

## 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, August 4, 2011  
11:30 a.m.

### MINUTES

#### Members Attending:

Mayor Bill Applegarth	Riverton City
Todd Beutler	CVTD / CMPO
Councilmember Carlton Christensen	Salt Lake City
Mayor Peter Corroon	Salt Lake County
Commissioner Craig Dearden	Weber County
Jeff Gilbert	Cache MPO
Myron Lee	Dixie MPO
Commissioner Bret Millburn	Davis County
Commissioner Kent Millington	Transportation Commission
John Njord	UDOT
Commissioner John Petroff	Davis County
Kenneth Sizemore	Five County AOG
Mayor Russ Wall	Taylorsville City
Mayor Mike Winder	West Valley City

#### Others Attending:

Carlos Braceras	UDOT
Mick Crandall	UTA
Chuck Gates	ULCT / UTA
Doug Hattery	WFRC
Linda Hull	UDOT
Justin Jones	UTA
Sam Klemm	WFRC
Cory Pope	UDOT
Matt Sibul	UTA

#### Excused:

Mayor John Curtis, Commissioner Larry Ellertson and Mayor Heather Jackson, Andrew Gruber

Doug Hattery welcomed everyone. The meeting began at 11:50 a.m. with introductions.

**Approve June 2, 2011, Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Russ Wall moved to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2011 meeting. Commissioner Craig Dearden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Federal Legislative Update / Discussion – UDOT and UTA**

Linda Hull, Utah Department of Transportation, discussed a number of issues that are currently going on with the Federal Transportation Funding Program. She reported that the Highway Trust Fund currently has more expenditures going out than revenues coming in and will be insolvent by end of Fiscal Year 2012. She said that a few of the reasons for this are that the current federal program SAFETEA-LU increased the spending rate to spend down the significant balance; the temporary general fund infusions of cash will run out; and projected revenues to the fund have decreased during the current economic crisis with people driving less because of loss of jobs and higher fuel prices.

She reported that SAFETEA-LU expired on September 30, 2009 and has been limping along on short term extensions. The current extension expires September 30, 2011. Ms. Hull said that along with the authorization to operate the programs and spend the money from the Trust Fund, the authorization for the gas tax and other fees to fund the program also expires.

Ms. Hull reviewed UDOT's current budget:

- Federal Funds account for 17%
- State Funds account for 21%
- Bond Proceeds account for 61%
- "Other" such as local option county taxes, accounts for 1%

She also discussed how federal funds coming to Utah are distributed and said that primarily they go to pavement and bridge preservation and rehabilitation type projects. She noted that UDOT spends very little of its federal funds on capacity projects such as I-15 Core, Mountain View Corridor and Southern Parkway – those projects are funded with State funds and State bond programs. The safety and enhancement projects come from Federal funds. These types of projects are the ones that would be impacted by cuts in Federal funding.

Ms. Hull said that UDOT does not know what will happen with the federal program in the near or long term. She said that if they see reductions to the federal program, the Transportation Commission and UDOT working together would identify adjustments to projects to match available funding.

Justin Jones, Utah Transit Authority, gave an update on UTA's 2012 Operating & Capital Budget. He explained that in 2012 UTA anticipates 45% of the budget will be federal funding. He said they receive very little formula funding but most of this 45% is the competitive grant that they have applied for – the full funding grant on the major capital projects. He said that 31% of the revenue for 2012 will come from operating revenue or sales tax fares and other. The final 24% is bonding and reserve funds.

Mr. Jones said that the Regional Transportation Plans (WFRC and MAG) that have recently been adopted have about \$5.2 billion programmed for transit operations and maintenance over the next 30 years and about \$11 billion for transit capital. He said the plans assume a smaller role for federal funding than in the past.

JPAC members discussed the impact the federal funding uncertainty may have on Utah's transportation projects. A copy of *Utah's Federal Transportation Authorization Principles* was distributed and discussed (copy attached). JPAC members made a recommendation that the Joint Policy Advisory Committee send a letter to Utah's Congressional Delegation recognizing the difficult times but stating that continued investment in our highway and transit systems is critical to Utah's continued growth and encouraging their support as Congress considers legislation to authorize future transportation programs.

Mayor Russ Wall recommended and JPAC members concurred that a letter be written to Utah's Congressional Delegation and a copy of *Utah's Federal Transportation Authorization Principles* be included with the letter. Doug Hattery said that WFRC would work with MAG, Cache MPO, Dixie MPO, UTA and UDOT to draft the letter and JPAC members would have an opportunity to review and comment through email prior to the finalizing and mailing the letter.

### Other Business

- **Unified Plan** – Doug Hattery said that four years ago the Wasatch Front Regional Council, Mountainland Association of Governments, Cache MPO, Dixie MPO, and Utah Department of Transportation put together a Unified Plan for Utah that includes maps and project lists. The Unified Plan allows others to see the transportation projects that are being planned in specific areas of the State. It is also information in one report that the Legislature may use in helping to make transportation related decisions.

Cory Pope, UDOT, said that all the MPOs have recently adopted new transportation plans and UDOT has received a copy of each of the Plans. He said they are now in the process of putting all this information together into one document. Mr. Pope asked for comments from JPAC members as to how they would like to receive the final document. He said something basic with maps and project lists would be economical and that they would be able to do that in their shop and send it out electronically to the MPOs. JPAC members said that the simpler and least expensive distribution would be best. Mr. Pope noted that the plan is to have the Unified Plan out as soon as possible after a final decision has been made on how to distribute.

Doug Hattery said WFRC would follow up and work with all the MPOs and UDOT to pull all the information together in the next month or so.

- **Next Meeting – September 1, 2011** – Doug Hattery reported that a Tour of UDOT and UTA Construction Projects is being planned for the September 1 meeting. He said that information would be e-mailed to members as soon as the details are available. Members will need to respond if they would like to participate in the tour.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.