



General Body Meeting

Transportation Survey Game Results

Lynn Scroggins - Top priority transportation projects – to be eligible for federal, state, and other transportation grants and loans – need to be on a 3-year priority list with some secured funding. To help Tribal Council establish top transportation priorities, a “game” was held at the May 3rd General Body meeting.

At the Transportation Planning table, people learned about Squaxin’s multi-modal (i.e. motorized, non-motorized, aviation, marine, freight, rail, transit) long-range transportation planning process and project list. They received three dots (each dot representing \$10,000) to mark their top transportation priorities. The results are tallied below, sorted by owner, name, and description, not by priority. Thanks to the advocate who brought lots of people to the table, the Canoe Shed project won the game and will receive extra consideration :-)

1. Mason County, Bike/pedestrian lanes: 1
2. Mason County, Bloomfield Rd resurfacing: 1
3. Squaxin, Bike/pedestrian lanes: 2
4. Squaxin Island dock – pier removal: 2
5. Squaxin Transit – mini-bus replacements: 2
6. Squaxin, Arcadia Boat Ramp phase 1 – replacement, widening: 3
7. Squaxin, Arcadia Boat Ramp phase 2 – parking, restrooms: 3
8. Squaxin, Arcadia Boat Ramp phase 3 – economic development: 5
9. Squaxin, ATV trails: 1
10. Squaxin, Canoe Shed Rd: 9
11. Squaxin, Canoe Shed: 25
12. Squaxin, Community alert system: 2
13. Squaxin, Klah-Che-Min Dr improvements: 2
14. Squaxin, Road maintenance: 1
15. Squaxin, Tourism Center: 4
16. Squaxin, Trails: 2

Transportation Project List Under Consideration

Here’s the latest 20-year capital improvement project list under consideration, totaling roughly \$43 million. 3-year priority projects (so far) with partially or fully secured funding are marked with an *, totaling roughly \$3.7 million. Visit http://www.squaxinland.org/community_dev/index.html for more information.

The transportation capital improvement project list below is sorted by owner, name, and description, not by priority.

1. Mason County, bike/pedestrian lanes – 20 miles
2. Mason County, Lynch Rd improvements to the spur leading to the Arcadia Boat Ramp – 0.8 mile
3. * Mason County, Simmons Rd – new road between Lynch Rd and Simmons Rd, Hwy 101/Lynch Rd intersection improvements
4. Mason County, Old Olympic Highway/Simmons Rd intersection improvements
5. Squaxin Transit – 1 charter bus, 56 passenger, for elders trips and other uses
6. Squaxin Transit – 1 mini-bus replacement, 16+ passenger
7. Squaxin Transit – 2 buses, 23+ passenger
8. Squaxin Transit – 2 charter buses, 24+ passenger for elders trips and other uses
9. Squaxin Transit – 2 vans, 14+ passenger
10. Squaxin Transit – 3 shelters and pull-outs



11. Squaxin Transit – 3 vans, 12 passenger, for ride sharing
12. Squaxin Transit – Dispatch system improvement
13. Squaxin, Arcadia Boat Ramp phase 1 – replacement, widening
14. Squaxin, Arcadia Boat Ramp phase 2 – parking, restrooms
15. Squaxin, Arcadia Boat Ramp phase 3 – new facilities
16. Squaxin, ATV trails – for many purposes, 5 miles
17. Squaxin, Bike/pedestrian lanes – 5 miles
18. Squaxin, Canoe Shed – new facility
19. Squaxin, Canoe Shed Dr – new road, 0.25 mile
20. * Squaxin, Cemetery Dr – new road, 0.25 mile, 25% complete
21. * Squaxin, Emergency management – community alert system
22. Squaxin, Fleet Maintenance Building – new facility
23. * Squaxin, Klah-Che-Min Dr improvements (i.e. curb, gutter, bike lane, sidewalk, resurface), 0.45 mile
24. * Squaxin, Maintenance – cleaning, repairs, etc
25. * Squaxin, Minor construction/safety – lighting, striping, signage, fencing, railings, etc... also trails and pathways between housing, community, transportation, and commercial areas, 10 miles
26. Squaxin, Natural/Cultural Resources Building – boat storage and workshop
27. Squaxin, Natural/Cultural Resources Building Dr – sidewalks and new road, 0.5 mile
28. Squaxin, Park & Ride lot – expansion
29. * Squaxin, Rail spur – for economic development
30. Squaxin, “Salish Highlands” – new roads in the new commercial area north of Highway 108, 3 miles
31. Squaxin, Salish Hills – new bridge
32. * Squaxin, Salish Hills – new roads in the new commercial area south of Highway 108, 5 miles, 25% complete
33. Squaxin, Slocum Ridge 2 – new bridge
34. Squaxin, Slocum Ridge 2 – new bridge/culvert
35. Squaxin, Slocum Ridge 2 – new roads in the new housing area, 1 mile
36. Squaxin, Squaxin Island dock – pier removal
37. Squaxin, Tourism Center – infrastructure and new facility
38. Squaxin, Tourism enhancements – kiosks, benches, lighting, etc
39. * State of Washington, Highway 108 turn lane into the Little Creek Casino Resort area
40. Thurston County, Boston Harbor ramp improvements

Help prioritize. Please contact Planner Lynn Scroggins at (360) 432-3952 if you would like to help prioritize and/or provide feedback about these or any other transportation projects. Your comments are an important part of the long-range transportation plan update and priority list to be approved by Tribal Council at the end of June. Thanks!



Long-Range Transportation Planning Squaxin Transit Rider Survey Results

Lynn Scroggins - In April, as part of the long-range transportation plan update, Squaxin Transit conducted a two-week survey of bus riders. Of the 32 respondents who completed the survey, 94% were on a deviated fixed route or demand response route and 6% were on a Dial-A-Ride route. 41% of surveys were completed before 1 p.m., 47% were completed after 1 p.m., and 12% were completed at an unknown time. The results below will help inform how Squaxin prioritizes and funds future transit operations and improvements:

How long have you been riding the bus?

28% less than 1 year, 9% 1-2 years, 63% more than 2 years.

How often do you ride?

25% ride less than once a week, 6% ride once a week, 25% ride 2-4 times a week, and 35% ride 5 or more times a week.

What is the purpose of your ride?

11% work, 9% school, 26% shopping, 15% dining, 40% social, 2% medical.

Your age?

9% less than 13 years old, 28% 14-27 years, 31% 28-43 years, 22% 44-62 years, 10% 63 years old and older.

Your gender?

34% male, 66% female.

Your ethnicity?

68% Native American, 19% Caucasian, 5% African American, 8% Hispanic.

Your annual household income?

86% less than \$50,000, 11% \$50,000-\$100,000, 3% more than \$100,000.

Any mobility limitations?

7% yes, 93% no.

Comments.

Never ever charge!! :-)* I think it is awesome that we have the Squaxin Transit. This helps in so many different ways. Thank you, Squaxin * You gals are awesome, the best * Keep this service available to everyone. Thank you * Love this service * Work on weekends!! :-)* Mainly I ride Intercity Transit in Olympia * The drivers are very professional, courteous, helpful * All the Squaxin Transit drivers are down to earth * It's a blessing this bus is available * The transit to Griffin is very important to us and very convenient. Thank you! * Always very nice & helpful. [I] enjoy my ride! * Better or another handrail * Thank you!

Save the date.

June 17 is the final public meeting to review and comment on the 90% draft long-range transportation plan, 4-6 p.m., in the Council Chambers. If you would like to review and provide feedback on the plan, please visit the Squaxin web site www.squaxinland.org/community_dev/index.html. If you have any questions/comments or if you would like a copy of the draft plan, contact Planner Lynn Scroggins at (360) 432-3952.

Welcome!!!

The Office of Housing would like to welcome Kimberly James and her family to the community!!!

How to Save Money in Today's Economy

Civita Dyer - Are you like most of us, worrying about the economy, sky rocketing gas prices and the cost of living? Unfortunately, these are things that we have to think about today. Over the past year, especially, we have seen the prices of everyday items skyrocket. Read on for some helpful tips that can help you learn to save money. They are surprisingly simple. We can easily overlook them; but they can have a big impact on our budget.

- Start with your electric bill. At night, turn down your home thermostat 1 to 5 degrees lower than your daytime setting. Sleep in long pajamas and add extra blankets to your beds. Not only will this help lower your heating costs, cooler air also helps you sleep more comfortably. If you have young children or elderly people in your home, make sure they sleep in warm clothing to avoid getting chilled. Keep doors closed to the rooms you don't use regularly during the day.
- Wash clothes in cold water whenever possible. Make sure the washer and dryer are full to conserve energy.
- Clean the lint filter on your dryer after each use. This keeps your dryer working properly.
- Make the most of your lighting. Using energy efficient bulbs reduces electricity use around 75 percent. Plus, they last longer! Install dimmer switches in all rooms. You can dim your lights lower in the day time when all you need is a soft glow. If you use night lights, use only ones that turn off automatically in daylight.
- Monitor your family's spending habits. Sit down and calculate the total family income. Next, list all bills with an approximate due date. Then, write an amount that can be your mad money. Try to put some in checking for unexpected expenses and a little savings for your future. Having everything in black and white may help you curb impulse buys!
- Cut your grocery bill by comparison shopping. When shopping for your groceries, compare the store brand with the name brand you usually buy. Most often, there is little or no difference in the quality. But there is usually a substantial difference in the price.
- Use coupons. Anytime you can find a coupon for a product that you use, clip it and take it along on your next shopping trip. Some stores even offer double or triple coupon days once a month. Find out if your local store offers this service. If not, suggest that they start.
- Eat before you shop! This may not sound very helpful; but it works! Shopping while hungry always makes you buy more junk food and spur-of-the-moment items.
- Lower your gas costs on your auto by not speeding. The faster you drive, the more your gas mileage decreases. Use the cruise control when possible. Also, change your oil regularly. Clean oil reduces friction and helps improve fuel economy.
- Check your tires. Make sure they are inflated according to your owner's manual and are aligned correctly. This can increase gas mileage between 1 and 3 percent.
- Carpool if you have friends going in the same direction or at least combine your trips so you don't have to drive as often. Walk or ride a bike, if possible.

These tips are simple suggestions that, when put into use, can be quite effective at helping to save money. The main step in saving money and cutting household bills is to set a budget and stick to it!



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Transportation Planning Update

Lynn Scroggins - And the raffle winner is (drum roll) Dan Neelands. Thanks to over 60 people who completed the transportation survey. Those who provided their name and phone were eligible for the raffle prize – one night stay at the Little Creek Casino Resort hotel. There were several questions about top transportation concerns, proposed solutions, priority projects and programs, and Squaxin Transit. The survey identified the following priorities:

- #1 Roads, bridges, natural resources, cultural resources
- #2 Lighting
- #3 Traffic safety, law enforcement
- #4 Trails, economic development, jobs, tourism
- #5 Transit, emergency management
- #6 Striping, markers, signs
- #7 Freight, rail
- #8 ORV trails.

The long-range transportation plan (LRTP) update will include a Squaxin Transit Plan, serving as a development guide and basis for funding eligibility. The plan will be divided into modes - motorized, non-motorized, recreation motorized, freight, rail, air, water, and transit. It will address special issues - safety, capacity, economic development, jobs, tourism, elders, youth, emergency management, mobility, traffic safety, law enforcement. The plan will prioritize and list six-year (partially funded) and twenty-year projects and programs by mode.

Public involvement will continue throughout the planning process with more interviews and meetings. A Squaxin Transit passenger survey is underway. Look for the transportation planning table at the General Body meeting with the plan available for review and feedback. Two public meetings are scheduled. The first will be a review of the 50% plan on Tuesday, May 20 from 4-6 p.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers. The second will be a review of the 90% plan on Tuesday, June 17 from 4-6 p.m., also in the Tribal Council Chambers. At the end of June 2008, the plan will be approved by Tribal Council. A major plan update is expected in June 2009 after a more transit planning, partially funded with U.S. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) planning grants. For more information or questions about the transportation planning process, please contact Planner Lynn Scroggins at (360) 432-3952.

Below are survey comments in addition to the ones published in the March Klah-Che-Min. *Please note: The number in parenthesis are the number of responses for the same comment.*

Top Transportation Concerns:

SAFETY: Lighting, safety, and removing dangerous dogs * visible law enforcement * speed limit enforcement * **ACCESS:** I would love to take the bus, but can't make the connections efficiently * if you have no vehicle and live off-rez then it is impossible to make it to Squaxin for any meetings or anything * people without transportation getting to appointments * access and delivery to social services * **ELDERS:** Elder transportation (2) * services for seniors * **YOUTH:** Traffic safety, speeding where children are present * safety for kids runnin' the rez * speed bumps in front of the Youth Center * **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** Make sure emergency access is maintained * **MOTORIZED:** Accidents that block Highway 101 * **NON-MOTORIZED:** Not enough biking and walking trails * campus-wide bicycles * **TRANSIT:** More transit * bus breakdowns * **MARINE:** Harstine Island boat ramp * **HEALTH:** Need to increase physical activity with walking, biking and much more trails * **PLANNING/POLICY:** Transportation maintenance and improvements without harming NR and maintaining safety * make capacity and timing a priority * more planning, funding * short notices, rising costs * off-reservation needs are often not met * focus on tribal priorities *

Proposed Solutions:

TRANSIT: More drivers (2) * more buses (2), more connections (2), more frequent routes (2), more/better transit service with access to more services (4), more transit capacity (buses and employees) * more bus stop signs * more/better transit info (2) * after-school activity and missed bus transit service * print transit schedule * develop schedules like Mason Transit * add Wah-He-Lut type van * transit is great * **CHRs** will be able to provide more help when transit is increased/consolidated * provide late-night transit service or other transportation alternative for Little Creek employees * develop a bus replacement program * link transit services better * **MOTORIZED:** Repave and curb/gutter/sidewalk on all reservation roads (2) * more traffic calming devices * **NON-MOTORIZED:** More trail planning * add bike paths * lighting and crosswalks * sidewalks to keep people off roads (2) * signage to watch for children * painted crosswalk * **PLANNING/POLICY:** More transit planning to be eligible for more grants * more community input (5) * adequate capacity * planning as a priority (2) * more surveying * more transportation funding/grants (3) * find a location and build * Planning committee * more resources * prioritize budget allocation * pursue non-government grants * more law enforcement funding *

Priority Projects and Programs:

MOTORIZED: Old Olympic Highway South improvements (2) * expand road so children have off-road pavement to walk and ride on * **NON-MOTORIZED:** Walking paths and trails * bike/pedestrian awareness for youth and adults, bike/motorcycle parking * enhance walking routes in commercial areas * street lights * signage around playgrounds and school areas * **TRANSIT:** The Griffin transit route is vital, thank you! * buy bus passes on-line * campus shuttle * after school activity bus service (2) * late-for-school transit service * evening/weekend transit service * on-demand transit service * more CHR type transit service * extended hours (2) * more/better buses * transit awareness for youth and adults * bicycles, ride share, trip reduction program * **MARINE:** park and dock on the Island * water transit service to the Island * improve Arcadia boat launch * **PLANNING/POLICY:** More planning (2) * consolidate tribal transportation services * transportation infrastructure in the new housing area



TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



New Address?

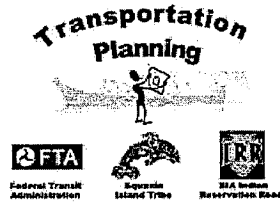
Keep the tribal organization informed on your mailing address. This is important for all mailings such as the newsletter, bulk mail, casino mailouts and PER CAPITA CHECKS. We must have current mailing addresses posted on Klah-Che-Min newsletters or we get charged to have them returned. Please contact Misti D. Saenz-Garcia (360) 432-3893 or email msg@squaxin.nsn.us Thank you so much for your cooperation!

Transportation Planning Update

Thanks to the 63 survey respondents who provided valuable input about transportation and transit priorities, concerns/problems, and solutions. Of the 63 respondents, 37 respondents took the Survey Monkey (web-based) survey and 26 respondents took the standard (paper) survey.

Below is an initial ranking of respondent priorities. The ranking was close in the middle section of the list.

1. Roads/bridges
1. Natural/cultural resources
2. Street/pathway lights
3. Traffic safety, law enforcement
4. Bike/pedestrian trails
4. Economic development, jobs, tourism
5. Transit buses, vans, shelters
5. Emergency management
6. Striping, markers, signs
7. Trucks and freight
8. Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) trails



Most (92%) of the respondents were Squaxin Island Tribe employees. Less than half (40%) were Squaxin Island Tribal members. 44% of the respondents live less than 15 miles from the reservation. Around 60% of the respondents had not tried transit or Squaxin Transit.

Below are respondent comments about "concerns/problems regarding transportation needs for the Squaxin Island Tribe":

- **Roads.** Better roads (2), improve Old Olympic Highway from Bloomfield Rd to SR101 by Kennedy Creek.
- **Bike/Pedestrian.** Sidewalks for kids, bike/ped trails for youth and adults (2), get children off the streets.
- **Lights.** Lighting for kids, street lights (3).
- **Signage, striping.** "Kids at play" signs around playgrounds, crosswalk striping, crosswalk signs for kids, lighted crosswalks for kids, better building signage.
- **Transit.** On-call service, night service for Little Creek Casino Resort employees and others (2), weekend service, awareness of schedule (2), better connections between Squaxin Transit and other transit services (4), better out-of-area connections, invest in more capacity for better service, more/better service to West Olympia, transit service for Shelton students, more/better routes, more/better shelters, improve mechanical reliability of buses, meet the needs of the people who don't have transportation, more transit for appointments, more buses, 20-25 passenger bus, provide late-night transit service or other transportation alternative for casino/resort employees, improve use ability of transit service, transit service for children missing the school bus, transit stop signs, transportation for Child Development Center kids, transit service from Steamboat Island trust land, elder/disability transportation.
- **Traffic safety, law enforcement.** Find funding for more law enforcement.
- **Other.** Complete transportation plans to be eligible for more grants, adequate capacity, planning as a priority (2), more surveying and community input (5), more transportation funding/grants (3), provide a transportation planning information/educational booth at the General Body meeting.

Thanks again to everyone who submitted a survey. Respondents who provided their name and phone are eligible for the raffle prize. The raffle winner will be announced in the April Klah-Che-Min along with more survey analysis, feedback, and respondent comments.

Thanks to Planner Penni Giles who is helping administer and analyze the survey. For any questions about the Squaxin Island Tribe's long-range transportation planning project and transit plan project, please contact Planner Lynn Scroggins at (360) 432-3952.

Happy Birthday
to My Special Mother,
Sue Henry, March 11,
Love, Misti

Happy Birthday David Josiah
Love, Mom and Sisters

Happy Birthday Bird
17th
Love, Mom, Brother
and Sisters

Happy Belated Birthday JC
in Florida!!!
"Indian Time"
Love, Mom

Happy 4th Birthday
Benjamin
Love, Daddy, Mommy,
Grandpa Conrad,
Grandma Liz and Brother

Happy 5th Birthday
Sara Maria
Love, Daddy, Mommy,
Grandpa Conrad,
Grandma Liz,
Brother and Sister

One Shot Andy
 Vince
 Vicki





Transportation Planning Update

Your input is valuable! If you haven't completed a transportation planning survey, the deadline is February 10. The survey is available on-line and on paper. The on-line survey link is on the Squaxin home page www.squaxin-island.org and in the Daily Scoop (Squaxin's daily email). The paper surveys are available in tribal facilities to be completed and returned to any Squaxin staff or directly to Lynn Scroggins at the Tribal Center. Both kinds of completed surveys that contain a name and phone number will be entered in a raffle to win an overnight stay at Little Creek Casino Resort Hotel and other prizes.

Questions? Contact Planners Lynn Scroggins or Penni Giles at (360) 426-9781 or lscroggins@squaxin.nsn.us or pgiles@squaxin.nsn.us.

The long-range transportation plan of the Squaxin Island Tribe will address:

- Roads and bridges
- Signs, lights, and markers
- Trails for biking, walking
- ORV use
- Air and water transportation
- Freight and rail
- Safety and capacity needs
- Elders and youth transportation needs
- Economic development, jobs, and tourism
- Natural and cultural resource protection and enhancement
- Emergency management
- Transit vehicles, routes, services, shelters
- Priorities and funding

The transit part of Squaxin's long-range transportation plan is partially funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) with technical assistance from Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) and the Community Transportation Association – Northwest (CTA-NW).

The Squaxin transit plan is based on a Stillaguamish Tribe model, serving the needs (demand) of tribal and community members (tribal and non-tribal), customers, visitors, and clients, elders, youth, and staff.

The Squaxin transit plan focuses on four types of public transportation demand: demand for service to and from tribal facilities, demand for service for tribal members, demand for service for tribal employees, and other community demand.

People should wear all their "hats" when they complete the survey - for example, I'm a community member, employee, service provider, visitor, client, and a customer!

- The survey is Squaxin's primary data gathering tool for Squaxin and Non-Squaxin stakeholders.
- Please take a few minutes to provide your valuable input for the People of the Water - complete Squaxin's transportation planning survey by February 10.



The Intertribal Professional Center drive is part of the Squaxin transportation system



TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



Transportation Planning

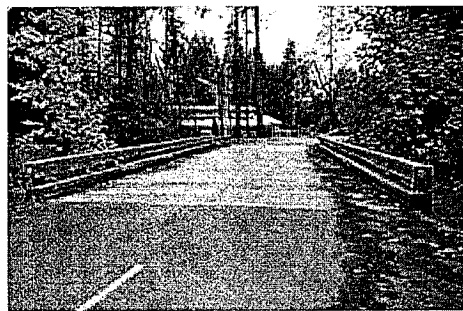


The Squaxin Island Tribe transportation system provides **healthy and safe** access to housing, employment, economic development, health/social services, education, culture, and other treaty rights. It includes **Tribal and Non-Tribal** routes, projects, and programs. It includes the **Squaxin Island Reservation and beyond**, designated routes stretching from Olympia to Shelton to Harstine Island to Elma.

The Squaxin long-range transportation plan (including the transit plan) will consider **improvements** to safety and access, **maintenance** to keep what we have in good shape, and **funding** to pay for these programs and projects.

As a tribal member, community member, employee, service provider, visitor, or customer, **your input is valuable**. Please complete this survey. **Return it to any Squaxin staff or return it directly to Lynn Scroggins, SE 10 Squaxin Ln, Shelton, WA 98584.** Surveys completed by February 10, 2008 and containing a name and phone number will be entered in a **raffle**. Questions? Contact Planners Lynn Scroggins or Penni Giles at (360) 432-9781 or at lscroggins@squaxin.nsn.us or pgiles@squaxin.nsn.us.

Thank you for your time and input to make a difference for the People of the Water!



Transportation Planning Survey

Your input is valuable. Please complete this survey.
Questions? Contact Lynn Scroggins at (360) 432-3952 or lscroggins@squaxin.nsn.us.

1. About myself (check all that apply):

- **I am a Squaxin**
Tribal member ___ Community member ___ Employee ___
Service Provider ___ Visitor or customer ___
- **I live**
On Reservation ___ Near Reservation ___ Off Reservation less than 15 miles away
Off Reservation more than 15 miles away ___
- **I am**
Over age 65 ___ Under age 16 ___
With mobility limitations such as a wheelchair or walker ___
- **Contact Information**
Name _____ Phone _____

2. My priorities (check all that apply):	High	Medium	Low	No
• Roads	___	___	___	___
• Bridges	___	___	___	___
• Trails for biking, walking	___	___	___	___
• Street and pathway lights	___	___	___	___
• Transit buses, vans, shelters	___	___	___	___
• Markers and signs – which	___	___	___	___
• ORV trails and areas	___	___	___	___
• Trucks and freight	___	___	___	___
• Economic dev., jobs, and tourism	___	___	___	___
• Natural and cultural resource protection and enhancement	___	___	___	___
• ...	___	___	___	___
• Traffic safety and law enforcement	___	___	___	___
• Emergency Management	___	___	___	___

3. About Squaxin Transit (check all that apply):

- I've tried ___ Not tried ___ riding a city or regional bus
- I've tried ___ Not tried ___ Squaxin Transit bus
- I ride Squaxin Transit: More than once a month ___ Less than once a month ___
- I **need** rides to work ___ school ___ social/health services ___ tribal activities ___ other ___
- I **receive** rides to work ___ school ___ social/health services ___ tribal activities ___ other ___
- I **provide** rides to work ___ school ___ social/health services ___ tribal activities ___ other ___
- I would ride Squaxin Transit more if there were: Better hours ___ Better routes ___
Better buses ___
Better connections with other transit services ___

4. Your top three concerns/problems regarding transportation needs for the Squaxin Island Tribe?

6. Your proposed solutions to these concerns/problems?

7. What transportation projects and programs would you like to see developed?



We Honor Our Veterans



GARY L. BROWNFIELD

I enlisted in the US Coast Guard in July of 1962. I underwent thirteen weeks of basic training at Alameda, CA. After basic training, I was assigned to the Coast Guard cutter, 'Tancy', based at Alameda. Most of the time, our schedule was just advanced training. We spent a lot of time undergoing training with the US Navy. Not to brag, but when we played war games with them, we almost always came out in first place. Every few months we would be stationed half way between San Francisco and Hawaii for 30-day tours. Our purpose there was to relay messages, weather reports and search and rescue. During one tour out, we encountered a hurricane. Rather than find this a little scary, most of us really enjoyed it. It was there I saw some of the most beautiful sites of my life. The water is so clear out there that you seem to see for miles down in the water. During the storm, when we would be on top of a wave, we could see for miles and miles. When you are down in between waves, you can look up and see a wall of water that never seems to end.

We had, of course, several rescues, most of which were boats that were in trouble, lost power, etc. We would tow them to the nearest port. It was also interesting watching as they did the weather reports. We had huge weather balloons on board that were sent up that would send back information on the weather, which the ship would relay on to the aircraft en route to Hawaii, etc.

I spent a year on the 'Tancy'; then went to school in Groton, Connecticut, where I studied payroll and supply. I spent twelve weeks in school. Upon graduation, I went home on leave. I was married while on leave; then returned for the remainder of my duty again at Base Alameda, CA. I spent the rest of the time working payroll. My job was doing the payroll for the guys in basic training. I managed to attain the rank of E-5 before being discharged in July of 1966.



Merry Christmas Everyone!

Mark your calendar...

Squaxin Island Tribal Council

Winter General Body Meeting

January 12th, 2008

9:00 a.m. in the

Squaxin Gymnasium.

Lunch will be served at noon!

Any questions?
Please call
+26-9781.



Another Successful Class

The Office of Housing just completed another successful Building Native Communities- Financial Skills for Families class.

The class was presented by Office of Housing staff as well guest presenters: Angel Keating - Credit Counselor and Mia Vermillion - Countrywide Home Loans. The curriculum for this class covered the following topics:

- Building A Healthy Economy
- Developing a Spending Plan
- Working with Savings and Checking Accounts
- Understanding Credit and Your Credit Report
- Accessing Credit

We would like to congratulate the 4 participants who completed all 3 sessions of the class and received their certificate.

Come join in on the fun and attend the next Building Native Communities class which will be held on January 8 - 10, 2008. Watch for details in the near future!!!

Call Lisa Peters @ 432-3871 to reserve your spot at the class. Hope to see you there!!

Transportation Planning Update

The first traffic counter results are in!

In October the first two traffic counters were set up on Klah-Che-Min Drive by the Clinic and in Slocum Ridge. The counters were out for a little over a week. For the Clinic traffic counter, the count was 500-700 vehicles driving over the tubes during each week day and 140-180+ vehicles on the weekend. For the Slocum Ridge counter, the count was 120-170 during the week and about 20 vehicles less on the weekend. This sure beats the 25-vehicles-a-day traffic count used by the BIA to calculate funding for road construction, planning, and maintenance!

Squaxin will be counting traffic on about fifty different Tribal road sections between now and June 2008. The counts are used in calculations called Average Daily Traffic (ADT) and Adjusted Average Daily Traffic (AADT) with the adjustment for seasonal factors.

Please watch over the counters and don't bother them. Think of them as an investment in our youth. With these traffic counting tools, we can fund and improve the roads now so our youth don't have to pay as much for roads and trails in their future.

Traffic counters also track the vehicle speed and type of vehicles driving over the tubes (but they do NOT track the individual vehicles). For example, these Klah-Che-Min Drive counters detected a number of trucks with trailers - not surprising since it's fishing season - as well as cars, bikes, and buses. By far most people drove the speed limit, but there were some speeders and a handful of high speeders at varied times throughout the week.

In addition to helping generate more transportation funding, traffic counter reports will be used by our Public Safety Department to better understand the traffic trends and help make our Squaxin roads and neighborhoods safer for everyone.

For more information about Squaxin transportation planning and/or the traffic counting program, please contact Vince Henry or Lynn Scroggins at (360) 426-9781.



Transportation Planning News

Traffic counts to \$\$\$

Squaxin's long-range transportation planning requires traffic counts on all tribal and non-tribal roads in the Squaxin Island Tribe multi-modal transportation system. Lynn Scroggins in Planning and Vince Henry in Public Works are working closely with the BIA Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) Portland Office and the Chehalis Tribe to develop and operate a Squaxin traffic counting program.

Vince and Lynn recently visited the Chehalis Tribe to observe how it's done. Chehalis staff operates a traffic counting program to collect traffic data for tribal and non-tribal roads within their IRR transportation system. Chehalis has three temporary counters that move from tribal road to tribal road. They also have three permanent counters installed in the pavement of heavily trafficked tribal roads. Chehalis also collects state and county traffic data on roads within their IRR system.

How does traffic counting work? The small traffic counter box is positioned a bit away from an intersection and is secured to a sign post with a chain and lock. Two long hoses are attached to the box, placed sixteen feet apart across the road, and secured to the pavement. The mechanics inside the box are turned on and every time a vehicle (i.e. bike, truck, car) crosses the hose, its time and date is recorded. Data is recorded for several days to a week. Afterwards, the box is collected and the data is uploaded to a computer for analysis and reports. Traffic counts are recorded on road sections every three years or as needed when traffic conditions change.

Traffic counts have many uses. They can forecast traffic and traffic patterns for new development projects. They can help problem-solve safety concerns. However, one of the biggest uses of traffic counts is funding. Roughly one-fourth of the IRR funding (roughly \$8 per vehicle per mile) is based on traffic counts. This can mean hundreds of thousands of IRR dollars annually to the tribe for road construction, planning, and maintenance.

Squaxin currently receives about \$100,000 a year in IRR funding for road construction, and much less for transportation planning and road maintenance. When all of Squaxin's tribal and non-tribal roads are added to the IRR system and the long-range transportation plan is updated and approved, we could reasonably expect a six- to ten-fold increase in annual IRR funding for road construction, depending on the national mix of IRR funding distribution.

So... be on the look-out for Squaxin's traffic counters in your neighborhood for they mean money to the tribe for road construction, planning, and maintenance. Feel free to contact Vince or Lynn at (360) 426-9781 with any questions. Please watch over the counters as they are moved weekly around the reservation roads and treat them kindly. Happy trips and trails!



WELCOME!!

The Office of Housing would like to welcome Nick Cooper to the community.

Cleaning Gutters

Water trapped in gutters can cause major damage to your roof and walls. Maintaining clean gutters helps keep your home in good shape.

Instructions

- STEP 1: Gain access to the roof with a ladder. Don't lean the ladder against a downspout or gutter, which can easily bend or break.
- STEP 2: Remove leaves and twigs from gutters by hand or with a large spoon, a gutter scoop or a small garden trowel.
- STEP 3: Wet down caked-on dirt, which can be difficult to remove without damaging the gutter itself, then remove it with the gutter scoop or trowel.
- STEP 4: Put debris in a bucket or plastic trash bag placed on the roof or ladder. If you use a bag, you can just drop it when it's full.
- STEP 5: Check that the downspouts aren't clogged. Use water to unclog your downspouts by placing a garden hose in the opening. But be gentle at first; downspouts aren't designed to withstand the same pressure as a house drain. If a plugged downspout can't be cleared with a hose, use a small plumber's snake or an unbent clothes hanger. Again, be gentle. Gutters are not as strong as house pipes.
- STEP 6: Alternatively, use a leaf blower to clean the gutters; however, remember that you'll be high up, often in awkward postures, and carrying a good-sized machine that not only is awkward to use but also can blind you with dust.
- STEP 7: Use the hose to flush the gutters with water after cleaning. (This is also the best time to find out if there are any leaks in the system.)

Tips & Warnings

- Consider covering your gutters with wire or plastic mesh. This will drastically cut down on debris.
- Never hold on to the gutter or downspout for support. They're not meant to support your weight.
- Make sure the ladder is sturdy and well-secured.

Tax Refunds for Working Families

Find out if you qualify!!!

WHAT: Earned Income Tax Credit Workshop.
 WHEN: Monday, November 5, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.
 WHERE: Elders Building
 PRESENTED BY: Iris Friday, NW Office of Native American Programs

The agenda includes:


- What is the Earned Income Tax Credit?
- Am I Eligible to Receive an EITC Refund?
- Selecting a Tax Preparer
- How Can I Use My EITC to Improve My Family's Financial Situation?

Every year in Native communities millions of Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) dollars go unclaimed or get reduced by unnecessary fees. Please join us to find out more information and if see if you may qualify for the EITC. To reserve a seat, please call Lisa at 432-3871. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE !!!!

September 24, 2007


Squaxin Island Tribe 2007-2008 Transportation Planning Projects

- Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update
- Transit Enhancement Plan



Long-Range Transportation Plan Update


- Profile
- Existing Transportation Infrastructure
- Circulation Data
- Transportation Needs
- **Transit Enhancement Plan** (partially FTA funded)
- Public Comment, Data Gathering
- Tables, Maps (150+)
- Resolutions



Benefits


- Community buy-in, ownership
- New/enhanced partnerships
- Planning more efficient and effective
- Federal requirements are met
- FUNDING for priority projects
- Alignment with mission and vision...

"We envision a culturally and economically strong community of self-governing, resilient people, united by shared values and traditions."



Stakeholders


- Squaxin stakeholders (government, enterprises, casino/resort)
- Non-Squaxin stakeholders (WSDOT, Mason Transit, BIA, PRTP, etc)
- Transportation Advisory Committee (community)
- Public meetings, outreach
- Coordinating Committee
- Consultant – Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC)



Approach

2007-2008 Long-Range Transportation Plan Update and Transit Enhancement Plan

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Community Awareness	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Process Approval	■										
Start-up, process briefings		■									
Data gathering			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Analysis, assessment							■	■	■	■	■
Plan review and feedback									■	■	■
Approval										■	■
Implementation											■



Details

- **Profile** – History, government, environment, demographics, land use
- **Existing transportation infrastructure** – Roads, bridges, bike/pedestrian trails... signs, signals, markings, railings... rail, freight, air, water
- **Circulation data** – Traffic counts, analysis
- **Transportation needs** – Capacity, safety, emergency preparedness, economic development/tourism, short-term improvements (6 yr), long-term improvements (20 yr), funding
- **Transit Enhancement Plan** – Fixed route, Dial-A-Ride, demand response, vehicles, shelters, dispatching, training - same approach as LRTP update
- **Tables, Maps (150+)** – GIS mapping as a training tool for P/CD staff