

TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting held August 14, 2008

Mayor J. Lynn Crane called Trans Com to order at 2:05 p.m. at the Wasatch Front Regional Council offices located at 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

ATTENDANCE

Members:

J. Lynn Crane, Chair	Mayor, Herriman City
Brett Milburn	Commissioner, Davis County
Darrell H. Smith	Mayor, Draper City
Tom Dolan	Mayor, Sandy City
David Newton	Mayor, West Jordan City
Carlton Christensen	Councilman, Salt Lake City
Michael Jensen	Councilman, Salt Lake County
Jim Horrocks	Utah Air Quality Board
Terry Diehl	Utah Transit Authority Board of Trustees
Stuart Adams	Utah Transportation Commission
Meghan Holbrook	Utah Transportation Commission

Others:

Kirk Schmalz	Davis County Public Works
Mike Bouwhuis	Layton City
John Hiskey	Sandy City
Jon Osier	Kennecott Land
Shane Greenwood	South Jordan City
Jon Cox	Senator Bennett's office
Jason Davis	Utah Department of Transportation – Region 2
Elden Bingham	Utah Department of Transportation Planning
Michael Allegra	Utah Transit Authority
Jerri Ashurst	Utah Transit Authority Planning
Chuck Chappell	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Wayne Bennion	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Ned Hacker	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Doug Hattery	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Sam Klemm	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Ben Wuthrich	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Renaë Bodily	Wasatch Front Regional Council

MINUTES

ACTION: Mayor Dolan moved that the minutes of the June 12, 2008, Trans Com meeting be approved as written. Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Report on 2008-2013 TIP Staff Modifications

Ben Wuthrich said that UTA received a congressional earmark for the Mid-Jordan light rail project of \$19.6 million for FY2008. Since funding for this project in the 2008-2013 TIP does not begin until FY2009, WFRC made a staff modification to the TIP by advancing \$25 million currently approved for the Mid-Jordan light rail line in FY2009 to the current FY2008. This \$25 million includes \$20 million of Federal Transit Administration 5309 New Starts Funds and \$5 million of UTA matching funds.

In response to a question from Mr. Horrocks, Mr. Wuthrich said \$40 million had been programmed for the Mid-Jordan project in FY2009. Because of the congressional earmark of almost \$20 million, the staff modification moved half of the \$40 million to FY2008.

ACTION: Terry Diehl moved that Trans Com agree with the TIP/STIP Staff Modification for the Mid-Jordan light rail project. Mayor Dolan seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous.

Action on Board Modification to the 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Wuthrich said that the Wasatch Front Regional Council received a request from UDOT to modify the 2008-2013 TIP for the 11400 South project. The 11400 South project has \$70 million funded for new construction from I-15 to Redwood Road. The Board Modification would add \$80 million of Critical Highway Needs Funds to extend the new construction from Redwood Road to Bangerter Highway.

Mr. Wuthrich said that the Regional Council will first need to amend the Regional Transportation Plan to include this project extension in Phase 1. The Regional Council is scheduled to meet on August 28 to discuss this amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan. If the Regional Council approves this amendment, then the existing 2008-2013 TIP can be modified.

ACTION: Commissioner Holbrook moved that Trans Com recommend to the Regional Council that they approve the Resolution to modify the 2008-2013 TIP as requested regarding the extension to the 11400 South project. Mayor Smith seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous.

Action to recommend approval of the 2009-2014 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Wuthrich briefly reviewed the steps taken in the past year to prepare the 2009-2014 TIP. The draft 2009-2014 TIP was reviewed by Trans Com in June and made available for public review from June 25 through July 31, 2008. Mr. Wuthrich said that two comments were received during the public comment period. One comment was in support of the 7800 South project. The other comment was concerned that construction on 11400 South would be taking place at the same time as construction on 10600 / 10400 South. Mr. Wuthrich

said that UDOT does not plan to have the parallel portions of the projects under construction at the same time.

Mr. Wuthrich referred Trans Com members to the tables included in their packets of the draft 2009-2014 TIP which list all the projects anticipated to receive funding in the next six years. He briefly explained the format of the tables and reviewed the different types of funds available in the Public Transit program.

Mr. Wuthrich said that the prior obligations in the TIP tables will be updated from now until October 1 when the TIP is scheduled to be approved by the Federal Highway and Federal Transit Administrations.

Mayor Dolan asked if the 11400 South interchange project will be taking place at the same time as the 11400 South reconstruction project. Jason Davis of UDOT Region 2 responded that the interchange and construction will be treated as one project.

Mr. Wuthrich concluded by saying a conformity analysis of the TIP completed by the WFRC staff showed that the 2009-2014 TIP conforms to the state air quality plans.

ACTION: Councilman Jensen moved that Trans Com recommend to the Regional Council the adoption of the Resolution approving the 2009-2014 TIP and the conformity finding for the same years. Commissioner Milburn seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous.

ACTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF SELF-CERTIFICATION OF PLANNING PROCESS

Mr. Wuthrich said that each year when Trans Com and the Regional Council approve the Transportation Improvement Program, they also need to certify in conjunction with UDOT that the transportation planning process meets all federal planning requirements. Every fourth year the planning process review is done on a federal level. The other years, the review is done on a self-certification level. He said that this year the WFRC and UDOT staffs have worked together to evaluate how well the federal requirements are being met. Mr. Wuthrich referred members to a copy of the proposed certification in their packets and asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Horrocks commented on a sentence on page 6 that said "*With the advent of new standards for PM_{2.5}, it is anticipated that several counties along the Wasatch Front **have been** designated as non-attainment areas.*" Mr. Horrocks suggested the end of the sentence be changed to say "*...along the Wasatch Front **may be** designated as non-attainment areas.*" Trans Com members agreed with that change.

ACTION: Councilman Jensen moved that Trans Com recommend approval to the Regional Council of the Resolution certifying the transportation planning process with the above mentioned change. Mayor Smith seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous.

ACTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Doug Hattery said that there are over 60 federal programs that can provide funding for transportation for persons with special needs. In order to receive this funding, the federal government requires each state to have a coordinated transportation plan. He said that the WFRC staff, in cooperation with UDOT, UTA, and other local agencies, has been working over the past year to prepare a Coordinated Human Services Transportation (CHST) Plan for the five counties in the Wasatch Front Region.

Mr. Hattery said that UTA hosted a Future Search conference this Spring because they realized that transit service was being cut for a lot of people but there are many other agencies and resources out there that could be used to serve them. The conference brought together approximately 80 people representing several different transportation agencies. Recommendations were suggested on how to get more transportation service from available funds for people with low incomes, people with disabilities, and seniors. UTA is moving ahead to implement some of the recommendations that came from this conference.

Mr. Hattery said a draft CHST Plan was made available for public review and comment in July. Comments received mainly related to UTA's redesigned bus system in the Salt Lake Valley and the need for more transportation service for people with disabilities and low incomes. When UTA redesigned their bus system, some people who had relied on the bus service no longer had the same access to it. Because of budget issues, UTA had to change their policies so that now only those who live within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of a rail or bus line can be served by para-transit (as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act). New Freedom funds will expand the transportation options available for persons with disabilities who live beyond the $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from bus routes that UTA is required to provide.

Several comments were also received regarding bus routes on Redwood Road and State Street. The routes run south to the end of the valley. However, on Saturdays the routes now only go as far as 6200-7000 South. Some of the Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) money received will extend the Redwood Road and State Street service to the end of the valley on Saturdays which helps those who need to get to their jobs on weekends.

Mr. Hattery briefly commented on some of the goals of the CHST Plan:

- Implement growth principles that encourage more walkable and transit-oriented communities.
- Allow easier access to transit to everyone, not just those with disabilities or low incomes.
- Educate riders on available services and how they can access that service.
- Coordinate available services between UTA and private and public transportation agencies. For example, some agencies may have a vehicle that they might use only a few times a week. It would be beneficial to make that vehicle available to someone else who could use it.

Mr. Hattery said that the WFRC staff would like Trans Com to give their recommendation to the Regional Council to adopt this Plan so that it can be sent to UDOT for inclusion in the statewide plan.

In response to a question from Councilman Jensen, Mr. Hattery said that the urban areas of Davis, Salt Lake and Weber Counties are combined in the Plan under "Wasatch Front Regional Council – Urban Area."

Mayor Crane asked if there is enough additional funding to help those who were affected by the bus route changes in the Salt Lake Valley. Mr. Hattery said that some of the JARC and New Freedom money will be used to do a Mobility Management Study by the staffs of WFRC, UDOT, UTA and MAG to look in more detail of how to apply for available money and how service can be preserved and coordinated between UTA and all the private and public transportation agencies.

Mr. Hattery said this Mobility Management Study will help identify more ways to serve those who have special transportation needs. He talked about the possibility of "route deviation" where people could call in if they live within a mile or so of a route and the bus could deviate and pick them up at their house and then get back on the route.

Mayor Smith said that the CHST Plan recommends educating the public and private agencies on transportation strategies. He asked if there was a time period during which this education needs to be accomplished? Mr. Hattery responded that this is a big effort with 65 different federal programs that are available to help pay for specific transportation needs. He said we should think of doing this in steps. The first steps could be to address the education and coordination needs.

ACTION: Councilman Jensen moved that Trans Com recommend to the Regional Council the approval of the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. Mayor Dolan seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous.

Mr. Hattery said that at Trans Com's June meeting, members voted to program Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) funds and New Freedom Program funds that were available for FY2006. In the next month or so, UDOT will be requesting statewide projects to use the \$1.5 million available for FY2007-09. Mr. Hattery encouraged members if there were special transportation needs in their communities, to let the WFRC staff know so that applications could be made for the available funding. UDOT would like to have the funds programmed by the first of 2009.

Mayor Crane asked if these JARC and New Freedom funds will be available on a renewable basis. Mr. Hattery said that the funds are appropriated to each state on a yearly basis. However, it will depend on what Congress decides in the future.

There was no other business. Mayor Crane thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting ended at 2:40 p.m.

Next meeting: November 13, 2008