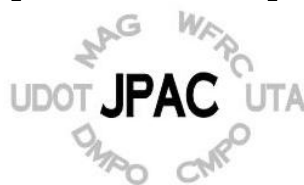


Joint Policy Advisory Committee

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, September 4, 2008
12:00 Noon

MINUTES

Members Attending:

Councilwoman Suzanne Allen	Dixie MPO
Chuck Chappell	Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC)
Councilman Carlton Christensen	Salt Lake City (WFRC)
Commissioner Larry Ellertson	Utah County (MAG)
Mayor Jay Franson	Highland (MAG)
Jeff Gilbert	Cache MPO
Commissioner Meghan Holbrook	Utah Transportation Commission
John Inghish	Utah Transit Authority
Commissioner Bret Millburn	Davis County (WFRC)
Commissioner Kent Millington	Utah Transportation Commission
John Njord	Utah Department of Transportation
Mayor Jerry C. Washburn	Orem (MAG)
Commissioner Jan Zogmaister	Weber County (WFRC)

Others Attending:

Mike Allegra	UTA
Todd Beutler	Cache Valley Transit District/CMPO
Carlos Braceras	UDOT
Steve Call	FHWA
Bill Colbert	Draper City
Sharon Gray	Wasatch Front Regional Council staff
Doug Hattery	Wasatch Front Regional Council staff
Ahmad Jaber	UDOT
Andrew Jackson	MAG
Justin Jones	UTA
Kris Peterson	UDOT
Walter C. Waidelich	Federal Highway Administration

Members Not In Attendance:

Mayor Burtis Bills	Trustee, Utah Transit Authority Board
Mayor Lewis K. Billings	Provo City (MAG)
Orrin T. Colby, Jr.	Trustee, Utah Transit Authority Board
Darrell Cook - excused	Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG)
Mayor J. Lynn Crane	Herriman (WFRC)
Mayor Dennis A. Dunn	Elk Ridge City
Lowell Elmer – excused	Dixie MPO
Mayor Matthew Godfrey - excused	Ogden City (WFRC)
Mayor Mike Johnson	Millville City (Cache MPO)
Mayor Dennis Nordfelt - excused	West Valley City (WFRC)
Mayor John Petroff, Jr. - excused	West Point City (WFRC)
Mayor Darrell Smith	Draper (WFRC)
Mayor Russ Wall - excused	Taylorsville (WFRC)

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

Darrell Cook, Lowell Elmer, Mayor Godfrey, Mayor Nordfelt, Mayor Petroff, and Mayor Wall were excused from the meeting.

JPAC members thanked UTA for lunch that was provided at the meeting.

Minutes

Councilwoman Suzanne Allen moved to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2008 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Millington and passed unanimously.

Federal Surface Transportation Authorization

Mr. Butch Waidelich briefly reported on the Federal Surface Transportation authorization and the current “crisis” in transportation. He stated that it was the federal government’s intent to draw down on trust funds, but noted that they are currently \$3 billion in the red which could delay funds being reimbursed to the state. He stated that they are looking at fixes for the program, but no one can agree on which fix.

Mr. Waidelich presented a PowerPoint on proposals from both the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission – **Transportation for Tomorrow** and the current Administration. He noted that the new transportation approach for America was to refocus, reform, and renew. He discussed the following combination of sections from the two proposals:

1. Commission Objectives
 - Examine condition / needs of the surface transportation system.
 - Develop a conceptual plan to ensure that the system will continue to serve the needs of the US for the 21st Century.
 - Examine the roles of the various levels of government and the private sector in meeting financing needs, and

- Recommend alternatives to replace or supplement the fuel tax.
2. The Case for a New Surface Transportation Economic Model
 - High level description of proposed program, financial, environmental streamlining, and regulatory reforms
 - Emphasis on reform, not reauthorization of previous programs and policies.
 3. Major Future Factors
 - Extensive population growth & shifting locations
 - Emergence of mega-regions
 - Increasing demand for mobility
 - Environmental and energy realities
 - Freight transportation growth in a global economy
 - Aging infrastructure clogged by escalating traffic congestion
 4. Recommendations 5-Part New Federal Compact
 - A strong Federal role
 - Increased expenditures from all levels of government & the private sector
 - Improve effectiveness & accountability for investments
 - Investment strategies targeted at performance outcomes
 - Institutional and Federal program delivery reforms
 5. Six Major Themes
 - More focused Federal role
 - i. Consolidation of programs and funding
 - ii. Emphasis on interstate commerce and metropolitan area congestion
 - Increased State/Municipal flexibility
 - More rational investment decisions
 - i. Benefit-cost analysis and performance measures
 - More efficient pricing and leveraging of federal resources
 - Data/technology approach to safety
 - More efficient/effective environmental process
 6. The National Interest: Ten Focus Areas
 - Rebuilding America
 - Freight Transportation
 - Congestion Relief
 - Saving Lives
 - Connecting America
 - Intercity Passenger Rail
 - Environmental Stewardship
 - Energy Security
 - Federal Lands
 - Research, Development & Technology
 7. Eight Core Programs

- Federal Interest Highway Program (FIH)
- Metro Mobility Program (MM)
- Mobility Enhancement Program (ME)
- Federal Lands Highways and Transit (FLH&T)
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
- Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety State Grant Program
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Combined Grant Program
- Transportation Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act Program (TIFIA)

Mr. Waidelich answered questions and stated that JPAC members could obtain additional information from him by phone or e-mail, or they could look for information on the web-site, as follows:

W. Waidelich - FHWA Utah Division – (801)963-0182

Walter.waidelich@dot.gov

<http://www.dot.gov>

Mr. Njord thanked him for his timely presentation. He noted that UDOT will be scaling back projects starting in October because of the uncertainties with federal reimbursements. He also noted that the federal Transit Trust Fund will, most likely run short of funds sometime next year.

Mr. English reported that UTA isn't quite as dependent on federal dollars as before. He stated that a decision will need to be made as to whether to shift to a state program or move to a stronger federal program for transit.

Mr. Chappell stated that there was a "flicker of hope" that Congress would put money in the Highway Trust Fund to cover payments through September 2009.

Asphalt Shortage – the Effects on Highway Construction

Mr. Kris Peterson, UDOT's State Construction Engineer, reported on the asphalt shortage in Utah. He noted that UDOT expected to see a price increase, but nothing like what was experienced. He explained the following reasons for the shortage and price increase:

- Huge spike in fuel prices at the refineries,
- Refineries can make more money with gasoline than from asphalt (market demand economy),
- Asphalt was \$350 per liquid ton – now over \$1,000 per liquid ton,
- Escalators that were in place included liability for price increases with contracts,
- A major supplier in the state went bankrupt and couldn't honor their commitments,
- Oil shortage – which is a nationwide issue,
- UDOT uses "good" asphalt and adds polymers to asphalt which compounds the problem, and
- Concrete is almost an equal price product right now [became competitive somewhere around \$900/ton].

Mr. Peterson reported that UDOT is currently looking at asphalt vs. concrete from a life-time cost, considering alternate payment types, and is working with suppliers and contractors.

Mr. Peterson noted that UDOT has spent between \$25 and \$30 million more this year because of the price of asphalt. He hoped that this fall they would see prices come back down.

I-15 & Mountain View Corridor Projects

I-15: Mr. John Njord reported on the I-15 project in Utah County. He stated that UDOT currently has 180 people (10% of their staff) working on the project. He stated that great progress has been made and the project is on schedule for construction in 2010. UDOT has received a Record of Decision (ROD) on the project which he felt was a huge milestone.

Mountain View Corridor (MVC): Mr. Njord reported that progress has also been made on the Mountain View Corridor project. He noted that the final EIS is complete and will be ready for public distribution on September 20 or 21, 2008. He stated that the project has been controversial, but noted that UDOT has found a way to avoid litigation. He stated that there is limited funding for the multi-billion dollar project, as UDOT currently has only a couple of hundred million programmed for it. He compared it to them needing a tree and only having the seed. He stated that the project will be built in small pieces.

Mr. Chappell discussed the need for more public funds to build the road, especially if tolls on the road are to be avoided.

JPAC members discussed increased taxes, tolls, and possible state funding in the future to pay for the needed projects.

Mr. Braceras reported that Ms. Teri Newall has worked on the MVC project for the past 4 years, and a ROD will be received prior to Thanksgiving. He felt that the work on the project has been remarkable, and has provided UDOT with a blueprint to work from that includes both transit and road solutions.

Mr. John Njord distributed copies of a booklet titled ***The Legacy Begins***. The booklet included an invitation to attend the Legacy Parkway opening on September 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. on the 500 South Bridge. He also invited those interested could take a walk on the actual roadway from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, September 13, 2008. He noted that a charity run/bike ride would be held at 8:30 a.m. on the roadway.

Other Business

Mr. Chappell distributed copies of a handout on Area Designations for 2006 24-hour Fine Particle (PM_{2.5}) Standards. The handout provided JPAC members with information on how to comment on the standards, as follows:

Comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2007-0562 may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- <http://www.regulations.gov>: follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
- E-mail: Comments may be sent by electronic mail (e-mail) to: a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov.
- Fax: Fax your comments to: 202-566-1741
- Mail: Send your comments to: Air and Radiation Docket and Information center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code: 6102T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC, 20460.
- Hand Delivery or Courier: Deliver your comments to: EPA Docket Center, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 3334, Washington, D.C. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Mr. Chappell noted that EPA is considering including parts of Tooele County and parts of Box Elder County along with Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, and Utah Counties in one non-attainment area. Neither Tooele County nor Box Elder County have any violations. JPAC members discussed their concerns about having all these areas in one non-attainment area. They agreed with the state DAQ's position that there should be separate areas. Mr. Chappell stated that the comment period is from August 21, 2008 through September 20, 2008 (updated to October 2). He encouraged JPAC members to request separate non-attainment areas.

JPAC members requested text that elected officials could use to send with their comments to EPA. It was also suggested that the text be sent to WFRC members, as well.

Mr. Njord noted that EPA is after emissions from a company that is by the Great Salt Lake. He felt they were marching outside their realm of authority.

Mr. Bill Colbert suggested that JPAC members also write letters to their Congressional delegations. He also suggested that Mike Leavitt be asked to also send a letter.

Next Meeting: Mr. Chappell noted that the next JPAC meeting will be held on October 2, 2008.

Possible Future Topics: JPAC members briefly discussed topics for future JPAC agendas. Topics included the following:

- ADA Transportation
- General Freight – Railroad Corridor
- Salt Lake City Airport update
- Frontlines 2015 (70 miles/7 years)
- Legislative Transportation Interim Committee
- Carbon Emissions
- Transit Performance (short/long term)
- Funding the Big Projects
- Operational Improvements (TOC and ITS)
- Energy
- Traffic management

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.