

Meeting Minutes
Air Quality Committee
Meeting of August 15, 2013

A meeting of the Air Quality Committee was held on Thursday, August 15, 2013 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Welcome and Introductions

Mayor JoAnn Seghini, AQC Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m. Mayor Seghini welcomed committee members and guests.

AQC Members and Alternates Present:

Kip Billings	WFRC
Bryce Bird	Department of Air Quality
Andrew Gruber	WFRC
Richard Harris, Vice-Chair	Mayor, North Ogden City
JoAnn Seghini, Chair	Mayor, Midvale City
Matt Sibul	UTA

AQC Representatives and Others Present:

Elden Bingham	UDOT
Ari Bruening	Envision Utah
Michelle Caldwell	WFRC
Steve Call	FHWA
Kim Clark	VIA Consulting
Jesse Glidden	UDOT Region One
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Susan Hardy	MAG
Linda Johnson	League of Women Voters – Salt Lake
G.J. LaBonty	UTA
Nancy McCormick	AARP
Erin Mendenhall	Breathe Utah
Maria Nelson	Salt Lake Chamber

Members excused:

Approval of Meeting Summary

Mayor Richard Harris moved that the meeting minutes for the May 16, 2013 meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by **Bryce Bird** and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Information: Pro-Active Transportation Related Air Quality Strategies

- ***Air Quality Strategies Implementation Plan 2014:*** Kip Billings said that the Proactive Transportation Related Strategies date back to January 2011 when this group, through a collaborative process identified a number of general strategy areas that are related to transportation and could affect air quality or ways to improve air quality by reducing emissions. Mr. Billings distributed a copy of the “Air Quality Improvements: Proactive Transportation Related Strategies” Chart and briefly discussed the categories and specific projects:

- Operational – UDOT
 - Signal Coordination
- Behavioral Changes – UDOT
 - Comprehensive Public Education
- Alternative Transportation Modes – UTA
 - Increase Transit Utilization – Mid-Jordan LRT Ped & Bicycle Access
 - Increase Ride Share—Van Pool Programs
- Financial Mechanisms
 - Have not identified a project but this area does remain among the strategies to be considered
- Land Use Development – UTA
 - Sandy TOD

Mr. Billings distributed and reviewed the schedule for the coming year for tracking the efforts on the specific projects and receive reports from those responsible for implementing the projects at the regularly scheduled AQC meetings beginning October 17, 2013 and going through August 21, 2014.

Mr. Gruber commented that the idea of tracking and then reporting is that this committee has done a lot of work on these proactive strategies and we want to make sure we're really being proactive in advancing them and part of that is to have a structure for making sure we are looking at, analyzing, and moving them forward.

- ***TravelWise Update:*** Kim Clark, UDOT, reported on the TravelWise Local Government Academy that was held in June and the Community Resource Kit that was provided to local governments. Her presentation included:
 - 18 communities were represented at the meeting
 - Currently having conversations with 16 communities and working on trip agreements as well as other ideas
 - Benefits of the TravelWise Academy
 - Community Design - spreads ownership
 - Enhances Economic Development – attracts and retains jobs in community
 - Addresses the health / obesity epidemic
 - Creates community good will
 - Creates a hub for solutions and ideas – broadens options
 - Builds relationships
 - Obstacles by TravelWise Academy – time was spent discussing
 - Location of schools and how to get kids walking to school
 - Not enough barriers to driving
 - Right size (or wrong size) parking
 - Road classification – long term – what is the road going to look like 20 years from now
 - Very easy to drive
 - Convenience
 - Solutions by TravelWise Academy
 - Advertise long term cost savings
 - Provide preferential parking / right size parking
 - Share resources community to community
 - Include City Councils
 - Reduce home travel by two trips per day
 - Promote the Bike Ambassadors Program

- TravelWise Moving Forward – Working with Communities
 - Promoting a city center with the use of walking and biking maps for each neighborhood
 - Educating residents about walking and biking opportunities to transit
 - Identifying community locations to tie to transit
 - Extending SmartTrips beyond Salt Lake City
 - Work with the Chambers of Commerce and Community towards a common goal
 - Sharing data – general plans, upcoming studies
 - Multiple community coordination

Ms. Clark gave a brief description of what is included in the Community Resource Kit:

TravelWise Overview, TravelWise for Communities, Travelwise Opportunities, TravelWise in Action, TravelWise Trip Agreement, TravelWise Strategies, and TravelWise Resources.

She said that next steps for TravelWise in working with communities includes:

- Adding to the TravelWise In-Action pages
- Shared internship with WFRC and other MPOs
- Rideshare / TravelWise data coordination
- Other MPO coordination – Cache-TW Symposium and MAG=Regional Mobility Document

Andrew Gruber commented that there were a lot of communities unable to participate in the TravelWise Academy so the thought was with the “shared internship” that for Fall Semester to have three interns who would have segments of the region as their responsibility; i.e. Salt Lake County, Weber and Davis County, and Utah County. Their job, in collaboration with UDOT, would be to meet and make appointments with all the municipalities in their area and provide them with information about the TravelWise Program and the Community Resource Kit.

Mayor Seghini suggested that the TravelWise team make presentations to every Council of Government. It would be an opportunity to educate local governments on the advantages of participating in the TW Program. She also noted that a town meeting where churches, schools, businesses come together and talk about the air quality issues and solutions for their communities.

It was also suggested that UTA be included as a partner to participate in the next TravelWise Academy as an opportunity to address mass transit options.

- **Clear the Air Challenge:** Maria Nelson, Salt Lake Chamber, gave a report on the July 1-31, 2013 Clear the Air Challenge. She said this was the first year without a grant from EPA and felt the Challenge was very successful. She said the challenge goals were to eliminate 300,000 vehicle trips, save 2 million vehicle miles driven, and engage 10,000 participants. The results of the challenge were 1,890,798 miles saved-almost meeting the goal; 169,035 vehicle trips saved – short of the goal by about half; and meeting the 10,000 participants goal.

Ms. Nelson expressed appreciation to the many partners and participants in the challenge – some of which include Rio Tinto, TravelWise, Zions Bank, UTA, ADP, and many others helped to make the Challenge successful. She noted that there was an awards ceremony held on Saturday, August 10 where 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Company, Teams, and Individuals were

recognized for their efforts. She said they are looking forward to next year and thanked everyone for their participation.

Information: Salt Lake PM_{2.5} SIP Status: Bryce Bird, Division of Air Quality (DAQ), reported that the status of the PM_{2.5} SIP is that DAQ will propose the next version of the SIP at the September 11 Air Quality Board Meeting. It will go out for public comment period rung through the month of October and is then scheduled for final adoption at the December Air Quality Board meeting.

Mr. Bird said that over the past year DAQ has spent time re-scrubbing the data used in the air quality modeling and focusing on making sure the model is implemented correctly. DAQ has some new rules and new focus on wood burning based on recent research that showed that wood burning was still an important part of our inventory. He said the final modeling and schedule will be done by August 26 and they will have final numbers. DAQ is anticipating being able to show model attainment by 2019 in all areas.

Andrew Gruber commented that even if we demonstrate attainment, that doesn't mean our air quality is going to be what we want it to be. That is part of the reason we embarked on the proactive strategies – we don't stop our efforts at demonstrating attainment with the federal standards. Our goal is to reduce emissions as much as we can even if that goes beyond what the federal standards require.

There was a question about the impact of wild fires on air quality. Mr. Bird answered that there has not been an impact yet in the valleys due to wild fires.

Ari Bruening commented that Envision Utah is conducting a campaign this winter to encourage people to change their behavior and improve air quality. He said the first stage of the campaign was an on-line survey for people who are interested in air quality to identify what they understand about air quality. The next stage will be a quantitative survey to ask those participating what they learned.

Other Business – Public Comments:

Linda Johnson, League of Women Voters, said that she participated in the survey and noted that it was one of the best experiences of that kind ever and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate.

Ms. Johnson commented that she would like to see the WFRC be the coordinating committee to bring together all the entities to direct the air quality effort. She said there are a number of organizations involved doing what they can such asUCAIR, Breathe Utah, DAQ but that a coordinated effort with a specific agency "in charge" would be more effective.

Elden Bingham, UDOT, responded noting that there is an inter-agency coordinating team. He said that under the transportation conformity rules, UDOT is required to submit to the EPA how UDOT would consult with all the other agencies. There is an inter-agency consultation group that meets that includes Division of Air Quality, Utah Department of Transportation, the Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and Federal Highways.

Nancy McCormick, AARP State President, introduced herself as a first-time attendee to the Air Quality Meeting. She said AARP would like to play a bigger role in helping people understand the effects of air quality on seniors. Air quality affects seniors more than any other group noting that new research coming out shows it affects respiratory, heart disease, isolation and depression,

cognitive decline and longevity. Ms. McCormick said she also participated in the recent survey and noted that the health risks for seniors was only coming up when she put it on the survey. She said that seniors are a big segment of the population and need to be represented.

Mayor Seghini suggested that the TravelWise Program is the way to get this information out to the public and to make a statement to educate people on how they can change their behavior.

The next meeting of the Air Quality Committee will be held on **Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.