

Minutes
Regional Growth Committee
Meeting of March 19, 2009

A meeting of the Regional Growth Committee was held on Thursday, March 19, 2009 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Welcome and Introductions

Mayor Bruce Burrows, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Mayor Burrows welcomed committee members and guests. The following were in attendance:

Members, Representatives & Alternates Present:

Stuart Adams	Commissioner, Utah Transportation Commission
Claudia Anderson	Mayor, Bluffdale City
Lewis Billings	Mayor, Provo City / MAG
Bruce Burrows	Mayor, Riverdale City
Peter Corroon	Mayor, Salt Lake County
Mick Crandall	UTA
Louenda Downs	Commissioner, Davis County
Meghan Holbrook	Commissioner, Utah Transportation Commission
Jim Horrocks	Air Quality Board
Ahmad Jaber	UDOT
Alan Matheson	Envision Utah
Wesley Smith (for Lane Beattie)	Salt Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
Neka Roundy	Mayor, Kaysville City
Wilf Sommerkorn	SLC Planning
Gary Uresk	Utah League of Cities & Towns
Gary Whatcott (for Mayor Kent Money)	South Jordan City
Jan Zogmaister	Commissioner, Weber County

Non-Members Present:

John Bennett	GOPB / Quality Growth Commission
Elli Cosky	Salt Lake County Planning
Marlin Eldred	Davis County Department of Education
Francis Lilly	West Valley City
Kelly Lund	FHWA
John Taylor	Taylorsville City
Lynn Vinzant	Clinton City
David White	Salt Lake County Planning
Wayne Bennion	WFRC
Kip Billings	WFRC
LaNiece Davenport	WFRC
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Val John Halford	WFRC
Doug Hattery	WFRC
Jory Johner	WFRC
Pam Jorgensen	WFRC
Sam Klemm	WFRC
Greg Scott	WFRC
Eloise Thomson	WFRC

Members / Representatives excused: Mayor JoAnn Seghini, Mayor Daniel Snarr and Councilman Sid Creager.

1. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Louenda Downs moved that the minutes of the Regional Growth Committee meetings held October 16, 2008 and January 15, 2009 be approved as written. **Commissioner Jan Zogmaister** seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments

3. Information – Utah State Legislative Update

Sam Klemm, WFRC, informed that the 2009 Legislative session concluded at midnight on March 12. An updated “Summary of Legislative Issues” was distributed at the meeting. Mr. Klemm reviewed and discussed the following bills:

- **Senate Bill 057 – Senator Ralph Okerlund - Local Option Transportation Corridor Preservation Amendments** – The bill clarifies the law on interest earned on locally generated corridor preservation funds. Presently, the State Tax Commission is holding the interest. The bill places the interest into the counties individual accounts. An amendment in the House puts all the interest from the inception of the funds back into the individual accounts where they belong.
- **Senate Bill 134 – Senator Stephen Urquhart - Transportation Funding Amendments** – The bill prohibits the state, counties, and municipalities from expending federal highway funds earmarked through a congressional transportation authorization act unless the project is on the Transportation Improvement Program.
- **Senate Bill 239 – Senator Sheldon Killpack – Transportation Revisions** – The bill authorizes the sale of bonds in the amount of \$2.207 billion for the reconstruction of I-15 in Utah County and the construction of the Mountain View Corridor in Salt Lake County and the southern corridor in St. George.
- **House Bill 164 – Representative Curtis Oda - Migratory Bird Production Areas** – The original bill would have given a property owner or owners with 500 contiguous acres or more in an unincorporated area of a county the right to declare the area a migratory bird production area. That area would then have been exempt from most eminent domain procedures. The objectionable portions of the bill were amended out on the Senate floor.
- **House Bill 185 – Representative Wayne Harper - Transportation Amendments** – The bill re-directs certain funds from the ‘County of the First Class Highway Projects Fund’ to provide \$20 million for the North Temple Viaduct, \$4.5 million for 13th East in Sandy, \$3.5 million for a south Salt Lake County commuter rail stop, \$1 million for Murray City roads and \$15 million for two intersection projects on Bangerter Highway and a reversible lanes project on 5400 South in Taylorsville.
- **House Bill 371 – Representative Wayne Harper - Transportation Governance** – The bill will reorganize the Utah State Transportation Commission with four commissioners

selected by region and three at-large. All appointments will be non-partisan. The bill was amended in the Senate to include a reduction in the size of the UTA Board and certain modifications as to who may be appointed to the Board.

4. Action – RTP Amendment Proposal (Board Modification)

Ned Hacker, WFRC, reported that the Utah State Legislature has taken action in House Bill 185 (Representative Wayne Harper) to earmark \$15 million for three separate projects. The projects include two continuous flow intersections (CFI) at 5400 South and Bangerter and 4700 South and Bangerter and a reversible lanes project on 5400 South between Bangerter and Redwood Road. These projects were identified near term improvements in the Salt Lake County East-West Transportation Planning Study that was completed in August 2009 and presented to the State Legislature in September in response to House Bill 108.

Intersection improvements are not included in the Regional Transportation Plan. However, the reversible lanes/capacity improvement project would require an amendment since it constitutes a change in scope and phase of the existing 5400 South widening project which is in the Plan. As a change in scope and phase this proposed amendment to the Plan is a Level-2 Board Modification that does not warrant a 30-day public comment period or air quality conformity analysis. The reversible lanes/capacity improvement project does not replace the 5400 South project in the RTP.

Mr. Hacker informed that the State Transportation Commission took action yesterday to approve construction of reversible lanes/capacity improvements on 5400 South between Bangerter Highway (SR 154) and I-15. The intent is to construct the project using signals and signage rather than barrier separated lanes.

The WFRC staff has reviewed and evaluated the proposed amendment and found it to provide benefit to itself as well as adjacent facilities. With the new funding provided by the Legislature, the RTP remains financially feasible. It is also noted that no projects would be eliminated or bumped from any phases of the RTP to do this amendment.

Salt Lake County:

5400 South Reversible Lanes (Taylorsville) – Bangerter Highway to Interstate I-15. The State Legislature has approved funding to construct reversible lanes on 5400 South between Bangerter Highway (SR 154) and Redwood Road (SR 68). The UDOT's intent is to construct the reversible lanes using a series of signals and signage rather than barrier separated lanes.

Proposed Amendment: Modify the scope of the 5400 South project to include reversible lanes between Bangerter Highway (WR 154) and Redwood Road (SR 68) and move from Phase 2 to Phase 1 of the RTP.

ACTION: **Commissioner Louenda Downs** moved that the RGC recommend to the Regional Council the proposed amendment to the RTP. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Meghan Holbrook** and passed unanimously.

5. Information – Salt Lake County Cooperative Plan Update

Elli Cosky, Salt Lake County, informed members that the Salt Lake County Cooperative Plan (CCP) began in June 2008 and is a multi-year project designed to focus on regional issues such as land use planning, transportation, resource management, economic competitiveness and environmental resources. The CCP advocates countywide cooperation on data collection, resource management, policy adoption and developing

best practices. The Salt Lake County planning staff has held a series of meetings with local community planning directors to help in this effort. The vision of the CCP is to develop and supply resources that aid local jurisdictions and unite land use planning within the county while still maintaining the individual city control over local decisions.

A PowerPoint presentation was given and Ms. Cosky highlighted the following:

2008 Accomplishments

- Meetings on a quarterly basis
- Countywide maps with matching center lines of streets
- Smaller TAZ for more accurate data sets and traffic analysis
- Identified areas of potential growth and development
- Cooperation with WFRC on Wasatch Choices 2040 and Growth Principles
- Pilot program on bicycle and pedestrian routes throughout the County

2009 Work Program

- Continue with quarterly meetings
- Compile the Cooperative County Plan document
- Complete the bicycle and pedestrian routes map
- Prepare a right-of-way preservation and acquisition report
- Identify best practices
- Hold a summit meeting with mayors and other elected officials October 2009

Mayor Peter Corroon commented that the goal is to get the cities and county working together in their planning process and to take what WFRC has done and localize it. He thanked Wasatch Front Regional Council for their work in helping to put this together.

Other comments and concerns were ideas on how to educate bicyclists on the rules of the road and ways to keep them safe. A few of the ideas included:

- A coalition of vendors of bicycle equipment to provide safety classes
- Cities provide public awareness through signage and police departments
- Partner with elementary schools to train and educate children on bicycle safety

6. Information – GOPB’s “Super Tool” Web Based Reference Library

John Bennett, GOPB, informed that the Utah State Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget has developed an outstanding urban planning resource. Utilizing a wide variety of different state and local planning sources, mapping, programs, manuals, training seminars, multi-media and technologies, the “State of Utah Planning and Education Resource” (SUPER) tool puts numerous planning resources from throughout the state into the hands of working city planners and policy makers at the local government level. A sample of “The Tools” include the following:

Planner Education

- Multi-media films (general planning and critical lands)
- Training manuals (planning commission, subdivision, appeals, etc.)
- Training seminars (League of Cities and Towns, Utah Land Use Institute, etc)

Land Use Ordinance Library

- Subjects, such as transportation, signs, landscaping, lighting, and construction methods, are arranged by alphabetic and category listings

Mapping Programs

- Critical Land Mapping Tool
- USU RS/GIS Lab
- Virtual Utah
- ARC Explorer
- NRCS Soil Datamart

State Resources

- Economic and Demographic Data and Projections
- Baseline 2008 Report
- Land Use Law
- Planners' Legislative Review

Critical And Public Lands Resources

- Be Ready Utah
- Critical Lands Encyclopedia and Mapping Tool
- Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Design Resources

- Wasatch Choices 2040 Visual Library

Mr. Bennett noted that 'SUPER' links not only to tools and resources, the home page also links to the web pages of the various planning entities in the State.

7. Information – WFRC Air Quality Committee Report

Kip Billings, WFRC, reported that the WFRC Air Quality Committee held its first meeting on February 25, 2009 and the following three items were discussed:

1. The impact of the recent PM2.5 designations in Utah and how it affects the different counties. Work has begun on developing a section of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) to address PM2.5 emissions. WFRC has submitted mobile source emission inventories to the Department of Air Quality (DAQ) for calibrating air shed computer models for PM2.5 episodes that occurred in 2007 and 2008. Mr. Billings noted that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is close to releasing a new vehicle emission model called MOVES that may cause a delay as we redo the inventories with the new model.
2. The purpose of the WFRC Air Quality Committee. A Purpose Statement has been drafted by WFRC staff and will be reviewed by Mayor Becker and committee members who will determine by consensus the final Purpose Statement for the Air Quality Committee.
3. It was decided that the Air Quality Committee should meet at least quarterly with additional meetings as needed. The next meeting is yet to be determined, although May and October meeting dates were suggested.

8. Information – Congestion Management Report

Kip Billings, WFRC, informed that federal regulations require that WFRC Plans result from a Congestion Management Process. As part of this effort, WFRC staff has undertaken the task of reporting regularly the status and trends of traffic congestion along the Wasatch Front. Informing policy makers on congestion performance measures is intended to provide the basis for setting congestion management goals to help guide the planning and project selection process of the Regional Transportation Plan.

Mr. Billings stated that the Congestion Management Report addresses performance measures that have been selected to describe the trends in congestion and identify locations of congestion concern. Using a PowerPoint presentation Mr. Billings discussed the following performance measures:

Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

- Daily VMT – Arterials
- Daily VMT – Freeways

VMT per Capita

Freeway Traffic Quality

- Percentage of Uncongested Freeway VHT (Vehicle Hours Traveled)
- Davis County – Freeway Vehicle Hours Traveled
- Salt Lake County – Freeway Vehicle Hours Traveled

PM Peak Period Arterial LOS (speed based)

Planning Time Index – PM Peak Period

- How much extra travel time do I need to plan to reach my destination on time with 95% certainty

Daily Transit Riders

- UTA Weekday Passengers (all modes)

Annual Transit Passengers per Capita

- UTA Annual Passengers per Capita (all modes)

Following the presentation, Mr. Billings asked whether this information is helpful and meaningful and if once a year is sufficient for this type of technical data. The consensus of the members was that this information should be presented at least annually.

9. Other Business

- **Ned Hacker** informed that the Ogden-Weber State University Transit Corridor study has been ongoing for several months. Two open houses have now been scheduled. A flier was distributed announcing the open houses and requesting public comments and opinions.
- Mr. Hacker also commented that a copy of the County Cooperative Study slides and the Wasatch Choices 2040 Visual Library DVD are available to all who are interested and may be picked up at the conclusion of the meeting.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Regional Growth Committee will be held at **9:30 a.m. on THURSDAY, May 21, 2009** in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.