

Dear CPO Leaders,

I hope you are taking care during this unprecedented global event impacting our communities. As we all continue to stand together by following the Governor's strict orders to "Stay Home, Stay Healthy," I wanted to reach out to talk about how we continue our efforts for the CPO Program.

I know each CPO has different needs. For some of you, planning and attending a CPO meeting is the last thing on your mind, and that's okay. Others may have active events happening in your community and are worrying about how to connect with others in the community. While there are limitations to how we communicate and connect, I wanted to give you an update on the status of events and give you information on how CPO leaders can work within our current conditions.

- *CPO In Person Meetings* – With the Governor's Stay Home, Stay Healthy directive, we are not allowed to hold in person meetings. All CPO meetings are canceled through April. There is a possibility this may be extended. We are in a wait and see mode and will need to be flexible and plan accordingly.
- *CPO Virtual Meetings* – Unfortunately, we are not currently able to hold virtual CPO meetings. County Counsel has interpreted the public meeting laws as requiring a physical location so people are able to participate (allowing internet access for those who don't have it, allowing handicap access if needed, etc). Providing a physical location is currently not an option, so virtual CPO meetings are not currently allowed. Discussions are taking place at the state level to modify these requirements, so this may change soon. While virtual CPO Meetings are not an option, as an individual, you have the right to hold virtual meetings with community members for discussions. Just remember if you do so, you are not speaking on behalf of your CPO.
- *Harold Haynes Award* - The award decision process and presentation is currently postponed. We will notify everyone once we restore usual operations and have identified a new timeline.
- *Emails* – The Community Engagement Staff can email your CPO members about upcoming events, like LUT projects. These emails can include your contact information so interested parties can communicate and obtain more information.
- *Facebook Page* – If you haven't already, now may be a good time to set up a CPO Facebook Page. You can use a Facebook Page to post relevant community information. The CPO Special Project Fund could be used to pay for enhanced distribution of messages. Contact Highland for help with setting up Facebook pages and applying for the CPO Special Projects Fund.
- *Nextdoor* – I've seen Nextdoor used well in my community to communicate upcoming events. If you don't have an account, it's easy to sign up. Anyone can post information and ask questions, which is then seen by local community members.

- *Newsletters* – Carol Renaud will be sending out newsletters stating CPO meetings are canceled. If you want anything added which is specific to your community, please send that information to her and copy Highland. Carol’s email is carol_renaud@co.washington.or.us.
- *Communication with Community Engagement Staff* - per Highland Edelman’s email, all communication and requests should currently be directed to her while other staff members are supporting COVID-19 response team. Her email is highland_edelmand@co.washington.or.us
- *Communications with Community Members* – An email will be going out to the entire CPO mailing list to include the following County links to help people stay informed.
- To give Land Use & Transportation your comments on their ongoing projects, visit the [LUT Open House/Comment Opportunities](#) webpage
- To read about and/or comment on development and land use applications, visit the [Comment on a Project](#) webpage.
- If you’d like to connect with your County Commissioner, you can find their contact information on the [Board of Commissioners](#) webpage.
- To stay up to date with events happening across Washington County, check the [County calendar](#).
- In lieu of CPO meetings, if you have questions about other issues happening at the County level, you can reach out to the [Community Engagement Program](#) within Washington County and they can help ensure your question goes to the right person.

Thank you for being a part of the CPO Program. We look forward to seeing you all soon at our next meetings. Stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,

Kathy Stallkamp
Chair of CPO 4K
Chair of Committee for Community Involvement