extent that is desired but nevertheless, Helmick Road must be brought up to standards, which include making it safe to cross.

Mr. Vaux added that a parking lot is now in place at the Northern State property, which should create some increased use.

**3. Signature – Resolution Amending the 2004 Annual Construction Program.**

On April 27, 2004, the Commissioners approved additions and changes to the Six-Year Transportation Program that effected 2004 projects. Mr. Martin presented a resolution which would amend the 2004 Annual Construction Program, which would add the following projects:

- Asphalt Overlay – Edison Streets Overlay Project
- Finney Creek Bridge – Preliminary engineering to study the effects of stream flow.
- North Texas Road – Alignment improvement of the intersection with March's Point Road at the east end of North Texas Road.
- Satterlee Road Drainage Project – Drainage improvement for times of high water events.

Commissioner Munks made a motion to approve the additions to the 2004 Annual Construction Program, as outlined by Mr. Flude. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. R20040168)**

**4. Miscellaneous.**

1. Mr. Martin said the Solid Waste Interlocal Agreement is expected to be signed by the last party today so it should appear on next Monday's Consent Agenda.
2. Mr. Martin indicated that the Concrete Main Street Reconstruction Project is ready to proceed; however, there is a budget shortfall of \$600,000. The Town has already received approximately \$1.3 million to do the project but the anticipated cost is over \$1.9 million. Mr. Martin asked the Board if they would authorize the Department to go out to bid for the project while continuing to find sources for funding.

Commissioner Dahlstedt suggested that perhaps Puget Sound Energy may be willing to help with the anticipated shortfall. Mr. Martin said he would draft a letter to them, on behalf of the Commissioners, asking them to participate.

Commissioner Munks motioned to proceed with the bid process for the Town of Concrete Main Street Reconstruction Project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dahlstedt and passed unanimously.

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3. Tom Karsh, Natural Resource Policy Administrator, discussed the work plan and timeline for the County's response to the Western Washington Growth Management Hearing's Board Compliance Order No. 02-2-0012c for the Ag/Fish program.
4. Mr. Martin reviewed a fish habitat restoration project, which requires land acquisition in the Fisher Slough area owned by Richard Smith. His desire is to have the County partner with the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and use drainage utility money for the acquisition.

Chairman Anderson said he is against letting the fish groups have drainage utility funds as those funds are not to be used for fish recovery or fish enhancement. They are to be strictly used for drainage problems.

Commissioner Munks agreed and said he doesn't have a problem with the project itself as he thinks it's a good one; however, the County has to be careful about how the drainage utility money is used.

Commissioner Dahlstedt said the Board is not saying no to the request, but they would like to see more details.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

Commissioner Munks made a motion to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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Ted W. Anderson, Chairman

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Don Munks, Commissioner

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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JoAnne Giesbrecht, Clerk of the Board  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners