

Meeting Notes

SLS Steering Committee

February 2, 2022 10:00AM – 12:00PM

Present: Linda Lyshall, CK Eidem, Kristin Marshall, Daryl Williams, Spencer Easton, Kirk Lakey, Robin Fay, Lindsey Desmul, Carol Macilroy, Erik Stockdale



David Roberts, Facilitator
Sarah Parker, Notetaker

Notes:

Meeting started at 10:05.

Roundtable Sharing

- Linda L: Will attend the Ag Board meeting next week and report Steering Committee (SC) updates.
- Linda L: New farm planner at Snohomish Conservation District started yesterday.
- Daryl: Conservation commission hired a new executive director with a March 1 start date.
- The Stillaguamish Tribe submitted the Stillaguamish Watershed Floodplains by Design (FbD) pre-application which is supported by the Stillaguamish IT. Comments were brief.
- Snohomish County submitted the Snohomish Watershed FbD pre-application which is supported by the Snohomish IT. The level of collaboration is high. There will be a presentation to Ecology before the full application is due. Some adjustments may be needed before the presentation.
- Both ITs will present on the FbD application and project list at the March 2 SLS Partners meeting.
- Carol: White House has released more [info about infrastructure bill](#).
- The group discussed the need to be clear and consistent in our language regarding SLS roles (see examples to the right). We discussed inclusion of language like this in the Organizational Structure and Roles document.
- Sarah and David are putting together an SLS handbook for partners. They will share a draft with the SC when it is ready, then post it on the SLS website.

SLS Messaging

Being clear and consistent in our language when describing the role of SLS

Our support for [FbD](#) is the product of SLS's work

Examples:

- SLS supported application not an SLS application

- SLS will be asked to provide a letter of support for the Stillaguamish Tribe's [FbD](#) application

- The ITs are working hard to structure conversations and agreements that result in Snohomish County and Stillaguamish [FbD](#) applications that SLS partners support and are excited about

- SLS SC will have an opportunity to advocate and support the Snohomish County and Stillaguamish Tribe's [FbD](#) applications bringing critical funding to our partners and supporting the SLS vision

Timeline for SC Activities in 2022

- The group discussed the draft annual [meeting timeline](#). Group members had the following input:
 - Push workplan to late spring/early summer.
 - ITs need a FbD support letter at the April 6 meeting. Partners can provide input at the March partners meeting.
 - David will clarify the IFM piece of the timeline with Jessica.
 - Daryl: Current bills in the legislative session might delay comprehensive plan updates.
- The group discussed the need to identify what SLS is best suited to advocate for.
 - The letter to the Exec and Snohomish Tomorrow group regarding Harvey Field is one of best examples of SLS moving a policy question forward.
 - Erik will send out a 7-page letter that was written jointly by Snohomish County Planning and Development Services (PDS) and SWM that was submitted to FEMA. This is an example of how to bring coordinated floodplain management conversations to the forefront.
 - The group discussed SLS facilitating field trips for legislators to help advocate for the groups work and build relationships with decision-makers. Lindsey noted that SLS has funding for three farms tours that could be wrapped into advocacy. Later summer/fall timeframe would be best for the field trips.
 - Lindsey noted that we have funding through the Near-Term Action (NTA) to create glossy legislative folders and handouts to distribute for SLS.
 - Lindsey and both ITs will meet in May to discuss resources for field trips and how to focus some of the advocacy efforts.

SLS Workplan Update for 2022

- The group reviewed the [2022-2023 Workplan](#) and discussed the need to identify specific, actionable goals. Group members had the following input:
 - The goals and associated actions should not be too rigid as to silo them. Some actions might help accomplish multiple goals. It will be beneficial to structure the Workplan in a way that promotes integrated solutions.
 - The goals in the existing Workplan will serve as the *planning goals*. These will help us meet the broader SLS goals.
 - The Stilly IT will add the hyperlink for their shortened project list to the Workplan. The ITs will decide what level of detail they want to share.
 - Identifying measurable goals and showing that we're achieving them will help us communicate what SLS does.
 - The workplan will have columns added to reflect how activities related to the goals of SLS.
- Sarah and David will work on the Workplan and gather input in the spring. A larger group can work on it in May or June (in person?). Specific, actionable goals will be added in the fall.

Vision Input for Comp Plan

- The Comp Plan Workgroup met in late January to outline a strategy for providing input to County PDS on the current Comp Plan. They identified key chapters of the Comp Plan for review

including Land Use, Natural Resources, and the new Climate Chapter. The game plan is to have all the review completed by Spring. In addition, the Workgroup provided guidance to the SC regarding the request for input to the County's Visioning process.

- Three big bucket themes were identified by the Workgroup. The following list shows the themes including edits by the SC (added a fourth bullet).
 - Four themes for County Vision - Within the changing conditions in Snohomish County from development and climate:
 - Minimize future risk by focusing development outside of floodplains, relocating threatened structures, promoting infill in already urbanized areas, and reducing downstream flood risk using land use and development codes.
 - Protect and restore functioning watersheds and floodplains to re-establish natural river and estuarine processes.
 - Protect current and potential food growing areas to support our local farm economy and ensure an increasingly local food supply.
 - Address the environmental impacts on socio-economic disadvantaged communities.
 - The SC agreed these four themes should be submitted to the County by end of the month to be included as input for County's visioning process.

Agenda for March 2 Partner meeting

- Each IT will present on the FbD package for 20 minutes followed by ~10 minutes of questions.
- Carol will send out the Department of Ecology version of the FbD presentation in advance.
- Lindsey can show one or two of the short digital storytelling videos if there is extra time.
- The ITs will send David the FbD package during the last day or two of Feb. ITs could also create one pager with the project list.

Agenda for future Partner meetings

- No action

Update on field activities/progress from ITs suggested for a fall meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.