

Minutes
Regional Growth Committee
Meeting of March 15, 2012

A meeting of the Regional Growth Committee was held on Thursday, March 15, 2012 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Welcome and Introductions

Commissioner Jan Zogmaister, RGC Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Zogmaister welcomed committee members and guests. The following were in attendance:

RGC Members and Alternates Present:

Len Arave	Mayor, North Salt Lake
Keith Bartholomew	UTA Board
Carlton Christensen	Councilman, Salt Lake City
Peter Donner	GOPB
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
Kathy VanDame	Utah Air Quality Board
Jan Zogmaister	Commissioner, Weber County

RGC Representatives and Others Present:

Saffron Capson	H.W. Lochner
Nicole Christensen	Representative Jim Matheson's Office
Gabe Epperson	Envision Utah
Rob Jeppsen	SL County Mayor's Office
Linda Johnson	League of Women Voters-Salt Lake
Layne Jones	H.W. Lochner
Lee Logston	West Valley City
David Petersen	Farmington City
Debbie Sigman	Breathe Utah
Wilf Sommerkorn	Salt Lake City Planning
Lynn Vinzant	Clinton City
Russell Weeks	Salt Lake City Council Staff
Wayne Bennion	WFRC
LaNiece Davenport	WFRC
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Val John Halford	WFRC
Doug Hattery	WFRC
Jory Johner	WFRC

Pam Jorgensen
Sam Klemm
Jon Larsen

WFRC
WFRC
WFRC

Members / Representatives excused: Mayor Mike Caldwell, Mayor Jeff Monroe, and Mayor Daniel Snarr.

1. Approval of Minutes

Mayor Derk Timothy moved that the minutes of the Regional Growth Committee meeting held January 19, 2012 be approved as written. **Mayor Brent Marshall** seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments

3. Information – State and Federal Legislative Update

Sam Klemm, WFRC, reported that the \$280 million in additional anticipated Utah State revenues was enough to fund growth in public and higher education student enrollment, Medicare/Medicaid and a few other smaller programs. There was little left over for new initiatives. There was \$191 million in requests for so called ‘money bills’ and \$2.5 million set aside for them.

Mr. Klemm reported that **HB 2** - Representative Mel Brown – New Fiscal Year Supplemental Appropriations Act – is one of three general appropriations bills. The requested \$70,000 for WFRC was included in this bill as an ongoing appropriation. This bill passed.

Mr. Klemm reported on the following transportation related issues:

- HB 104 – Representative Wayne Harper – Local Highway Authority Regulatory Powers – Restricts, somewhat, the ability of a city or county to enact an anti-idling ordinance for motor vehicles. *Passed*
- HB 173 – Representative Brad Dee – Expands the use of the third quarter cent sales tax fund for transportation in counties of the second class by allowing it to be used for urban collector roads. It is understood this will primarily affect Weber County. The bill also allocates \$150 million in unspent funds from the I-15 CORE Project in Utah County to other projects. *Passed*
- HB 407 – Representative Don Ipson – New Car Safety and Emission Inspection – Exempts vehicles two years old and newer from automobile emission tests. *Passed*
- SB 142 – Senator Todd Weiler – Traffic Management Committee Repeal – Repeals the requirement for UDOT to sponsor a traffic management committee. *Passed*
- SB164 – Senator Jerry Stevenson – Highway Funding Amendments – Allocates money to West Valley City, West Jordan and Midvale from savings on other UDOT projects. *Passed*
- SB 195 – Senator Karen Mayne – Transportation Safety Revisions – Specifies restrictions on railroad crossing safety. *Passed*

- SB 225 – Senator Stuart Adams – Combining various UDOT funds that exist within the transportation budget such as the Centennial Highway Fund (CHF), the Critical Highway Needs Fund (CHNF), the Transportation Investment Fund (TIF) and others into one fund which streamlines UDOT accounting. *Passed*

Mr. Klemm reported on other bills of interest to the Regional Growth Committee:

- HB 139 – Representative Wayne Harper – Department of Community and Culture Amendments – Moves the Division of Housing and Community Development that handles CDBG funding to the Department of Workforce Services. *Passed*
- HB 70 – Representative Patrice Arent – This bill would have set up a legislative task force over the interim period to evaluate “public and private sector efforts to improve air quality in Utah” and “...suggest changes to the state laws and regulations that could improve air quality in Utah.” This bill was folded into HB 39 by Representative Wilson which sets up a similar task force to study economic development needs, and now, air quality concerns as well. *Passed in the form of HB 39.*
- SB 21 – Senator Margaret Dayton – Re-work of appointments to the Air Quality Board – This bill revamps all the boards serving within the Department of Environmental Quality including the Division of Air Quality. It also shifts some authority to administrative law judges. *Passed*

Mr. Klemm also discussed the following Federal legislative issues:

- The current federal transportation program expires March 31, 2012 and will likely require an extension.
- Competing transportation program re-authorization bills have been introduced in the House and the Senate.
 - o The Senate bill, MAP-21, has passed. It re-authorizes the program for another 18 months at current funding levels. It consolidates federal transportation programs and streamlines project delivery.
 - o The House bill, The American Infrastructure and Jobs Act, would re-authorize the program for five more years at current funding levels. The major policy changes, such as program consolidation and project streamlining, are roughly the same. However, the funding mechanism has been called into question and probably the bill will not pass in its current form. House Speaker John Boehner has been quoted as saying that the House will likely take up the Senate bill instead and amend it to their liking.

4. Information – Application of Envision Tomorrow Plus Program

Val Halford, WFRC, reported that as part of the HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant, the Envision Tomorrow Plus (ET+) land use evaluation tool is currently under development. ET+ is a powerful analytical tool being developed by planners at the University of Utah and will be used to evaluate a variety of development scenarios at six catalytic sites selected by the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Consortium. The model, once customized to the Wasatch Front Region, will be applied to development scenarios to measure outcomes in a number of quality of life factors.

Mr. Halford introduced Mr. Gabe Epperson of Envision Utah who discussed how the ET+ tool has been used for the scenario development in the Provo Downtown catalytic site. In the ET+ model land use development scenarios are created using GIS and then evaluated to identify their merits. Mr. Epperson discussed the following:

- Within the ET+ Model the Feasibility of Different Prototype Buildings Varies
 - o Most Feasible – Main Street Retail, Townhomes, Compact Single Family, and 3 and 4 story mixed-use.
 - o Most Challenging – Six plus story buildings
- The Tool can be used by local/regional officials to Optimize Development Regulations
 - o Use Return on Investment (ROI) to make regulations market feasible
 - o Experiment with: Height, Parking Requirements / type, Unit sizes, Landscaping requirements
- ET+ helps evaluate different Parking Standards
 - o Tested two sets of building parking prototypes
- ET+ assists in evaluating the Relationship of Amenity and Development Potential
 - o Urban amenities can impact average rent levels

The ET+ tool will help local and regional officials, developers, lenders, planners, property owners and residents make decisions about the best way to build their communities and reach consensus on how to proceed based on mutual benefit. This tool should promote collaboration, accelerate the land development process, and achieve superior results.

5. Information – Draft FY 2013 and FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Wayne Bennion, WFRC, said that the Draft FY2013 and FY2014 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes the transportation planning activities to be undertaken by the Wasatch Front Regional Council, the Utah Transit Authority, and the Utah Department of Transportation during the next two fiscal years. The Draft UPWP has been jointly developed by the WFRC, UTA, and UDOT and must be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration for the region to receive federal transportation planning dollars.

Mr. Bennion briefly outlined some of the work included in the UPWP: including work efforts to create combined land use and transportation scenarios consistent with the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Regional Vision, develop a Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program, work with the State Division of Air Quality in development a State Implementation Plan, create economic development strategies, and provide service to communities. Mr. Bennion asked RGC Members to review the UPWP and notify WFRC staff of any additions or corrections to the work outlined in the Work Program.

6. Information – Transit Network Planning Study Update

Mr. Ned Hacker, WFRC, said that with the near completion of both the FrontRunner commuter rail line and the Airport TRAX line, UTA has embarked on a “Network Planning – Next Tier Projects Study”. This study will examine the next major capital and operating investments for UTA, will inform the next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP 2015) and will

include the coordination of various stakeholders, development of land use scenarios, and identification of corridors and projects that perform well for all users.

Mr. Hacker introduced Laynee Jones, H.W. Lochner, the consultant hired by UTA, to update the RGC on the Transit Network Planning Study. Ms. Jones said that the purpose of the study is to look forward and assist in identifying the next projects UTA will be delivering as the 2015 program is nearing completion. She said that this study coordinates with the Wasatch Front Regional Transportation Plan 2011-2040 and the Mountainland Association of Governments Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2011-2040.

Ms. Jones also said that the desired outcomes of the study are to: 1) Provide a set of next capital and operating investments for UTA; 2) Provide recommendations for improving the viability of projects that are not included in the group of next tier projects; and 3) Inform the next regional transportation plans.

Ms. Jones said that stakeholder coordination is very important to this study and information will be provided in the following ways:

- Email communication to extensive Stakeholder list – email to scapson@hwlochner.com
- Updates to the COGs, WFRC / MAG TAC and Regional Growth Committees
- Federal resource agencies coordination
- General public by social media

Ms. Jones also noted that the goals for system improvements include: Increasing ridership, increasing cost-effectiveness, improving regional connectivity and serving WC2040 Vision Centers.

7. Other Business

Ned Hacker provided information for the upcoming Wasatch Choice for 2040 second Consortium Meeting being held on Tuesday, March 27 from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Salt Palace Convention Center. There will be a general meeting along with five break-out sessions where you will be invited to provide input into the tools and plans being developed to make the Vision a reality. Members and others in attendance at the meeting were encouraged to visit the WFRC website at www.wfrc.org and RSVP to Sam Klemm for the Consortium Meeting.

8. The next meeting of the Regional Growth Committee will be held on **Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.