



PARTNERS MEETING NOTES

SNOHOMISH SUSTAINABLE LANDS STRATEGY MEETING

Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Zoom Video conference

Participants: Keith Binkley, Nick Bratton, Dan Calvert, Lindsey Desmul, Dani Driscoll, Spencer Easton, **C.K. Eidem, Robin Fay**, Jessica Hamill, Bennett LaFond, Kirk Lakey, **Linda Lyshall**, Kristin Marshall, Kurt Nelson, Lisa Nelson, **Linda Neunzig**, Kari Quaas, David Roberts, Rebecca Schwarz, **Erik Stockdale, Daryl Williams**, Janet Wright. (Those in bold are steering committee members)

Facilitator: David Roberts, Kulshan Services and

Notetaker: Allison Roberts

TASKS:

1. All - If anyone has interest in serving on the Steering Committee, let David or Linda know.
2. All - People wanting to hear from the Comp Plan Workgroup on their recommendations to the County should contact David.
3. All – Send suggestions for where SLS should focus attention in 2021.
4. ITs - ITs should coordinate with the Communications Team to discuss their communications goals and needs.
5. David - David will set up a series of special topics meetings as described in the notes.
6. Lindsey Desmul - Lindsey will reach out to Linda Neunzig and Heather Cole for information about the Legislative funding proposals to put in our first SLS newsletter.

1. WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW

We welcomed Daryl Williams who is stepping in to represent the Tulalip Tribe and as Steering Committee Co-Chair with Linda Lyshall. Terry Williams intends to stay on as a Steering Committee member but not co-chair.

2. BREAKOUT ROOM FOR NETWORKING

We participated in a five-minute 2-person breakout session with each person answering the question: “What are you looking forward to in 2021 with SLS?” This team-building exercise captured much hope and many initiatives going forward in 2021, many of them requiring collaboration and tenacity and some representing a lot of groundwork coming to fruition in 2021.

3. COMMUNITY COMMENT

There is a special topic presentation on January 20: David Jackson with Snohomish Conservation District will be sharing what they have learned from their Green Stormwater Infrastructure projects.

4. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION, ACTION

SLS Organizational Structure and Roles Document (Linda Lyshall)

Goal: Present final document to Partners and answer questions.

- Linda Lyshall presented the final version SLS Organizational Structure and Roles document adopted by the Steering Committee. She highlighted a few of the main points outlined in the document. David Roberts thanked everyone for their input and acknowledged the work of Linda Lyshall, Kristin Marshall, and Robin Fay who pulled it all together from the group’s input. The new document captures the essence of the SLS work outlining primary activities, membership, representation, decision process, staffing and meeting frequency. It also is a blueprint for each type of group’s role (Steering Committee, Partners, Caucuses, Standing Committees, ITs

[Integration or Implementation Teams], Disappearing Task Groups (DTGs), and Special Topic Discussions.)

Update on the SLS Workplan activities (David Roberts)

Goal: Review successes from 2020 and discuss actions for the coming year

- David noted that he recently updated the plan with current team names and removed duplications. This version dated 1-9-21 also includes the communications plan prepared by Lindsey Desmul and Kari Quaas. The plan will be posted on the SLS website.
- David shared a color-coded version of the Work Plan that showed status of actions in the plan (completed, underway, no action). He reviewed and provided explanations for each action.
- Linda Neunzig noted that the current list is mostly SLS projects. She suggested that other department or organizational projects that impact and meet the goals of SLS should be cataloged in the plan and that some effort should be applied to better define these projects to make sure they are balanced and meet the needs of all three groups/goals. This suggestion will need additional consideration by the Steering Committee.
- David noted that in spite of last year's pandemic challenges, progress on projects is continuing. He will be reviewing the plan with the Steering Committee and would like input about what should be targeted for the coming year.
- Heather Cole suggested that a status category be established (in red) for efforts experiencing significant challenges in completion.
- Workplan discussion points:
 - Farmland Protection: There is no active group under the Farmland protection policy and funding element of the plan. However, Kristin Marshall noted there are some overlaps within individual organizations, and these could be considered activity under the plan. David added that this issue could be addressed with a disappearing task group.
 - Governor's Riparian Task Force – Dan Calvert spoke to a state agency and tribal work group which is focused on riparian protection.
 - Comp Plan – The first set of SLS recommendations pertaining to the Snohomish County-wide Planning Policies were completed by the Comp Plan DTG and reviewed by the Steering Committee. They are scheduled for delivery to Mitchell Brouse with Snohomish County PDS this week. The Work Group will be developing additional recommendations as the General Planning Policies (Comp Plan) as the review process takes place in the future.
 - Organizational Structure Goal: David indicated that we now have a good description of many aspects of SLS. We still need to outline a process for agreement creation.
 - Support for Steering Committee and ITs: David noted that Kulshan Services is assisting on special projects. Carol McIlroy is supporting the Stilly IT and Spencer Easton is supporting the Snohomish IT.
 - Representation of Flood and Water Supply: We now have a flood interest on the Steering Committee. Erik Stockdale agreed to represent both fish and flood interests as a Steering Committee member. We noted that we have not engaged on water supply issues with SLS yet as called out in the Workplan.

Funding Team concept (David Roberts)

Goal: Discuss the concept and role of a standing committee to coordinate funding efforts

- David suggested SLS consider establishing a standing committee to help coordinate and focus funding efforts. Jay, Paul, and Dan have historically been the primary points of contact for SLS funding and could be a core of this group. Linda Neunzig and Robin Fay expressed interest in working with them.
- Kari noted the Communications Group needs information from those most knowledgeable about funding sources to be able to support advocacy efforts.
- While ITs are very involved in funding packages and need to be involved in some way, they have limited bandwidth and a narrower focus. The ITs won't be able to help with broader funding needs.
- We all agreed a dedicated group of people should identify and compile a funding calendar and assist with coordination. Members agreed that while the intention is worthy, we want to avoid establishing a group that creates an added burden. The goal is to get ahead of the curve on documenting our funding needs by summer prior to the next Legislative session. There would be value in this type of advance planning especially when it comes to funding SLS operations. David will schedule a special topics discussion for a deeper dive.
- Regarding advocacy work, Heather said the Governor put \$70 million in his budget for FbD. She also noted that \$3.2 million is needed in FCAP (Flood Control Assistance Program) out of the Operating budget. She suggested everyone advocate for this funding. Heather Cole will find out if FCAP is included in the Gov's current budget or not.
- Linda Neunzig shared that the County is requesting \$6 million request for the SnoCo Food and Farming Center in the Governor's budget. She presented this proposal at the Legislative Breakfast. Initially, \$2.5 million will get processing and distribution part of the facility going. Any support in advocacy from other members would be helpful.

FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDAS

- Partner Meeting Schedule: Meetings will continue to be virtual for now. He acknowledged the desire of everyone to meet in person again. David included the Partner meeting schedule for 2021 in a recent email. The next Partners meeting will be March 11, 2021 at 10 – 11:30 am.
- Next Steering Committee meeting: February 11, 2021 at 10 am. Their agenda will include clarifying SLS language on mission and specific goals for SLS. David will share their meeting minutes each month.
- Special Topics: David asked members for suggestions for special topics discussions.
 1. David Jackson will present on Green Stormwater activities January 20.
 2. Spencer Easton will present Land Acquisition Strategy for Lower Skykomish River on March 24.
 3. CK Eidem offered to present on a recently completed Ducks Unlimited project in King County.
 4. Lindsey Desmul suggested a presentation of the Snohomish Estuary Prioritization Plan being finalized in April 2021. Lindsey will email David about a date for that.
 5. Dan would like to present on the 2022 Action Agenda development because it will influence scoring and ranking for FbD and opportunities therein. He will schedule with David sometime in the next two months.
 6. David will organize a discussion of the Funding team concept.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES

- SLS YouTube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPd9bSL7Mvjkm1jifyMI2YA> shows virtual legislative tours from last week.

- Lindsey Desmul will reach out to Linda Neunzig and Heather Cole for information about the Legislative funding proposals to put in our first SLS newsletter.

5. **ADJOURN (11:45)**