

**Minutes**  
Regional Growth Committee  
Meeting of May 16, 2013

A meeting of the Regional Growth Committee was held on Thursday, May 16, 2013 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 9:35 a.m. Commissioner Jan Zogmaister welcomed committee members and guests and introductions were made. The following were in attendance:

**RGC Members and Alternates Present:**

Len Arave	Mayor, North Salt Lake City
Steve Call	FHWA
Carlton Christensen	Councilman, Salt Lake City
Reid Ewing	University of Utah
Melissa Johnson	Mayor, West Jordan City
Tina Kelley	Councilmember, Morgan County
Dannie McConkie	Commissioner, Utah Transp. Commission
John Petroff	Commissioner, Davis County
Cory Pope	UDOT
Matt Sibul	UTA
Derk Timothy	Mayor, Bluffdale City
Gary Uresk	Utah League of Cities and Town
Don Wood	Mayor, Clearfield City
Jan Zogmaister	Commissioner, Weber County

**RGC Representatives and Others Present:**

Roger Borgenicht	Future Moves
Kevin Emerson	Utah Clean Energy
Kevin Fayles	Envision Utah
Tom Hanson	Washington Terrace City
Dana Holmes	Stanley Group
Linda Johnson	Utah League of Women Voters-Salt Lake
G.J. LaBonty	UTA
Lee Logston	West Valley City
Kelly Lund	FHWA
Deborah Sigman	Breathe Utah
Ron Phillips	Phillips Associates, Inc.
Mike Seare	Kiewit Construction
David Schwartz	UDOT Region 2
Jody Sims	Kiewit Construction
Scott Festin	WFRC
Andrew Gruber	WFRC
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Val John Halford	WFRC
Jory Johner	WFRC

Pam Jorgensen	WFRC
Sam Klemm	WFRC
Jon Larsen	WFRC
Greg Scott	WFRC
Jaren Stanton	WFRC
Suzie Swim	WFRC
Ben Wuthrich	WFRC

Commissioner Charles Henderson and Mayor Dan Snarr were excused from the meeting.

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

Mayor Don Wood moved that the minutes of the Regional Growth Committee meeting held March 21, 2013 be approved as written. Commissioner John Petroff seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

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

No Public Comment

Suzie Swim gave a brief report about Google Earth's newly available Google Earth Engine that takes all available Landsat Imagery from the last 30 years and created a global time lapse. She demonstrated how the Engine works by looking at the Wasatch Front Region and highlighted some of the changes that have occurred in the last thirty years. She specifically "zoomed-in" to the Daybreak, Herriman, Draper, and Kennecott areas. It was also noted that Davis County had significant growth that is very visible when looking at imagery from 1984-2012. Ms. Swim said that the information is available to those interested by visiting: <http://earthengine.google.org>.

### **3. Information – 2015 Regional Transportation Plan – Scenarios Development and Review**

Ted Knowlton, WFRC, reported that as part of the continuing 2015-2040 Regional Transportation planning process, four land use and transportation scenarios have been developed and are ready for review. Mr. Knowlton said that small area meetings (with each municipality) have been scheduled throughout the month of June. He said that city and county elected officials, local planners, and engineers have been invited to review the scenarios and offer comments, insights, and assistance in the refining of each of the scenarios. A map was provided in member packets (and also distributed at the meeting) that listed the date, time, and location of each meeting and which cities and counties are included in each of the meetings.

Mr. Knowlton said that the scenarios that have been developed take place within the context of our land use and transportation vision – the Wasatch Choice for 2040. The Wasatch Choice for 2040 is our Region's shared vision that was developed collaboratively and adopted in 2010. The Wasatch Choice for 2040 is an effort to provide an array of choices to people about how they can move around – they can drive, take transit, walk and bike and in many places in the metropolitan area they are able to select a home that meets their wants and needs. He said that the key strategy to make that set of choices a reality is the idea of "Centers". He noted that it is within that context that the scenario planning effort is being done. Mr. Knowlton said that each of the scenarios that are being explored are intended to refine the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Vision.

Mr. Val John Halford discussed each of the four scenarios.

- Scenario 1: Less Growth in Centers
- Scenario 2: Current RTP
- Scenario 3: More Growth in Centers
- Scenario 4: Most Growth in Centers

He reported that each of the four scenarios has a unique land use pattern that reflects different levels of development intensity, along with highway and transit networks designed to specifically meet each of the scenario's travel demands. All four scenarios have recommended highway and transit projects that have been developed and reviewed by WFRC planning partners at UDOT and UTA.

Mr. Halford said that each of the scenarios presents a plausible future for our Region based on the types of land use and transportation decisions that are made today. They are not predictions of the Region's future, but alternative concepts of what might take place based on what we collectively decide. The scenarios help demonstrate the critical connection between land use and transportation.

WFRC staff has analyzed and evaluated each of the scenarios and compared their performance using measures adopted by the Regional Council. Mr. Halford reviewed the goals and performance measures on the Scenario Report Card included in Regional Growth Committee member packets. The Report Card is a visual of how each of the four scenarios compare with one another. The Goals include:

- Mobility and Accessibility
- State of Good Repair
- Economic Vitality
- Cost Efficiency
- Urban Form and Community
- Health, Safety and Security
- Environmental Sustainability

Performance Measures include: travel time, travel delay, transit use, economic revitalization, community impacts, active transportation, energy use, air, natural resource impacts, and etc.

Andrew Gruber, WFRC, commented that the effort is that we have four different scenarios that are concepts that we will get feedback on from the cities and counties across the region. This information will ultimately lead to generating one preferred scenario that is where, we as a region, want to go. He also said that the small group meetings outlined above are a step in getting feedback and information.

Mr. Halford said that that the general public will also be invited to review the scenarios during the month of August and a final preferred scenario will be developed as the basis for the 2015 RTP early in 2014.

#### **4. Information – Wasatch Choice for 2040 Update and Discussion of Potential Regional Planning Assistance Program**

Ted Knowlton reported that in March the Regional Growth Committee asked WFRC staff to explore creating a planning assistance program to support local governments in their planning

and implementation efforts. Staff, as requested, researched other planning assistance programs sponsored by Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) similar to WFRC.

Benefits of a Planning Assistance Program include:

- A Planning Assistance Program will serve WFRC members in helping them to meet their community development goals.
- Planning and implementing centers is a way to improve mobility and accessibility
- Local governments would benefit from assistance in utilizing the WC2040 toolbox that includes: Envision Tomorrow Plus (ET+), Implementing Centers, Housing Analysis, and Form Based Code.

Mr. Knowlton then outlined how a Planning Assistance Program might be structured:

- Implemented as a Pilot Program for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. WFRC would provide a combination of funds and staff assistance.
- Funds would be used to help plan or implement development concepts that: 1) tie-in with regional transportation, 2) utilize WC2040 tools (listed above), or 3) improve mobility and accessibility.
- \$400,000 would enable the program to serve a number of communities.
- Funded via uncommitted Surface Transportation Plan dollars.
- Flexibly administered for the Pilot, utilizing a mix of: a) cash grants, b) consultants coordinated to serve more than one city at a time, and c) WFRC staff assistance.

Mr. Knowlton asked for comments. The concept of a planning assistance program generated considerable positive interest and discussion. Comments included:

- The program should include both direct funding grants as well as technical assistance and be competitive between the requestors.
- It should be able to be used by cities to do planning around transit stations or along corridors and in centers as proposed in the Wasatch Choice 2040 Vision.
- The program should “help” the cities get to the next step – not doing it for them but rather assisting them through their process.
- Consider that in addition to staff assistance you could have a post-performance reimbursement aspect of the program.
- This program would provide wonderful opportunities for smaller communities that have a lot of redevelopment needs. Working with the staff provides for an ongoing dialogue.
- Staff should help communities identify what cash grants and/or assistance opportunities would be available through the program.

Commissioner Zogmaister said that comments and recommendations would be forwarded to the Wasatch Front Regional Council for their action because it involves funding.

## **5. Action – 2011 Regional Transportation Plan Amendment – Release for Public Comment**

Ned Hacker, WFRC, reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council is required to prepare a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) every four years. He said that 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. Hacker said that the WFRC staff has reviewed requests for four projects to be amended into the 2011-2040 Regional Transportation Plan. The request is that the following four proposed projects be released for public comment July 29-August 3:

#### Weber County

- Pioneer Road – SR126 to 4700 West: City of Marriott-Slaterville has requested this project be amended into Phase 1 of the RTP. Operational improvements regarding this section of the facility have been identified. Funding: Potential for Weber County Corridor preservation funds and County one-quarter cent Local Option Tax. This project is not currently in the RTP.
- Adams Avenue – US-89 Washington Blvd. to Washington Terrace City Limits: Washington Terrace City has requested this project be amended into Phase 1 of the RTP. This project will convert the facility from two to four lanes to accommodate increasing demand. Funding: STP Funds already programmed for reconstruction.
- 4000 South (SR-37) – 5100 West to 1900 West (SR-126): UDOT has requested this project be amended into Phase 1 of the RTP. The project will convert the facility from two to four lanes to accommodate increasing demand. Funding: House Bill 377 adopted in the 2012-2013 Legislative session funded this project \$15M and Weber County has funded the project \$10M.

#### Salt Lake County

- Bangerter Highway and Redwood Road Interchange: UDOT has requested this project be amended into Phase 1 of the RTP. This project would construct a grade separated interchange, improving traffic flow on Bangerter and Redwood Road. Environmental analysis would be conducted in 2013 with anticipated construction in 2014. Funding: House Bill 377 adopted in the 2012-2013 Legislative session funded this project \$42M.

Mr. Hacker noted that following the public comment period, these amendments would be presented to the Council of Governments, the Technical Advisory Committees, and the Regional Growth Committee for recommendation to the Regional Council for action at their August meeting.

**ACTION:** Commissioner John Petroff moved to recommend to the Regional Council that the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan Amendments, as presented, be released for public comment. Councilman Carlton Christensen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 6. Other Business

Mr. Matt Sibul, UTA, announced that UTA has a new sponsored program called “Ride Clear”. The launch of the program will be in July. There will be up to 5,000 week-long passes distributed to those who sign up. It is all electronic so UTA will be able to track the program, its progress and how many trips people have made. The program is being underwritten by Zions Bank. Mr. Sibul distributed a flier and asked RGC members to help get the word out to their jurisdictions.

7. The next meeting of the Regional Growth Committee will be held on **Thursday, August 15, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.