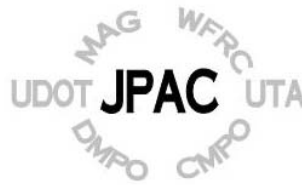


JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MOUNTAINLAND ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
UTAH DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIXIE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL
UTAH TRANSIT AUTHORITY
CACHE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Utah Transit Authority Boardroom

3600 South 700 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84119

Thursday, May 3, 2007

12:00 Noon

MINUTES

Members Attending:

Mayor Jeff Acerson	Lindon City (MAG)
Burtis Bills	Utah Transit Authority Board
Mayor Lewis K. Billings	Provo City (MAG)
Chuck Chappell	Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC)
Councilman Carlton Christensen	Salt Lake City (WFRC)
Orrin T. Colby, Jr.	Utah Transit Authority Board
Mayor J. Lynn Crane	Herriman (WFRC)
Commissioner Larry Ellertson	Utah County (MAG)
Lowell Elmer	Dixie MPO
Jeff Gilbert	Cache MPO
Commissioner Meghan Holbrook	Utah Transportation Commission
Commissioner Bret Millburn	Davis County (WFRC)
Commissioner Kent Millington	Utah Transportation Commission
John Njord	Utah Department of Transportation
Mayor Dennis Nordfelt	West Valley City (WFRC)
Mayor John Petroff, Jr.	West Point City (WFRC)
Mayor Jerry C. Washburn	Orem (MAG)

Others Attending:

Mike Allegra	Utah Transit Authority
Sharon Gray	Wasatch Front Regional Council staff
Doug Hattery	Wasatch Front Regional Council staff
Ahmad Jaber	UDOT
Andrew Jackson	MAG

Members Not In Attendance:

Councilwoman Suzanne Allen	Dixie MPO
Darrell Cook	Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG)

Commissioner Craig Dearden	Weber County (WFRC)
Mayor Matthew Godfrey	Ogden City (WFRC)
John English	Utah Transit Authority
Mayor Mike Johnson	Millville City (Cache MPO)
Mayor Darrell Smith	Draper (WFRC)
Dr. Walter Talbot	Utah Transit Authority Board
Mayor Jerry C. Washburn	Orem (MAG)
Mayor Darrell Smith	Draper (WFRC)
Dr. Walter Talbot	Utah Transit Authority Board
Mayor Russ Wall	Taylorsville (WFRC)

The meeting began at 12:15 p.m. with Mr. Chuck Chappell conducting.

Commissioner Dearden, Mayor Godfrey, Mayor Smith, and Councilwoman Allen were excused from the meeting.

Mr. Chappell welcomed two new JPAC members; Burtis Bills, from the Utah Transit Authority Board, and Meghan Holbrook, from the Utah Transportation Commission.

Mr. Bills stated that he is excited to be a member of JPAC and also about the upcoming Commuter Rail and Light Rail projects.

Ms. Holbrook stated that she feels it is a privilege to be a member of JPAC and hopes to learn from other JPAC members.

Approve the April 5, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Ellertson moved to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2007, meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Millburn and passed unanimously.

Report on Commission/UDOT STIP Workshop

Mr. Ahmad Jaber distributed copies of a handout titled **2008 UDOT STIP Workshop – Programming Recommendations**, listing recommendations from the April 20, 2007 Transportation Commission meeting. He briefly discussed the projects and stated that the recommendations made by the Transportation Commission were approved for public comments in three parts; TIF, Choke Point, and Bridge projects. Maps were on display showing the placement of the projects. Mr. Jaber stated that after the public comment period and approval of the STIP, the process of delivering projects can go on.

In answer to a question, Mr. Jaber stated that each region gets \$750,000 to address choke points. He noted that because adequate funding is not available, UDOT stretches the funding as far as they can.

Mr. Jaber distributed copies of a **draft Proposed List of Highway Construction Projects for FY2011**, listing the following \$37 million in projects:

Region	County	Roadway	Project Location Description	Type of Work	HCP
1	Davis	I-15	SR-108 to SR-193	Aux. Lane	\$6,000,000
1	Davis	SR-105	Parrish Lane RR Bridge Crossing	RR Bridge Widen	\$8,000,000
3	Wasatch	US-189	Passing lane between Heber and Provo Canyon Project	Passing Lane	\$7,000,000
4	Grand	US-191	Moab to Colorado River	Widening	\$10,000,000
4	Emery	US-6	MP 266.50 to 267.90	Passing Lane	\$6,000,000

Mr. Jaber distributed copies of a ***draft Critical Highway Needs Fund – Potential Project List (CHNF)*** that listed \$1 billion in both roadway and interchange projects. He discussed the projects and stated that highway construction over the last two years has increased 49%, which is a very significant challenge for UDOT. He stated that the increase have been caused by shortages in asphalt, cement and steel. Although there has been some leveling off in increases this year, he stated that there is currently a shortage of labor.

Mr. Mike Allegra, from the Utah Transit Authority, stated that the current employment environment is tough as contractors are picking and choosing.

Mr. Jaber discussed the projects from the first phase of the Long Range plan that have been prioritized. He stated that the Commission has a major challenge, as the projects listed don't address the whole plan. He noted that the projects highlighted in yellow were recommended by staff, the projects highlighted in blue were recommended in the workshop, and the "un-highlighted" projects haven't been funded.

Mr. John Njord explained the past Centennial Highway Funding program. He also explained that the CHNF is different. The Legislature authorized a \$1 billion bond this year for UDOT to build as many of the projects as we can, which he felt was a huge leap forward for them. He noted that there is currently over \$20 billion in highway needs. The Legislature provided \$90 million a year in ongoing general funds to pay for the bond.

Mr. Jaber explained that the "golden goose" for UDOT could be the collection of sales tax on automobile related purchases which will fund the Transportation Investment Fund (TIF) program. He stated that the percentage allocated will be increased in the future.

Mayor Billings stated that he felt the Legislature has come a long way.

JPAC members discussed bonding for the entire \$1 billion in projects that the Commission will approve this year. Mr. Njord stated that UDOT officials feel it would be unwise to program the entire amount all at once. He stated that they may initially program at 50%. He also noted that if Utah's economy continues to be strong, the Legislature would be more likely to spend more and invest in transportation. He explained that investment in transportation is worth more today than in the future, and it doesn't grow full time government employees (FTEs).

Commissioner Kent Millington stated that although he felt there needs to be some crowding, he also felt that UDOT needs to maintain a reserve for inflation.

JPAC members discussed the possibility of revolving bonds for transportation projects. Mr. Njord stated that the State is close to their bonding limit, which is set by the constitution. He also discussed the importance of the State maintaining their AAA bond rating.

Discussion on the status of the MPO's Regional Transportation Plans

Mountainland Association of Government: Andrew Jackson reported on the Mountainland Association of Government's Regional Transportation Plan. He stated that the Plan has been out to public comment for 26 days and will end on Monday at 5:00 p.m. He also noted that (hopefully) the Plan will be adopted this evening.

Cache MPO: Mr. Jeff Gilbert reported on the Cache MPO's Regional Transportation Plan. He stated that the public comment period has expired and comments are being integrated into the Plan. He stated that they are on board for approval the first part of June, and he hoped that an additional public comment period would not be needed.

Dixie MPO: Mr. Lowell Elmer reported on the Dixie MPO's Regional Transportation Plan. He stated that the Dixie MPO has received 150 written or verbal comments on their plan and he doubted that an additional public comment period would be needed. He stated that their plan would (hopefully) be adopted by their board on May 16th.

Wasatch Front Regional Council: Mr. Chuck Chappell reported on the Wasatch Front Regional Council's Regional Transportation Plan. He stated that the Council has advertisements on the Regional Transportation Plan in the Salt Lake Tribune, the Deseret News, and the Ogden Standard Examiner. He stated that two Open Houses will be held later today in Salt Lake County. Mr. Chappell stated that quite a few comments have been received and adjustments are being made to the Plan. He noted that an additional 30 day comment period will not be needed. The Regional Transportation Plan and comments will be presented to the Regional Growth Technical Committees on May 9th, the Regional Growth Committee on May 17th and will (hopefully) be adopted by the Wasatch Front Regional Council on May 24th.

Other Business

Mr. John Njord reported that UDOT has launched a campaign titled **Know Where. Know Why.** He distributed copies of a pamphlet titled **UDOT Guide to 2007 Road Construction - Know Where. Know Why** to those in attendance. He stated that the Utah Department of Transportation has created this guide to provide the public with information about significant construction project locations, timeframes, and alternate routes throughout the state. The pamphlets will be distributed to restaurants, as well as hotels. It was suggested that the pamphlets also be provided at the airport to rental car agencies.

Mr. Njord stated that radio advertisements on the campaign are also scheduled and up to date information about UDOT's twenty-one most impactful projects and what can be expected can also be found on UDOT's web-site at www.udot.utah.gov. He added that UDOT is trying to be more innovative about how they do work, to hopefully minimize problems.

Councilman Christensen stated that UDOT should have some fun during construction, which could be accomplished by using a good advertising agency. He felt that good information is a real public service.

Sign new JPAC Agreement

Pictured below are Mr. Lowell Elmer, representing Councilwoman Suzanne Allen, Director of the Dixie MPO; Mayor John Petroff, Chairman of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, Mr. John Njord, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Transportation, Orrin T. Colby, Jr., Chairman of the Utah Transit Authority Board, and Mayor Jerry Washburn, Chairman of the Mountainland Association of Governments, signing the new JPAC agreement, adding the Cache and Dixie MPOs as members of JPAC.

The new Memorandum of Agreement for the Joint Policy Advisory Committee has also been signed by Mr. Glen Brown, Chairman of the Utah Transportation Commission, and Mayor Mike Johnson, Chairman of the Cache MPO. Mr. John English, Director of the Utah Transit Authority, who was not in attendance at the meeting, will sign the Agreement at a later date.



Next Meeting

The next JPAC meeting will be held on June 7, 2007 at 12:00 (noon).

Mr. Chappell encouraged JPAC members to call him with agenda items they would like a report or information on.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.