

**Minutes**  
Regional Growth Committee  
Meeting of January 17, 2013

A meeting of the Regional Growth Committee was held on Thursday, January 17, 2013 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Mayor Brent Marshall**, RGC Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Mayor Marshall welcomed committee members and guests and said that Commissioner Zogmaister would be a few minutes late. The following were in attendance:

**RGC Members and Alternates Present:**

Len Arave	Mayor, North Salt Lake
Steve Call	FHWA
Carlton Christensen	Councilman, Salt Lake City
Reid Ewing	University of Utah
Tina Kelley	Councilmember, Morgan County
Brent Marshall	Mayor, Grantsville City
Dan McConkie	Commissioner, Utah Transp. 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:**

Roger Borgenicht	Future Moves
Deborah Burney-Sigman	Breathe Utah
Linda Johnson	Utah League of Women Voters-Salt Lake
Gordon Haight	Herriman City
Dana Holmes	Stanley Consultants
Sheri Lindstrom	Centerville City Council
Bret Millburn	Commissioner, Davis County
Chad Mullins	SL County Bicycle Advisory Committee
David E. Petersen	Farmington City
Russell Weeks	Salt Lake City Council
Wayne Bennion	WFRC
Andrew Gruber	WFRC
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Val John Halford	WFRC
Doug Hattery	WFRC
Jory Johner	WFRC
Pam Jorgensen	WFRC
Sam Klemm	WFRC
Ted Knowlton	WFRC

Mayor Melissa Johnson and Mayor Jeff Monroe were excused from the meeting.

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Derk Timothy moved that the minutes of the Regional Growth Committee meeting held October 18, 2012 be approved as written. Commissioner John Petroff seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

### **2. Opportunity for Public Comment**

Kathy VanDame, Wasatch Front Clean Air Coalition, suggested in her comments that more consideration be given to moving the State Prison. Her comments centered on the ease of access to the current facilities for educational opportunities as well as visitation purposes.

### **3. Information – Wasatch Choice for 2040 Update**

Ted Knowlton, WFRC, gave an update on what is happening with the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Visioning effort. The Wasatch Choice for 2040 is our region's shared vision of how to coordinate growth with transportation and open space to ensure a high quality of life. He said that the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Vision is an effort to address a number of challenges that we have in our Region such as rapid growth and air quality issues.

Mr. Knowlton noted that in this third year of the Sustainable Communities Grant there will be a focus on sharing a variety of tools to assist local governments in their individual community development. He said that recently the tools have been organized into an illustrative local planning process document. The purpose of the document is to show how the tools might be used in a local process that makes the most of the tools and effectively engages local stakeholders. A copy of the summary graphic of the draft Illustrative Planning Process was included in the RGC meeting packet. Mr. Knowlton briefly discussed the tools listed on the draft Illustrative Planning Process graphic: ET+, Centers, Housing, and Form Based Code and noted that the graphic aims to answer questions about how a community may use these state of the practice tools in a way that make sense and fits with their planning process and how they might proceed.

Mr. Knowlton's report also included the following information:

- An assessment of the amount of growth happening through infill and redevelopment is an important measure. Infill and redevelopment growth utilizes existing infrastructure reducing the need to build new infrastructure. It also tends to put new residences and jobs in more centralized locations where travel distances tend to be shorter.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently released an analysis of infill and redevelopment activity in every metro area. In the Wasatch Front four-county region 25% of housing growth has been occurring as infill and redevelopment.
- The face of the Wasatch Front is changing in a variety of ways. We are seeing an increase in households without children and an aging population. Demographics as well as preferences are changing.

- People want to live much less in a residential only environment. They'd much rather live in a place where there is a mix of opportunities. They want to be able to walk and bike to places as well as have great accessibility to other destinations.

#### **4. Information – 2015 RTP / Unified Plan**

Ned Hacker, WFRC, discussed the mission of the Regional Growth Committee:

“The Regional Growth Committee serves as the policy advisory body to the Regional Council on long range transportation planning and related land use and other growth issues. The Regional Growth Committee is responsible for the long range Regional Transportation Plan and developing regional growth planning strategies in cooperation and coordination with local governments, Utah Department of Transportation, Utah Transit Authority and other organizations and stakeholders.”

Mr. Hacker said that the Regional Growth Committee is the steering Committee for developing the Regional Transportation Plan. He noted that the RGC's responsibility is to provide guidance to our regional partners in how the Plan is developed and that Committees input is important and very much needed.

Mr. Hacker then reviewed the 2015 RTP Schedule:

- Spring of 2012: The High Level Process was presented outlining the plan process and develop over the next two and one-half years.
- Fall of 2012 – Spring of 2013: Goals and Performance Measures were adopted through a combined collaborative effort with our partners. Currently, along with the scenario planning an extensive Needs Analysis is underway. The Needs Analysis will include: congestion management, system management, freight analysis, and what are the safety and security needs, etc. within the Region.
- Fall of 2013: Later in 2013 local and public review of the scenarios will take place and a draft preferred scenario will be developed by the end of the year.

Mr. Hacker said the staff would continue to update the Regional Growth Committee at future meetings throughout the year.

#### **5. Action – RTP 2011-2040 Amendment**

Val John Halford said that every four years the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) is required to prepare a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The WFRC adopted the current RTP in May 2011. Although the RTP receives considerable review before being adopted, the identification of new funding sources or the rapid development of certain projects may warrant a change to the RTP.

Mr. Halford reported that staff had received a request from Herriman City to amend the 2011 RTP with the addition of two roadway facilities and changing the phasing designation of a third facility. These amendments would allow Herriman City to apply for Salt Lake County corridor preservation funds to help partially finance these projects. The projects include:

- Fort Herriman Parkway: Herriman Main Street to 13400 South .78 miles—collector. This is new construction – five lanes in width at a cost of \$5 million. New project to be added to Phase 1
- 13400 South: 5200 West to 5600 West .36 miles—minor arterial. Widening from two to five lanes at a cost of \$2 million. Move from Phase 3 to Phase 1.
- Herriman Main Street: 6200 West to 7575 West 1.56 miles—minor arterial. Widening from two to four lanes at a cost of \$6 million. New project to be added to Phase 1.

Mr. Halford said that none of the three roadway projects are regionally significant and as such do not require a new air quality conformity determination. A Board Modification is needed which requires review by the Regional Growth Committee's Technical Advisory Committee and also the Salt Lake County Council of Government. Both groups reviewed the amendments and recommended that they be forward to the Regional Growth Committee for consideration.

**ACTION:** Commissioner John Petroff moved to recommend to the Regional Council that the 2011-2040 RTP Amendment 2 as presented be amended into the Plan. Mayor Brent Marshall seconded the motion. The motion passed with Dr. Reid Ewing noting his opposition.

## **6. Action – Resolution to Establish Active Transportation Committee**

Jory Johner, WFRC, reported that in May 2012 the Regional Growth Committee (RGC) informally established the Active Transportation Committee (ATC) to provide a forum for regional collaboration specifically on active transportation issues. He said that the initial role of the ATC has been to function as the stakeholder committee for the Utah Collaborative Active Transportation Study (UCATS) and as a policy committee for regional Complete Streets efforts. Mr. Johner also said that given the new federal Transportation Alternatives Program, which provides federal funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects there is a role for the ATC to advise Trans Com on short-term program issues for bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Mr. Johner, said that the Regional Growth Committee discussed the structure and responsibilities of the Active Transportation Committee at the October 2012 meeting and recommended that the WFRC more formally establish and define the roles and responsibilities of the ATC. Mr. Johner discussed the Purpose, Structure, and Membership of the Committee (also included in member packets):

Purpose: 1) Advise the Regional Growth Committee on long-range planning and growth issues relative to active transportation. 2) Advise the Trans Com on short-range programming issues related to active transportation. 3) Serve as a forum for regional collaboration between local governments, agencies and other stakeholders on active transportation issues.

Structure: The ATC will function as an advisory committee of WFRC. It may provide advice to the RGC for long range planning and growth issues and to Trans Com for short range programming issues, and otherwise it shall provide a forum for discussion and collaboration on issues relating to active transportation. The ATC will meet as needed to fulfill this purpose.

**Members:** ATC members will be selected and approved by the WFRC Chair. The ATC's Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected officials appointed by the WFRC Chair from among the members of the ATC. The recommended membership of the committee as proposed will allow for increased WFRC coordination with the Utah Department of Transportation, the Utah Transit Authority, the Mountainland Association of Governments, and others as needed.

**Membership:** Membership of the Committee includes members from the WFRC five-county area as well as representatives from the Mountainland Association of Governments—Utah County, and also a representative from UDOT and UTA. In addition, WFRC staff will participate, support, and advise the ATC and provide necessary documentation and information on active transportation issues as requested by the ATC.

Mr. Johner answered questions regarding the makeup of the Committee being mostly elected officials stating that although the voting committee is made up of elected officials from our Wasatch Front Regional Council area and Mountainland Association of Governments, each of WFRC counties and cities are invited to bring their staff members to participate. He said that members of other committees or interested groups are also included and make up a hearty half of those attending the meetings. He noted that attendance at the meetings has been between 60-70 people.

Chad Mullins, Salt Lake County Bicycle Committee, commented that there is a tremendous need within the region and the county for more coordination and planning on short-range project issues for active transportation. He said in order to create a more effective active transportation system it requires extensive cross jurisdictional cooperation which needs to occur at the technical level.

**ACTION:** Mayor Brent Marshall made a motion to recommend to the Regional Council that the Active Transportation Committee be established by Resolution. Dr. Reid Ewing seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## 7. Legislative Preview

Sam Klemm, WFRC, provided a preview of the Utah State Legislative Session that begins on January 28 and goes through March 14. His report included:

### Federal Issues

- Congress avoided the “fiscal cliff” by agreeing on the tax issue and putting off a decision on possible spending cuts (sequester) until March. Staff will closely follow the transportation portion of any spending reduction negotiations.

### State Issues

- In the last six months there has been considerable discussion regarding gasoline tax revenues. Interest now seems focused on the indexing of the state gasoline tax to inflation. State gasoline tax revenue has lost approximately 40% of its purchasing power since it was last raised in 1997. However, at present, there is no bill and no sponsor.
- There will be an effort to re-instate, to some degree, cities' power of eminent domain for active transportation facilities. There is a draft bill circulating among interested parties but as yet there is no sponsor.

- HB 11—Representative Brad Last, has proposed a bill that would allow locally collected corridor preservation funds to be used for transportation master planning in areas of a county that are outside the metropolitan planning organizations Urbanized Area boundaries. An example of that would be Ogden Valley in Weber County.
- SB 29—Senator Kevin Van Tassell, is sponsoring an annual housekeeping bill to adjust the state highway network. This particular bill will add the Mountain View Corridor as State Road 85.
- SB 121—Senator Karen Mayne, is sponsoring a bill that “requires the operator of a vehicle to yield the right-of-way to a public transit vehicle traveling in the same direction that has signaled and is re-entering the traffic flow...”

Mr. Klemm noted that it is anticipated that there will be other transportation related issues coming up during the session. He said that any newly introduced legislation will be monitored on a daily basis for possible impacts on transportation.

## **8. Other Business**

Mr. Hacker distributed a copy of the 2013 WFRC Council and Committee Schedule with Tentative Agenda topics for RGC member information and calendaring purposes.

Commissioner Dan McConkie pointed out that the meeting in March conflicts with other meetings and activities taking place in St. George, Utah.

- 9. The next meeting of the Regional Growth Committee will be held on **Thursday, March 21 2013 at 9:30 a.m.****

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.