

Active Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
Meeting of January 13, 2016

A meeting of the Active Transportation Committee was held on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116.

Welcome and Introductions

Commissioner Bret Millburn, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m. Commissioner Millburn welcomed committee members and guests and introductions were made.

ATC Members and Staff Present

Justin Anderson	Ogden City
Bill Applegarth	Mayor, Riverton City
Daryl Ballantyne	Councilman, Morgan County
Kaitlin Barklow	Utah Department of Transportation
Barry Burton	Davis County
George Deneris	Salt Lake County
Larry Ellertson	Commissioner, Utah County
Andrew Gruber	WFRC
Scott Hess	WFRC
Jory Johner	WFRC
Nathan Lee	UDOT
Brent Marshall	Mayor, Grantsville City
Jennifer McGrath	UTA
Bret Millburn	Commissioner, Davis County
Jeff Oyler	Davis County Planning
Angelo Papastamos	UDOT
Jim Price	MAG
Phil Sarnoff	Bike Utah
Shawn Seager	MAG
Matt Sibul	UTA
Wilf Sommerkorn	Salt Lake County

ATC Stakeholders and Others Present

Will Becker	GREENbike
Mark Benigni	Weber Pathways
Dan Bergenthal	Salt Lake City
Julie Bjornstad	WFRC
Roger Borgenicht	UBET
Mark Bradley	Brigham City
Kim Clark	VIA Consulting
Steve Call	FHWA-Utah
Kim Clausing	Tooele County Health Department
Louis Cooper	Weber-Morgan Health Department
Roger Crandall	Organic Transit
Marcy DeMillion	NPS-Rivers-Trails
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Todd Hadden	UDOT Traffic Stats
Tim Harpst	GREENbike & Horrocks Engineers
Dave Iltis	Cycling Utah

Thomas Jackson	SLC Bicycle Advisory Committee
Pam Jorgensen	WFRC
Sam Klemm	SL Co Council of Govmts. & WFRC
Ted Knowlton	WFRC
Brian Kolbe	Lochner
Jon Larsen	WFRC
Beverly MacFarlane	Mayor, Sunset City
Elliott R. Mott	Utah Outdoors
Travis Olsen	Weber-Morgan Health Department
Isa Perry	Davis County Health Department
Muriel Xochimitl	WFRC
Nicole Zinnanti	ASSIST

Excused: Mayor Mike Caldwell, Councilmember, Jenny Wilson, and Brett McIff

Approval of Meeting Minutes/Summary

Mayor Brent Marshall moved that the minutes of the October 14, 2015 meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded by George Deneris and the meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comment

Elliott Mott, Utah Outdoors, comments included a request for local governments and communities to put some emphasis on trails upkeep and maintenance and specifically the puncture vine issue on the trails. He said that puncture vines are a hazard to cyclists and dog walkers and would like to see this issue addressed so cyclists and others will continue to use the trails.

Dave Iltis, Cycling Utah, addressed Mr. Mott's comments noting that the State Noxious Weed Department will soon be confirming puncture vine as a noxious weed for the State of Utah. This means that cities and counties are going to have to spend more effort by law to remove puncture vines.

Marcy DeMillion, National Park Service, said that as of January 1, 2015 the National Park Service kicked off their centennial year. The NPS is partnering with the National Park Foundation nationally and locally to provide opportunities for young and old to connect to any public lands. Ms. DeMillion noted there is a very dynamic crowd sourcing website for all interested persons. She also asked for suggestions and ideas for any creative youth projects. Please contact her directly with your ideas.

Phil Sarnoff, Bike Utah, reported that the Utah Bike Summit will be held on Tuesday, April 5 at the Salt Palace. Keynote speaker is Mikael Colville-Andersen who is coming from Copenhagen to talk about growing bicycling in Utah. Mr. Sarnoff said the breakout sessions Request for Proposals are due by January 22.

Chair Report

Commissioner Millburn, Vice Chair, sitting in for Mayor Caldwell, reported on the following items:

- Welcome to new members of the ATC for 2016
- A copy of the new Utah's Unified Transportation Plan document is available and noted that for the first time active transportation has been included as part of that Plan. There is also a new interactive website that all the States' MPOs, UDOT, and UTA have collaborated to put together – www.utahunfiedplan.org. The entire document is downloadable in PDF form on the website.

- A brief discussion on Proposition 1. There were some successes in a number of counties. Those counties that weren't as successful were encouraged to put Prop 1 onto their ballots again in the future.
- A reminder that Concept Reports for WFRC funding programs applications are due by January 14. Mountainland Association of Governments is also calling for projects and their forms are due January 26.

Andrew Gruber then reported that the plan is to “super charge” and merge the Active Transportation and Health Summit and the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Consortium. The Consortium will focus on community development and how that relates to active living and health. The date is Wednesday, June 29. In addition, the National Association of Regional Councils has selected our region as the host for their 50th annual conference. There will be many people from all over the country coming to Utah who are interested in regional issues of transportation, growth and development. The National Conference will be held on Sunday through Wednesday, June 26 – June 29. More details and information about these events will be provided as they become available.

FAST Act Update

Muriel Xochimitl, WFRC, discussed the FAST Act and what it means for active transportation. Her report included the following information:

- The FAST Act authorizes \$305 billion for federal highway, transit, and rail programs and active transportation is included in.
- It provides five years of predictable, consistent funding.
- It includes modest funding increases to keep pace with inflation over time.

Ms. Xochimitl then discussed changes to the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and noted that there is no change to funding that comes to TAP, only an administrative change – officially the Transportation Alternatives Program is now considered part of the Surface Transportation Program (STP). She noted the following information regarding the TAP:

- STP “set-aside” instead of stand-alone program
- All core elements of the program and existing eligibilities maintained
- Funds are allocated 50/50 between States and MPOs
- States are required to obligate funds to recreational trails, unless the Governor opts out

Scott Hess commented that WFRC will be programming the next two years of TAP funding and this would match up with the way the existing funds have been utilized. It takes about two years for a local community to get all the environmental and match in place so if staff were to program today it would be for FY2017 and FY2018 and should align the program with reality. Total amount expected for the FY2017 and FY2018 is \$3 million for active transportation -- \$1.9 million for FY2017 and \$1.4 million for FY2018.

2016 Priorities Discussion

Scott Hess, WFRC, discussed the Committee self-reported priorities from the October 14, 2015 meeting. The comments were broken down into categories: 1) Plans/Policies/Programs; 2) Design/Engineering/Implementation; 3) Costs/Funding; 4) Benefits; 5) Education/Outreach; 6) Organizational Structure; and 7) Other. He then discussed the categories with the highest number of comments. They include: Plans/Policies/Programs, Design/Engineering/Implementation, and Education/Outreach.

Mr. Hess asked the Committee “what would define success in active transportation?” He suggested that staff use the priority spreadsheet list and figure out a way to track those items as performance measures.

Some of the comments during the discussion include:

- First-Last Mile Study is important for implementation. Performance measure will be tied to this study.
- Maintaining focus on all regional active transportation studies: UCATS 2, GreenBike, signage efforts, etc.
- Important to have a baseline and tracking over time helps in making future decisions.
- One thing that seems to be missing are the engineering standards.
- A reminder that the health departments are a resource and can assist with education of both children and adults.
- Counts – need consistency throughout the Region. There is data for different areas but we don't have a comprehensive approach.

Commissioner Millburn noted that it is great to have these priorities, but we need to act upon those and find a way to measure successes.

2016 Performance Metrics Discussion

Staff asked each committee member to provide input on their agency's most important performance measure. The consensus of the group was for Scott Hess to coordinate a sub-committee of the Active Transportation Committee to discuss regional performance measures. Mr. Hess will bring that revised list of performance measures back to the ATC in March for review and consideration.

Agency/City/County Program Updates

Salt Lake County-Active Transportation Implementation Plan: Wilf Sommerkorn and George Deneris provided information on Salt Lake County's Active Transportation Implementation Plan. Their comments included:

- Salt Lake County staff is working towards a County-wide active transportation implementation plan
- Staff have determined that most communities had their own plans and own systems
- What is needed is more coordination and an implementation plan
- Determine what the priority for County and other sources of funding should be geared toward
- The Plan will be called the Active Transportation Implementation Plan for Salt Lake County which will take all the regional networks – local networks and make sure staff have those identified correctly and then prioritize those and determine where the best place to spend the money as it becomes available
- Kickoff with the Stakeholder Committee is on February 4 at the Salt Lake County Government Center

Objectives of the Study include (as well as others):

- Looking at bike scores that include somewhat bikeable or walkable, very bikeable to accommodate daily errands.
- Breaking down elements and measuring them.
- One foundational piece of the study will be a visual preference survey of what facilities people will ride versus what they are riding now – specifically women and children.

RTP Priority and Base Bicycle Network update: Scott Hess, WFRC, reported that the Regional Transportation bicycle network map will be updated annually. The interactive maps in the Unified Plan will be updated as well.

Mr. Hess said that now is the time for local governments and communities to provide him with their completed sections of trail. Mr. Hess will be reaching out to the County active transportation committees and relying on them to go out to the local communities to get these updates so they can be put into the RTP Interactive Map.

Greenbike Regionalization update: Jennifer McGrath, UTA, reported that they are about three quarters of the way through the Greenbike Regionalization Governance Structure Study. The top four potential governance structures that were considered are: 1) Greenbike as owner and operator option; 2) UTA as owner and Greenbike as operator option; 3) UTA owner and operator option; and 4) Municipality owner and Greenbike operator option. The consensus from the steering committee was that the UTA owner and Greenbike operator scenario was preferred. The Steering Committee will bring to the final meeting on January 21 more definitive recommendations about things like who is responsible for what in terms of financial obligations, who is responsible for operations and maintenance, etc. Ms. McGrath also noted that UTA staff has had multiple internal meetings to discuss legal and insurance issues as well as others. For more details and information, contact Jennifer McGrath at UTA.

Ms. McGrath also reported that the kick off for the Active Transportation Benefits Study will be held on January 25. The consultant team is Urban Design for Health, based out of New York City with local support from Fehr and Peers. Phase 1 of the study is fully funded. However, they are lacking some funds for Phase 2. Ms. McGrath said that if the study completion is a priority for committee members or their organizations, please get in touch with her or Phil Sarnoff to discuss how to contribute financially to that shortfall.

Street Connectivity Study: Julie Bjornstad, WFRC, provided an overview of an upcoming street connectivity study funded by WFRC, Mountainland Association of Governments, Utah Transit Authority (UTA), and Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT). The purpose of the Street Connectivity Study is to inform decision-makers and stakeholders of the benefits of street connectivity and provide a guideline to implement elements of connectivity into local communities. This study includes case studies of three local communities – Layton, Tooele, and Lehi. The case studies are intended to assess the current conditions and barriers to street connectivity. For each case study, there will be a review of the current state of the street network, identification of opportunities to connect the network, an analysis of connectivity performance measures, and a cost-benefit analysis of implementing greater connectivity. A consultant has been selected and the project will be completed by the end of the year.

Communities that are interested in updating street standards or ordinances to improve street connectivity can apply for the Transportation-Land Use Connection (TLC) program, which is available to provide funding for projects that would improve connectivity. Please contact Julie Bjornstad at [\(801\) 363-4250](tel:8013634250) ext. 1105 or julieb@wfr.org for additional information.

Next Meeting: March 9, 2016 – 8:45-10:30 a.m. in the Wasatch Front Regional Council offices.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

A recording of this meeting, agendas, and presentations may be found on the WFRC website at www.wfrc.org, under Committees, Active Transportation, 2016 meetings.