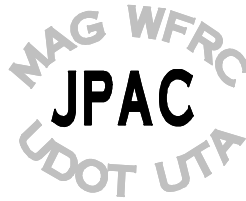


JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MOUNTAINLAND ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UTAH TRANSIT AUTHORITY

JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Utah Transit Authority Boardroom

3600 South 700 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84119

Thursday, February 1, 2007

12:00 Noon

MINUTES

Members Attending:

Mayor Jeff Acerson	Lindon City
Mayor Lewis K. Billings	Provo City
Darrell Cook	Mountainland Association of Governments
Mayor J. Lynn Crane	Herriman
Commissioner Craig Dearden	Weber County
Commissioner Larry Ellertson	Utah County
John English	Utah Transit Authority
John Njord	Utah Department of Transportation
Mayor Darrell Smith	Draper
Dr. Walter Talbot	Utah Transit Authority Board
Mayor Jerry C. Washburn	Orem
Commissioner Jan Wells	Utah Transportation Commission

Others Attending:

Mike Allegra	Utah Transit Authority
Suzanne Allen	DMPO
Claudia Anderson	Mayor, Bluffdale
Jeff Gilbert	CMPO
Sharon Gray	Wasatch Front Regional Council staff
Doug Hattery	Wasatch Front Regional Council staff
Ahmad Jaber	UDOT
Andrew Jackson	MAG
Sam Klemm	Wasatch Front Regional Council staff
Dan Nelson	Mountainland Association of Government
Andrea Packer	UTA
John Patterson	Ogden City

Members Not In Attendance:

Orrin T. Colby, Jr.	Utah Transit Authority Board
Chuck Chappell	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Councilman Carlton Christensen	Salt Lake City
Mayor Matthew Godfrey	Ogden City
Commissioner Bret Millburn	Davis County
Mayor Dennis Nordfelt	West Valley City
Mayor John Petroff, Jr.	West Point City
Mayor Russ Wall	Taylorsville

Mayor Godfrey, Commissioner Millburn, and Mr. Chuck Chappell were excused from the meeting. Mr. Doug Hattery noted that Mr. Darrell Cook and Mayor Lewis Billings would be a few minutes late, as they were at the Legislature.

The meeting began at 12:18 p.m., with Mr. Doug Hattery conducting.

Approve the December 7, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Mr. John Njord moved to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2006, meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Acerson and passed unanimously.

Distribution of 1/4 cent sales tax in Salt Lake and Utah Counties

Salt Lake County: Mr. Hattery presented a progress report on the distribution of the ¼ cent sales tax in Salt Lake County. He stated that in December, 2006, the SL COG reviewed the information on priority setting and passed a list of priorities for the distribution of the ¼ cent sales tax in Salt Lake County, as follows:

- .0625 (¼ of the ¼) will be used for ROW preservation for the Mountain View Corridor
- .1825 will be used for the following transit projects – Mid-Jordan and West Valley light rail lines and the Commuter Rail line in Salt Lake County to Utah County
- .005 will be used for the I-80 (I-15 to 1300 East) highway project

Mr. Hattery stated that bonding may be needed to take advantage of future funding.

Mr. Njord reviewed the needed improvements for the I-80 project and noted that the funding available will not be enough to complete the recommended project, which could cost between \$100,000,000 and \$130,000,000. He stated that the project will need to be scaled back or additional funding will need to be found to complete the project.

Utah County: Mr. Dan Nelson reported on the distribution of the ¼ cent sales tax in Utah County. He stated that he felt the sales tax increase would have failed in Utah County as a transit bill, and noted that adding roads helped it pass. He stated that there has been a lot of interest in Utah County on transit and road projects.

Mr. Andrew Jackson stated that Rep. Craig Frank's H.B. 98 has passed the house and would

likely pass the Senate. If passed, the bill would allow the County to bond for a state road, using the funding from the ¼ cent sale tax as payment for the bond. He stated that the funding can be used on regionally significant roads.

Mr. Jackson reported that bonding for projects isn't allowed under the current law for a new tax until it has been collected for one year, making the bonding an 18 month to 2 year process. He stated, however, that if the new tax amount can be matched to another tax providing a history, that history can be used for bonding purposes.

Mr. Michael Allegra reported that the Commuter Rail project from Weber County to Salt Lake County is approximately 60-65% completed. He noted that about 26 miles of track has been laid, and rail cars are currently arriving. He stated that the shop has been completed within budget, and the entire project should be completed in early 2008.

Mr. Allegra reported that UTA has developed aggressive schedules for the projects that will be funded with the new 1/4 cent sales tax, including Commuter Rail south. He stated that UTA is preparing to move forward on all projects at a "warp speed" rate, and should have them all under construction either this year or next. He noted that the projects will be worked on in the same fashion as UDOT's "design/build", where staff members will work together on these efforts.

It was noted that Davis County is pursuing the 1/4 cent sales tax increase.

It was noted that Weber County discussed the increase for their county at a meeting last night.

2007 Legislature

Report on Bills Introduced: Mr. Sam Klemm reported on the following legislation that the Wasatch Front Regional Council staff is currently tracking:

- H.B. 282 - Sales and Use Taxation of Food and Food Ingredients -- Newbold, M.
- H.B. 314 - Amendments to Dedicated Sales and Use Tax Revenue for Transportation -- Lockhart, R.
- S.B. 69 - Local Transportation Corridor Preservation Fund Amendments -- Killpack, S.
- S.B. 12 - Funding for Purchase of State Highway Rights of Way -- Stephenson, H.
- MPO Appropriation
- State Match for Corridor Preservation
- H.B. 108 - Transportation Studies -- Bigelow, R.
- H.B. 158 - Amendments to Transportation Provisions -- Harper, W.

JPAC members briefly discussed the ZAP tax that voters approved and the fact that the Legislature is discussing undoing the will of the voters.

Governor's Budget: Mr. John Njord reported that the Governor sees the vision of transportation and has provided the largest single increase in transportation funding in history. He felt that the Legislature is listening to the Governor by providing a fairly significant increase for transportation, as follows:

- **Centennial Highway:** Mr. Njord reported that the Governor is providing \$250 million in one time money. He stated that bonding will not be needed this year.
- **Choke Point Relief:** Mr. Njord reported that \$100 million was provided for choke point relief last year. He stated that the \$100 million will be ongoing, and additional "one time" money will also be provided this year.
- **Corridor Preservation Program:** Mr. Njord reported that \$20 million in ongoing funding for Corridor Preservation will continue. He stated that an additional \$20 million in "one time" money will also be provided this year.
- **Bridge Reconstruction:** Mr. Njord reported that in the past, the state has relied on the federal government to replace bridges. He noted that the state has 1850 state bridges, and an equal number of local government bridges. He stated that federal funding has dramatically dropped by about 1/3 which has caused the state to re-arrange their entire process of replacing bridges. He stated that approximately 500 bridges need to be replaced within the next ten years, and noted that current funding will replace about 150 of these bridges.

Mr. Allegra noted that UTA is watching more bills than ever before, including:

- S.B. 98 - Governmental Immunity for Trails -- Buttars, D. C.
- H.B. 282 - Sales and Use Taxation of Food and Food Ingredients -- Newbold, M.

Mr. Allegra noted that this bill would impact UTA with a 10% hit, or \$17 million per year. JPAC members discussed what could be done to eliminate the impact of H.B. 282 on UTA. They felt that all elected officials should "make noise" about this legislation. Mr. Allegra noted that UTA is trying not to over-react. Mr. English stated that UTA is counting on the Legislature's promise to make UTA whole, if the legislation passes.

Transportation Funding: Mr. Hattery reported that nationwide, transportation would take a \$4 billion hit if Congress funds the programs at 2006 levels through a continuing resolution instead of programming at SAFETEA-LU authorized levels.

Mr. Njord stated that the House of Representatives is now discussing funding transportation at the levels authorized for 2007.

Mr. Allegra discussed a change in the House side of the Federal Transit Administration. He stated that currently there is a recommendation that would transfer decisions on funding rail and other major projects to the Federal Transit Administration. He felt the change would be good for UTA.

Mr. Allegra stated that UTA is confident that funding will be provided for the Commuter Rail project in the President's budget.

New Memo of Agreement to add 2 new MPOs to JPAC

Mr. Darrell Cook discussed adding the Dixie and Cache MPO's to the JPAC organization. He felt it would be a good idea and could broaden the scope of the committee, but briefly expressed concern that the current WFRC/MAG agenda and what is taking place between MAG and WFRC and their ties with UDOT and UTA not be diluted. He reviewed the tremendous progress that JPAC has had over the past four years, and stated that he would like that same dialogue to continue. He added that there would be a potential opportunity and/or learning benefit for the Dixie and Cache MPO's, if they were included in the JPAC organization.

JPAC members discussed the following items relating to adding the Dixie and Cache MPO's to the JPAC organization:

- it could be hard to have focus on such a large area, and there could be problems being diverted to areas where there are no commonalities
- the possibility of meeting quarterly with Dixie and Cache MPO's, and continue to meet monthly with the regular JPAC Committee
- the importance of broadening the scope of transportation issues to extend beyond the Wasatch Front area
- possibility of meeting quarterly for one year to see if adding 2 additional MPO's is effective

Ms. Suzanne Allen, Chairman of the Dixie MPO, as new kids on the block, noted their appreciation for the learning process. She stated she felt they do have commonalities, although they are set in a different area. She felt it would be beneficial for them to work with the Legislature on a broader basis.

Ms. Allen stated she would be willing to go along with a suggestion that a provision be added to discuss statewide issues only every three months, as she felt there were more issues along the Wasatch Front to discuss monthly.

Mr. Jeff Gilbert stated that he would be O.K. with quarterly meetings, but noted they are used to attending statewide committee meetings that are dominated by Wasatch Front issues.

Both Ms. Allen and Mr. Gilbert were willing to attend monthly meetings even if there were no Dixie or Cache MPO issues to discuss.

Mayor Washburn stated that one of the reasons JPAC was established was because of the perception that MAG officials felt excluded. He stated his appreciation of how the MPO Directors have prioritized the agendas. He felt that MPOs need to be full fledged members, as some things are timely.

Mr. Njord noted UDOT's statewide responsibility. He felt it could be helpful for other MPO's to attend JPAC meetings, if only to learn. He stated that there was great value in meeting together, which is why JPAC was established in the first place. He stated there is a lot of work

to do in the Dixie and Cache County areas.

Ms. Jan Wells stated that JPAC is an advisory committee, and that there is no format to act as a body to move things forward. She felt JPAC was more of a learning/sharing forum, and that there was no reason not to include the Dixie and Cache MPOs.

Mr. Allegra added that there are more and more sharing policies throughout the state. He felt that the more unified we are at JPAC, the more successful we're going to be.

Mayor Crane moved that JPAC move forward to invite the Dixie MPO and Cache MPO to participate on the JPAC Committee on a quarterly basis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dearden and passed unanimously.

The following discussion took place at the March 1, 2007 JPAC meeting, regarding the motion listed above, prior to approving the minutes of the February 1, 2007 JPAC meeting.

Mr. Chappell asked JPAC members to re-visit the interpretations of what the motion should have been [in the February 1, 2007 JPAC meeting minutes] relating to adding the Dixie and Cache MPO's to the JPAC organization, prior to approving the minutes. He noted that two of the interpretations were:

- *Dixie and Cache County representatives be invited to meet once each quarter for discussion of their MPOs, but be invited to attend all meetings*
- *Dixie and Cache County be added to JPAC as full voting members*

Mayor Crane stated that he supported both MPO's and welcomed their participation monthly [if they desired]. He felt it was meaningful to have them included.

Mr. John Patterson stated the "more the merrier", but noted the importance of not losing focus on the urbanized areas.

Ms. Suzanne Allen stated that the Dixie MPO cares about what happens along the Wasatch Front and wouldn't want the current JPAC members to lose focus on the Wasatch Front area. She also stated that she felt it was important to discuss Dixie and Cache County MPO's concerns quarterly. She stated that her recollection of the motion to add the Dixie and Cache County MPO's to the JPAC organization included:

- *Dixie and Cache County MPOs be included as full fledged members of JPAC*
- *Dixie and Cache County MPOs would attend meetings monthly*
- *Dixie and Cache County MPO issues would be discussed quarterly*

The following amended motion was read for consideration:

Mayor Crane moved that JPAC move forward with an amended agreement to

include the Dixie MPO and Cache MPO to the JPAC Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dearden and passed unanimously.

Mr. Cook stated that he felt it was important to include the suggested membership in the motion, as follows:

*Transportation Commission - 2 members
UDOT - 1 member
WFRC - 10* members
Dixie - 2* members*

*UTA Board - 2 members
UTA - 1 member
MAG - 6* members
Cache - 2* members*

**All but one member is an elected official*

Mayor Crane moved that the motion listed above replace the motion in the February 1, 2007 minutes relating to adding the Dixie and Cache MPO's to the JPAC organization, along with the suggested membership numbers. The motion was seconded by Councilman Christensen and passed unanimously.

Mayor Washburn moved to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2007, meeting, with the revised motion as listed above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ellertson and passed unanimously.

Other Business

New meeting schedule: JPAC members briefly discussed the frequency of meetings needed for 2007. JPAC members decided that monthly meetings were important and could be cancelled if there were no pressing items to discuss.

Mr. Cook stated that meetings would continue on the first Thursday of each month. He stated that if a meeting was cancelled, a one week notice would be give, if possible.

Next Meeting: The next JPAC meeting will be held on March 1, 2007 at 12:00 (noon).

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.