

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**

3600 South 700 West  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

**Thursday, March 3, 2011**  
**11:30 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

Members Attending:

Andrew Gruber, Chair	WFRC
Michael Allegra	UTA
Carlos Braceras	UDOT
Commissioner Craig Dearden	Weber County
Commissioner Larry Ellertson	Utah County
Jeff Gilbert	Cache MPO
Andrew Jackson	MAG
Commissioner Jeff Holt	Transportation Commission
Mayor Heather Jackson	Eagle Mountain
Commissioner Bret Millburn	Davis County
John Njord	UDOT
Commissioner John Petroff	Davis County
Kenneth Sizemore	Five County AOG
Mayor Darrell Smith	Draper
Mayor Mike Winder	West Valley City

Others Attending:

Brad Armstrong	UTA
Rebecca Cruz	UTA
Chad Eccles	MAC
Tyler Garcia	UTA
Doug Hattery	WFRC
Hugh Johnson	UTA
Justin Jones	UTA
Sam Klemm	WFRC
Steve Meyer	UTA
Andrea Packer	UTA
Cory Pope	UDOT
Shawn Seager	MAG
Matt Sibul	UTA
Lorin Simpson	UTA

Excused:

Commissioner Jim Eardley, Councilman Carlton Christensen, and Michelle Facer-Baguley

Andrew Gruber welcomed everyone and the meeting began at 11:45 a.m. with introductions.

**Approve February 3, 2011, Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Mike Winder moved to approve the February 3, 2011 meeting minutes. Commissioner Larry Ellertson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Revenue and Funding Update – UDOT & UTA**

John Njord presented information on revenue and funding for the Utah Department of Transportation. His presentation included the following information:

- Revenue Resources – 2011:
  - Bond Proceeds = 61%
  - State = 21%
  - Federal = 17%
  - Other = 1%
- Utah Transportation Commission distributes the funds for UDOT projects
- There are four major programs contained within the bonding program:
  - Centennial Highway Fund
  - Critical Highway Needs Fund
  - Highway Construction Projects
  - Transportation Investment Fund
- UDOT usually has the largest construction program in the history of our State but by 2013 this will drop sharply unless other revenues or bonding is approved.
- Road Conditions – Because of budget constraints, UDOT has changed their roadway maintenance schedules. Roads are now categorized into three categories
  - Interstates
  - Level 1 – are State Highways that have 2,000 cars per day or more – proactively maintained best as possible as funding allows
  - Level 2 – are roads with less than 2,000 cars per day – No regular maintenance pursued. By 2020 about 40% will be in poor condition. This has an impact mostly on rural State highways

JPAC members discussed and commented on the many innovative things Utah is doing to address transportation challenges. Mr. Njord said that UDOT is working hard to find new ways to do things better.

Michael Allegra, UTA, presented information on revenue and funding for the Utah Transit Authority. His presentation included and he discussed the following:

- How UTA is Funded –
  - The majority of funding comes from Sales Tax.
  - Remaining funds from: Fare Box, Federal Grants, Advertising, Interest and Other
- UTA's sales tax revenues have been below previous projections because of the recession. This has resulted in service cuts.
- UTA Efficiency Statistics
  - IPR (community's Investment Per Rider) – is down which means UTA is serving more people for less dollars
  - Operating Expenses – down \$8.5 million
  - Ridership – up about 3%-4%
  - Passenger Revenues – have gone up
- Future Transit Funding
  - No current capital reserve – no further projects unless both capital and operating expenses are available

Mr. Allegra said that UTA is doing well and that they are being as efficient and careful with their resources and budget as they possibly can.

### ***State Legislative Update***

Andrew Gruber reported on Senate Bill 229 – Automobile Related Sales Tax – sponsored by Senator Stuart Adams and discussed the following:

- Approximately 17% of statewide sales and use tax revenues can be attributed to the purchase and operation of vehicles and vehicle-related products. Only half of those revenues or 8.3% are reinvested in Utah's transportation.
- Under the bill, beginning in FY2013, 40% of the growth in total statewide sales tax revenues above fiscal year 2011 is transferred to transportation (in addition to the ongoing 8.3% of the total revenues) through the Transportation Investment Fund (the remaining growth continues to go to the General Fund).
- No tax or fee increases are needed to implement this proposal. It is funded entirely from economic growth.
- This proposal has no impact on the FY2012 budget. It would take effect beginning in FY2013.

With regard to other Legislative actions, Sam Klemm, WFRC, reported that the base budget is within about \$50 million of the Governor's original proposal. This is due to a combination of additional revenues and some cuts.

Mr. Klemm then briefly discussed the following transportation related issues:

- HB 34 – UDOT Settlement Agreements – Representative Julie Fisher – Passed
- SB 222 – Transit Authority Governance – Senator Curtis Bramble – Passed Senate and is on the House calendar
- SB 232 – Public Transit District Board of Trustees – Senator Karen Mayne – Senate 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
- SB 239 – Gasoline Tax Bill – Senator Kevin VanTassell – Senate 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
- SB 244 – Salt Lake County Highway Project Funding – Senator Wayne L. Niederhauser – Passed Senate Transportation Committee
- HB 296 – Highway Construction Contract Amendments – Representative Curtis Oda – Passed House

### ***Federal Legislative Update***

Andrew Gruber reported on the following Federal Legislative information:

- An agreement was reached to cut \$4 billion out of this year's (FY2011) budget as part of a continuing resolution through March 18. Congress will need to adopt a budget for the entire year. This will likely include additional cuts. There are a lot of negotiations going on about what to cut and how to do so.
- SAFETEA-LU authorization expired in 2009. There is an agreement in Washington to extend SAFETEA-LU through the end of this fiscal year. This does not provide money but says that government is allowed to continue providing transportation dollars that are in the budget.
- The President has proposed a budget for FY2012 as well as a broad multi-year authorization bill. There is a lot of activity going on both in the House and in the Senate with hearings around the country asking questions about what should the federal program look like.

JPAC discussed and commented on the importance of providing information from a local level as to what goes into the reauthorization bill and how to get the information to those who would

be involved in writing the bill. Also discussed was the importance of continuing to work together and coordinating efforts with everyone – the House of Representatives, the Senate, the Administration, FTA, FHWA, DOT, MPOs, UTA and local governments.

### ***UTA Service Change Plans***

Andrea Packer, UTA, reported that with the opening of the West Valley and Mid Jordan TRAX light rail lines in August, UTA has been preparing the community for changes to the bus and rail system, particularly in Salt Lake County. During the scoping phase UTA held a series of open houses and used their social media page and other channels in order to receive as much public input and comment as possible.

Ms. Packer said that information from the scoping phase along with the research received through Dan Jones and Associates, UTA has developed two different scenarios based on the following criteria:

1. Maximize ridership
2. Maximize efficiency
3. Meet the budget
4. Traditional ridership and travel demand modeling and analysis
5. Research and public input

Ms. Packer reviewed each of the Scenarios (Scenario A and Scenario B) that were included in the handout information distributed to members. She briefly discussed the difference in the two scenarios. She noted that the public comment period had begun and that another eight open houses are scheduled in the next couple of weeks. She encouraged comments and suggestions from the elected officials and their communities.

### **Other Business**

- Ken Sizemore, Executive Director, Dixie MPO – distributed copies of the Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization – Projects and Phasing – Regional Transportation Plan 2011-2040.
- Next meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2011 – at the UDOT Traffic Operations Center located at 2060 South 2760 West, Salt Lake City. There will be a tour of the TOC beginning at 11 a.m. followed by lunch and a short meeting in the UDOT Region Two Hurley Conference Room at 2010 South 2760 West.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.