

## Casey Moreau

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**From:** Joe A. Kunzler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 3:14 PM  
**To:** Casey Moreau  
**Subject:** 2022-12-08 JAK Public Comment for the PSRC TPB

7 Dec. 2022

Hi there;

Below are my comments for Thursday's Transportation Policy Board (TPB).

Two thought clouds:

First, as to the Climate Analysis Results - I agree we ARE in a climate emergency. But any road usage charge has to be progressive and fair. It also has to be clearly understood that the funding has to be flexible to fund ferries first in the state transportation budget.

Second, as to your Chair's views on being a Chair. I appreciate that last month your Chair made a statement at her Kent City Council when pressed by me she opposes Alex Tsimerman and then spewed a bunch of mistruths and half-truths about her role compared to the actions of PSRC President Badassuchi. I also appreciate what one of your members said in Operations Committee about you do have a choice - obviously, President Badassuchi and I agree.

I am going to ask very politely - and we'll get to why polite - that Chair Dana Ralph be a person worthy of President Badassuchi's trust and have a shared mental model with your PSRC President as to the role of the Chair during public comment please. You've seen President Badassuchi's standard nobly upheld against not just Tsimerman but me - and I expect to see the same tomorrow. Safe to say President Badassuchi does too.

As to the polite part: I've also decided in all my wisdom to pass along this essay for your contemplation. I do wish to counsel kindly that this is the olive branch that came out of nowhere to my smartphone last weekend. Like the greatest open gov't alumnus of the University of Washington knew what was going down and decided to chime in with new thinking BEFORE we got all angry and aggressive. I want to exhaust every opportunity before going down that road, holidays or not. Because there is strength in kindness, there is strength in collaboration, and there is strength in standing up *for* the commons.

With that, Heather "Newsbrooke" Brooke, Ph.D. is *the* leading open gov't expert from our state. Wrote a trilogy on open government and power. Got a Ph.D. in journalism. A WikiQuote star. Helped our nation handle the Assange and Snowden

crises. Best of the best. So I'll let Dr. Brooke take us in here... hoping we all unlock the good within us.

Very strategically;

JOE A. KUNZLER



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## What is Power?

I've spent most of my career investigating the different facets and forms of power. Here are a few thoughts.



[Heather Brooke](#)

Nov 2

As a culture we have an idea that power is domination and control - over animals, other humans, and ultimately nature. You can see this definition of power in feudalism, colonialism, and even movie posters where the 'hero' stands front and centre with a big gun that is his main tool to gain power.

BASED ON THE INTERNATIONAL BEST

THE ENEMY HAS  
A NEW WEAPON.  
SO DO WE.



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AUSTIN STOWELL GEMMA CHAN THOMAS KRETSCHMANN T

If you ask people, 'Do you want power?' most will likely cringe. Especially women. That's because our cultural view of power is conflated with domination, abuse, oppression. Unless you are a psychopath, you probably aren't keen to meet this out on your fellow beings. Hence empathetic, caring people will shy away from taking positions of power. But actually this turning away from power is itself an abuse of power. Let me explain.

**The definition of power as domination is just one of many and not even the most popular or powerful form of power. In fact, that version of power is WEAK POWER. Weak because it is fragile, easily defeated, and requires constant effort to maintain usually.**

*What type of power is stronger? The power of life force. The power of nature. This power is undefeatable. It is beyond winning or losing. It persists. It simply IS. This is True Power.*

There are other types of power, too. There is the power to create and grow. The power to influence outcomes and make changes. There is, as Brene Brown puts it, power to, power with, and power within. Power is relational and changing. Sometimes you might be in a situation where you hold power and in another where you don't. Some power is deserved because you earned it and some is not because you came by it only through privilege. Power is not inherently bad or good. Power can be used to support, protect, defend and sustain life. Or it can be used to exploit, oppress, abuse and destroy life.

**When people with good intentions don't own and take power, it becomes the preserve of the heartless, ruthless, greedy, narcissistic, psychopaths. That's why not using power can be just as bad as using it badly.** Some people have a lust for power over others because in their childhood they were powerless against abuse. They cling to a belief that if only they can dominate others (the way they were dominated) they will feel OK. But of course we see from the world's dictators, that domination doesn't soothe the wound. Weak power is weak. It's like a hole that constantly needs filling and yet never fills.



I really like what [Kelly Diels, a Canadian coach and business leader says about power](#). She says power is a brand. Like ‘Kleenex’ the brand comes to stand in for the thing. And in our culture weak power is standing in for the thing. But it’s not the thing. It’s the weak version of power. **Weak power has no vision for a world where beings are free and flourishing. It cannot conceive of a world based on pleasure, diversity and abundance, though that was life on our planet until very recently. Real power is the ability to imagine something better, something different and act to bring that vision to life. That’s what I want for all people.** Not that we crave weak power. But that we ARE power. By our actions and our choices we re-make the world in such a way that Life and Nature are sacred once again.

Thanks for reading