

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, October 6, 2011
11:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Members Attending:

Mayor Bill Applegarth
Todd Beutler
Councilmember Carlton Christensen
Mayor Peter Corroon
Mayor John Curtis
Commissioner Jim Eardley
Commissioner Larry Ellertson
Jeff Gilbert
Andrew Gruber
Andrew Jackson
Mayor Heather Jackson
Myron Lee
Commissioner Bret Millburn
John Njord
Kenneth Sizemore
Darrell Smith
Mayor Mike Winder

Riverton City
CVTD / CMPO
Salt Lake City
Salt Lake County
Provo City
Washington County
Utah County
Cache MPO
WFRC
MAG
Eagle Mountain City
Dixie MPO
Davis County
UDOT
Five County AOG
Draper City
West Valley City

Others Attending:

Carlos Braceras
Steve Call
Chris Chesnut
James Christian
Chuck Gates
Mary Guy-Sell
Doug Hattery
Linda Hull
Justin Jones
Sam Klemm
Andrea Pullos
Shawn Seager
Matt Sibul

UDOT
FHWA
UTA
FHWA
ULCT / UTA
WFRC
WFRC
UDOT
UTA
WFRC
SL County
MAG
UTA

Andrew Gruber welcomed everyone. The meeting began at 11:45 a.m. with introductions. Mr. Gruber then turned some time to Andrew Jackson, Executive Director of Mountainland Association of Governments, who acknowledged and commented on the passing of Mayor Jerry Washburn, Orem City Mayor. Mr. Jackson said that Mayor Washburn did much for not only Orem City and Utah County but also for the State of Utah. He said that he was a champion of transportation and transportation issues and worked with the legislature and the State federal delegation to obtain funding. He noted that he was one of the founding members of JPAC and had great vision.

Approve August 4, 2011, Meeting Minutes

Mayor Peter Corroon moved to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2011 meeting. Commissioner Bret Millburn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Unified Plan

Andrew Gruber reminded JPAC members that four years ago the Wasatch Front Regional Council, Mountainland Association of Governments, Cache MPO, Dixie MPO, and Utah Department of Transportation in cooperation with the Utah Transit Authority came together and produced a Unified Plan for Utah. He said that Utah is the only State in the country that produces a plan where all the transportation planning agencies are on the same schedule of adopting plans and then compiling those plans into one document.

Mr. Gruber said that the MPOs, UDOT, and UTA are in the four-year cycle where all of the long range plans have recently been adopted and the agencies are once again working collaboratively to produce the Unified Plan. He noted that previously the Unified Plan focused primarily on capacity expansion projects and, while these are important with the growing population in the State, they are not the only issue that that Utah faces. Mr. Gruber said that the State faces significant issues on maintaining, preserving and operating the system we already have, not only State owned facilities or UTA owned facilities but importantly locally owned facilities.

Mr. Gruber said that the Unified Plan is not designed to come up with new information or new plans but rather is intended to compile the Plans that have been approved by their respective agencies. He noted in answer to questions that there is no overlapping but a lot of collaboration and coordination with the other agencies when developing individual Plans. Mr. Gruber said that the schedule is to have the Unified Plan produced and ready soon and then present the Plan at a future JPAC meeting.

Federal Update

Linda Hull, Utah Department of Transportation, presented an update on federal funding issues. She said Congress has recently extended the transportation programs authorized in SAFETEA-LU for the eighth time through March 31, 2012. However, highway funding is a two-part process. Appropriations is the next step. The House and Senate are still working on these for fiscal year 2012. The House has a version of the Transportation Appropriations Bill done but it would fund the program at about a 34% reduction over what we have today.

Ms. Hull said that really interesting are the developments of the last couple of weeks when Speaker Boehner told Chairman Mica that if he can find new money to help fund a transportation program at a higher level – go have at it – go find new money. She said that Speaker Boehner has actually talked about it publicly now as a way to tie a jobs bill to the transportation reauthorization. Ms. Hull also said that Senator Boxer made an announcement recently that she is going to take her two year reauthorization bill and is going to move it up to a committee mark up before the end of the month. She was proposing a two-year \$109 billion bill that would keep us funded above the level that we are today.

Andrew Gruber said that one of the things that is really hopeful is that there seems to be unanimous support in Washington on both sides of the aisle for making meaningful reforms to the transportation legislation – streamlining a lot of the processes.

Andrew Gruber reported on one other related item. He said the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce has been a real proponent of transportation and infrastructure investment for a long time. They are ramping up again their activities related to promoting transportation investment. They are organizing a mobility coalition – trying to bring together private interests to support appropriate investments in transportation.

Mountain Transportation Study

Matt Sibul, Utah Transit Authority, and Andrea Pullos, Salt Lake County, gave an update on the Mountain Transportation Study. Mr. Sibul said that the Mountain Transportation Study is a focus on transportation to and within Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons. The study area includes the area between I-15 to Wasatch Boulevard and 4500 South to 12300 South and does include all UTA ski Park and Ride lots.

The objectives and process for this study include:

- Issue identification/Scoping
- Identify opportunities and constraints for transportation improvements
- Develop a range of alternatives for consideration
- Prepare a benefits assessment of alternatives
- Develop screening criteria
- Screen/shortlist alternatives

Ms. Pullos said that there is a large stakeholder involvement and all ideas and alternative ideas will be considered that will help provide transportation up and down the canyon and also across canyon boundaries and possibly across county boundaries.

Ms. Pullos briefly discussed the committee structure which includes an: 1) Executive Committee, 2) Steering Committee, and 3) Technical Committee. Ms. Pullos said that the stakeholder group and other interests includes local jurisdictions, ski resorts, community council representatives, and other interests.

Ms. Pullos said that Fehr & Peers has just been put under contract as the consultant on the project and the kick off will take place next week. This is approximately a 12-month study and purpose and need will be developed based on feedback from each of the committees, and data and analysis completed throughout the study. The evaluation criteria will be based on recreation, economic, environmental, public safety, and transportation performance measures and cost.

Mobility Management Update

Mary Guy-Sell, WFRC, reported on the progress that is being made in mobility management in the Wasatch Front Region (all five counties, Davis, Morgan, Salt Lake, Tooele and Weber). The purpose of mobility management is to find transportation solutions for the transportation disadvantaged. This includes persons who are older adults, persons with disabilities and persons with lower income.

Ms. Guy-Sell said that in 2010 the Wasatch Front Regional Coordination Council Community Transportation was formed. The Mission of this Council is to foster, organize and guide local and regional coordination efforts that directly or indirectly improve access and mobility for the transportation disadvantaged. The RCC currently collaborates with over thirty human service agencies and transportation providers. Local mobility councils have been developed in every county. Through an Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between WFRC and MAG, the Wasatch Mobility Management effort now includes Utah County.

The RCC has several community transportation partners including UTA, the Department of Veterans Administration, Salt Lake County Aging, Tooele County Aging, State Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD) providers, Independent Living Centers, Valley Mental Health, and several private-for-profit transportation providers.

The RCC has developed an online transportation resource guide on the WasatchRides.com website. Driver, passenger, vehicle, and administrative policies have been developed to support coordination between agencies and in preparation of the one stop shop. The RCC implemented a UTA Change Day pilot project using online GIS-based analytical tools to evaluate UTA's proposed scenarios. Through a collaborative effort, the team was able to analyze a significant amount of data and key areas of concern were presented to UTA as part of their public input process.

Other Business

- ***Next Meeting – November 3, 2011*** – Ken Sizemore, Executive Director, Five County Association of Governments, invited JPAC members to St. George for the November JPAC meeting with the opportunity to tour the new airport as well as the Southern Parkway project and the Dixie Drive interchange. JPAC members concluded that a Friday afternoon meeting would work best for most schedules and then JPAC members could have the option of staying the weekend in St. George. Doug Hattery said that WFRC would get an email out to JPAC members to see how many would be able to attend the November meeting and then additional information would be provided.

Justin Jones suggested that UTA could make a presentation about what they are considering regarding their fare structure and fare collection at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.