

Minutes
Regional Growth Committee
Meeting of May 19, 2011

A meeting of the Regional Growth Committee was held on Thursday, May 19, 2011 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Welcome and Introductions

Mayor Brent Marshall, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. Mayor Marshall welcomed committee members and guests. The following were in attendance:

Members, Representatives & Alternates Present:

Len Arave	Mayor, North Salt Lake City
Michelle Facer Baguley	UTA Board
John Bennett	GOPB
Steve Call	Federal Highway Administration
Reid Ewing	University of Utah
Richard Harris	Mayor, North Ogden City
Tina Kelley	Councilmember, Morgan County
Brent Marshall	Mayor, Grantsville City
Dan McConkie	Utah Transportation Commission
John Petroff	Commissioner, Davis County
Cory Pope	UDOT
Matt Sibul	UTA
Derk Timothy	Mayor, Bluffdale City
Don Wood	Mayor, Clearfield City
Kathy Van Dame	Wasatch Clean Air Coalition

Non-Members Present:

John Baza	West Bountiful City Council
Elden Bingham	UDOT Planning
Roger Borgenicht	Future Moves
Debbie Burney-Sigman	Breathe Utah
Michael Coon	Clinton City
Evan Curtis	GOPB
Kevin Fayles	Envision Utah
Russell Fox	Draper City
Kelly Lund	FHWA
Jon Osier	Kennecott
Lynn Vinzant	Clinton City
Russell Weeks	Salt Lake City Council
Renaee Widdison	UBET
Kip Billings	WFRC
Andrew Gruber	WFRC
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Val John Halford	WFRC
Pam Jorgensen	WFRC

Members / Representatives excused: Commissioner Jan Zogmaister, Mayor JoAnn Seghini and Mayor Daniel Snarr

1. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Dan McConkie noted a correction on page 5 of the March 17, 2011 Minutes under Senate Bill 239-Failed – the last line should read .75 cents per gallon.

Kathy VanDame moved that the minutes of the Regional Growth Committee meeting held March 17, 2011 be approved as corrected. The motion was seconded by **Mayor Dirk Timothy** and the minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

After the presentation of Item 3, Roger Borgenicht with the Future Moves Coalition said it was wonderful to see the integration of modes and the balance that this Plan represents. He did express a concern that while the Plan has a goal to reduce the growth rate of vehicle miles traveled the Plan does not achieve this goal. He also mentioned the need to consider complete streets and 5600 West light rail project in the future.

3. Action – Draft 2040 Regional Transportation Plan and Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Adoption

Val John Halford, WFRC, reviewed the RTP federal requirements for adoption and approval:

- Planning horizon extends at least 20 years
- Plan must be updated every four years
- Must meet SAFETEA-LU requirements
- Conforms to State Air Quality Plan
- Plan is subject to public comment
- Plan must be financially constrained
- Plan must be approved by the Wasatch Front Regional Council

Mr. Halford said that for the 2040 RTP the Regional Growth Principles have been incorporated including the goals and objectives, but also for the first time, performance measures have been included. He also noted that the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Vision was relied upon to allocate socioeconomic growth projections and future land use assumptions. The Vision was also utilized in developing scenarios, project selection and project phasing. The planning process utilized to develop the 2040 RTP includes the following steps:

- Plan Review of the existing 2030 Plan
- Visioning and Goals
- Regional Needs Assessment
- Alternatives Development
- Evaluation of Alternatives
- Recommended Alternative
- Project Selection and Phasing
- Impacts and Benefits
- TIP

Mr. Halford reported that throughout the entire planning process there has been an aggressive public involvement effort with open houses, outreach efforts, coordination with environmental justice groups, and many other attempts to solicit public input to guide the plan and its development. Comments were carefully documented, reviewed and staff responded to all comments that were received.

He further noted that a draft air quality analysis and conformity finding was also included in the public comment process. The emissions analysis described in the Air Quality Memorandum, Technical Report Number 27, finds that the Draft 2040 RTP conforms to the goals and objectives of the Utah State Implementation Plan and to the interim conformity regulations as required for all designated non-attainment areas within the boundaries of the Draft 2040 RTP.

Mr. Halford reviewed the Alternatives developed and tested as part of the overall process:

- Alternative 1 – No Build: Region-wide highway and transit system which included only future projects planned and funded by the 2010-2015 TIP
- Alternative 2 – Current 2030 RTP: Both funded and unfunded highway and transit projects found in the current 2007-2030 RTP
- Alternatives 3 and 4 – Teams A and B: Select members of UDOT, UTA, and the WFRC staff independently developed independently developed integrated highway and transit systems. Two teams worked independent of each other using the same needs assessment data, projection information, and evaluation criteria.

Mr. Halford briefly reviewed the following information:

- Alternatives Evaluation Criteria
- Alternative Systems Development
- Phasing Criteria for both Highway and Transit Projects
- Planned Highway Improvements for Weber, Davis and Salt Lake Counties
- Planned Transit Improvements for Salt Lake County and Davis and Weber Counties

Mr. Halford summarized the 2040 RTP:

- Highway
 - 1,071 lane miles of new capacity improvements
 - Operational improvements at specific locations
- Transit
 - 296 miles of major public transit improvements (light rail, commuter rail, bus rapid transit, and enhanced bus)
- Other Planned Improvements
 - Recommendations for regional bicycle facilities
 - Strategies for safety and homeland security
 - Summary of future technologies
 - Policies for complete streets

Mr. Halford said that the Technical Review of the 2040 RTP was extensive and included:

- UDOT planners and engineers
- UTA planners and engineers
- DAQ officials
- FHWA and FTA officials
- Regional Growth Committee Technical Advisory Committees—Salt Lake Area and Ogden/Layton Area

The 2040 RTP Official Review included:

- Salt Lake County, Davis County and Weber County Council of Governments
- Individual City Councils and Area Chambers of Commerce
- Regional Growth Committee
- Wasatch Front Regional Committee

The RGC has a brief discussion on the benefits of the 2040 RTP as it relates to highway, transit and air quality. Specific note was made that due to increased transit ridership there would be a reduction in vehicle miles traveled per day. Mr. Halford said that the Plan itself is integrated with highway and transit – a multi-modal system. The Vision is an attempt to locate more compact development where it makes sense and then those areas be served by transit facilities.

Mr. Andrew Gruber briefly discussed some of the challenges the Wasatch Front Regional Council and the Region will confront over the next few years and how the grant received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Sustainable Communities Initiative is designed to help us figure out how we can deal with the huge population growth that is expected and at the same time maintain quality of life in economic development and air quality.

Commissioner John Petroff moved to recommend to the Wasatch Front Regional Council that the draft Wasatch Front Regional Transportation Plan 2011-2040 and Air Quality Memorandum be adopted as presented. **Mayor Don Wood** seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed.

4. Information – “Super Tool” The State of Utah Planning and Education Resource from the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget

John Bennett, GOPB, said that the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget has the responsibility for providing staff for the Utah Quality Growth Commission. One of the responsibilities they have been given is to provide technical assistance to local governments to help them do quality growth planning.

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.

Evan Curtis, GOPB, using their website demonstrated how to use the tools that are included on the SUPER TOOL at <http://planning.utah.gov/super>

- **Planner Education** – The Planner Education portal provides basic training options for planning commissioners and other government officials involved in planning.
- **Ordinance Library** – Good planning is of little use without good ordinances.
- **Mapping Resources** – With the ability to quickly map landscape features becoming increasingly important in land use planning, the SUPER tool seeks to provide the best mapping tools available.
- **State Resource Coordination** – The State of Utah has many resources that the practicing planner needs to be aware of. This section is designed to put the practicing planner in touch with these resources.
- **Critical and Public Lands Resources** – As Utah’s population continues to grow and development continues to encroach upon areas that are critical for the public health, safety, and welfare of the State’s residents, planning becomes increasingly important to avoid the problems that can be associated with conflicting uses. This tool provides resources to aid in planning for Utah’s public and critical lands.

- Design Resources – The design section provides links to various free tools to aid the planner in visualizing their community.

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Curtis said that this tool is not meant to replace other tools but is meant to be a place to inform, and a place to coordinate the efforts that are taking place in communities. He asked that RGC members continue to keep their office informed and help get the word out to planners in Utah about this resource to help Utah to continue to grow smarter.

5. Information – Air Quality Issues

Kip Billings, WFRC, gave an update on the following air quality issues:

- PM2.5 State Implementation Plan (SIP)
 - Davis and Salt Lake Counties base year inventories have been completed
 - Portions of Weber, Box Elder & Tooele Counties are included
 - SIP is due December 2012 and is on schedule
 - Air shed model calibrated
 - Next step – Attainment year inventory
- EPA SIP Call – PM10 SIP
 - “Unavoidable breakdown” rule – involves point source (industrial emissions)
 - DAQ must resolve by November 2012 – modify the state rules, or litigation. The State is pursuing both of those solutions
- Air Quality Scorecard
 - Better grades for all counties – PM2.5, PM10 and meeting current ozone standard of 75ppb
 - Ozone is improving
 - Stricter ozone standards are coming

Mr. Billings also provided information on the upcoming “Clear the Air Challenge” that begins June 13 and goes through July 10, 2011. Fliers were distributed and RGC members were encouraged to participate and may register at ClearTheAirChallenge.org.

6. Other Business

There was no other business

7. The next meeting of the Regional Growth Committee will be held at **9:30 a.m. on THURSDAY, August 18, 2011** in the Wasatch Front Regional Council offices.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.