

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

669 West 200 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

**Thursday, January 9, 2014
11:30 a.m.**

MINUTES

Members Attending:

Andrew Gruber, Chair
Michael Allegra
Mayor Bill Applegarth
Todd Beutler
Mayor Ron Bigelow
Carlos Braceras
Commissioner Jim Eardley
Commissioner Larry Ellertson
Mayor Carmen Freeman
Myron Lee
Commissioner John Petroff
Bryan Thiriot
Mayor JoAnn Seghini
Mayor Bert Wilson
Commissioner Jan Zogmaister

WFRC
UTA
Riverton City
Cache Valley Transit District
West Valley City
UDOT
Washington County
Utah County
Herriman City
Dixie MPO
Davis County
Dixie MPO
Midvale City
Lehi City
Weber County

Others Attending:

Steven Call
Carlton Christensen
Rebecca Cruz
Chuck Gates
Linda Hull
David Kallas
Arlene Kocher
Pam Jorgensen
Sam Klemm
Ted Knowlton
Shane Marshall
Steve Meyer
Alan Matheson
Justin Morgan
Cory Pope
Ron Phillips
Shawn Seager
Lincoln Shurtz
Matt Sibul
Ron Whitehead
Ted Wilson

FHWA
Salt Lake County
UTA
ULCT / UTA
UDOT
UTA
FHWA
WFRC
WFRC
WFRC
UDOT
UTA
Governor's Office
FHWA

Phillips Associates
MAG
ULCT
UTA
Washington County
UCAIR

Excused:

Mayor John Curtis
Jeff Gilbert
Commissioner Bret Millburn

Andrew Gruber welcomed everyone and the meeting began at 11:50 a.m. with introductions.

Approve October 4 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner John Petroff moved to approve the October 4, 2013 meeting minutes. Mayor JoAnn Seghini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2014 JPAC schedule review

Andrew Gruber, gave a brief background on the creation of the Joint Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC) noting that JPAC was formed about a decade ago. JPAC was formed with the idea that there are many transportation agencies and interests around the State and that each would do better if activities were coordinated. JPAC was formed as a forum for bringing together local governments through the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), the department of transportation, the transit agencies from all corners of the state to collaborate and share information.

Mr. Gruber distributed a copy and reviewed the 2014 tentative schedule. He asked for suggestions and discussion of proposed agenda topics. The discussion included the addition of a Weber County Tour as well as a tour of the UDOT Traffic Operations Center. Mr. Gruber said that this is a tentative schedule and may be adjusted as circumstances dictate. He also added that comments are always welcome for additional discussion topics throughout the year.

State legislative preview / transportation funding discussion

Andrew Gruber said that over the last year, there has been a lot of discussion among local governments, cities and counties statewide, about the funding challenges Utah faces. There has been a lot of work that has gone into developing proposals to take to the Legislature to authorize locals to generate additional funds to address their needs.

Lincoln Shurtz, Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT), gave an update on where discussions are with the Legislature. ULCT leadership and staff met with the Speaker of the House, Representative Becky Lockhart, as well as the President of the Senate, Senator Wayne Niederhauser, in two separate meetings. He said both the House and the Senate recognize there is definitely a need to do "something" to address the transportation funding shortfall. He encouraged members and local government leaders to continue to have meetings with their legislators to inform and articulate that there is a sincere need to address this issue. There are a number of proposals being suggested and discussed through the House and the Senate.

Other Legislative issues discussed included:

- Linda Hull: Eminent domain bill would make some modifications in how to notify someone before they can take condemnation action.
- Lincoln Shurtz: Legislation being considered that would allow the Quality Growth Commission to authorize eminent domain authority for multi-use paths / trails by local governments in limited circumstances.
- Legislation for a number of air quality initiatives that includes a joint resolution supporting a plan to meet the Clean Air Act's Air Quality standards.
- Shawn Seager, MAG noted that they are looking at the third quarter cent sales tax which has several silos listed in the state code. They are hoping to eliminate those so they can spend monies where they are needed. It was noted that this adjustment applies only to Utah County. Mr. Seager said that they may also be looking at the local corridor preservation fund requirements as it applies to the local governments.

Air quality update

Alan Matheson, Governor's Office, reported that air quality is a high priority and impacts everything in our State. He said there are a number of initiatives going on to improve Utah's air. His comments included: The Governor is leading at the State level with UTA passes for all State employees, an anti-idling directive, all State agencies required to implement TravelWise measures, and turning over the State fleet with alternative fuel vehicles. Additionally, the Governor has proposed \$18 million in the budget for air quality, \$14 million to convert school buses to cleaner operation, some money for grants to small businesses to help them comply with new regulations. An air quality messaging campaign being run byUCAIR and Envision Utah to help people understand the issues and specific things they can do to contribute to the solution.

Ted Wilson, Executive Director ofUCAIR, reported that as well as the messaging campaign that is set to begin the next few days, some of theUCAIR initiatives include: raising money from the private sector and giving it to agencies such as UTA to provide free passes on inversion days.UCAIR is also working with the Department of Work Force Services and the Division of Air Quality to help small businesses (less than 100 employees) comply with regulations by providing 50% grants on improvements in emissions. Mr. Wilson said there is an intensity about air quality and encouraged everyone to make it a part of their community and business to inform and educate – everyone needs to participate and “own it” or we're not going to solve it.

Mr. Gruber noted that the WFRC Air Quality Committee have been working with the Department of Transportation to produce a local government or community action kit which has been made available to local governments in the region with strategies for employees and ideas to assist residents to do what they can to improve air quality. He noted that WFRC and UDOT have collaborated to hire several interns to assist local governments implement programs in their communities, with employees, or with residents and address the air quality issue.

Effectiveness of seat belts

Carlos Braceras, UDOT, said that the four strategic goals for the Department of Transportation are: Preserve infrastructure, optimize mobility, zero fatalities, and strengthen the economy. The presentation to JPAC members focused on zero fatalities on Utah roadways. Mr. Braceras discussed what UDOT has done and is doing to work towards zero fatalities through engineering, education and emergency response. He noted that in every project around the State UDOT looks for opportunities to improve the safety on roads.

The five behaviors or choices people make that lead to fatalities on Utah roads are: 1) drowsy driving, 2) distracted driving, 3) aggressive driving, 4) impaired driving, and 5) unbuckled. Mr. Braceras' presentation informed about the importance of always wearing a seat belt. His report provided statistics and videos about people, drivers or passengers, who did not wear a seat belt. He said that seat belts are the single most effective traffic safety device for preventing death and injury. The presentation was very informative. Mr. Braceras said that his presentation and videos are available to those interested in sharing with their organizations or others.

Other Business

There was no other business

Next Meeting will be held Thursday, March 6 at UTA Frontlines Headquarters

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.