

Minutes
Regional Growth Committee
Meeting of January 15, 2015

A meeting of the Regional Growth Committee was held on Thursday, January 15, 2015 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Welcome and Introductions

Commissioner John Petroff, RGC Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Commissioner Petroff welcomed committee members and guests and introductions were made. The following were in attendance:

RGC Members and Alternates Present

Mark Allen	Mayor, Washington Terrace City
Len Arave	Mayor, North Salt Lake
Ron Bigelow	Mayor, West Valley City
Wade Bitner	Commissioner, Tooele County
Ari Bruening	Envision Utah
Steve Call	FHWA
Don Carroll	Mayor, Fruit Heights City
Karen Cronin	Mayor, Perry City
James Ebert	Commissioner, Weber County
Ted Eyre	Mayor, Murray City
Jeffery L. Harris	UDOT
Charles Henderson	UTA Board
Brent Marshall	Mayor, Grantsville City
Dan R. McConkie	Commissioner, UDOT
Aimee Winder Newton	Councilmember, Salt Lake County
John Petroff	Commissioner, Davis County
Christine Richman	Utah Urban Land Institute
Norm Searle	Mayor, Riverdale City
Matt Sibul	UTA
Kathy VanDame	Air Quality Board
Logan Wilde	Councilman, Morgan County

RGC Representatives and Others Present

Myron Bateman	Commissioner, Tooele County
Richard Brockmyer	UTA
GJ LaBonty	UTA
Jennifer McGrath	UTA
Chad Mullins	Bike Utah
Justin Morgan	FHWA
Ron Phillips	Phillips Associates, Inc.
Wilf Sommerkorn	Salt Lake County-Regional Office
Julia Collins	WFRC
Andrew Gruber	WFRC
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Stephen Hanamaikai	WFRC
Jory Johner	WFRC
Pam Jorgensen	WFRC
Ted Knowlton	WFRC
Callie New	WFRC
Muriel Xochimitl	WFRC

Mayor Derk Timothy was excused from the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Len Arave moved that the minutes of the Regional Growth Committee meeting held October 16, 2014 be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Mayor Don Carroll and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments

Information: 2015-2040 Regional Transportation Plan and Utah's Unified Plan: financial and other key issues

Jory Johner, WFRC, gave an update on the 2015-2040 Regional Transportation Plan development process. He noted that the Regional Vision established and endorsed by the Regional Council in 2007 along with the Goals, Objectives and the Regional Growth Principles were important in assessing the needs for the Plan. The RTP Goals include:

- Enhance safety and health
- Preserve infrastructure
- Provide mobility and accessibility
- Achieve cost efficiency
- Promote economic vitality
- Support environmental stewardship
- Encourage community-friendly and sustainable urban form

Mr. Johner discussed the process to develop a preferred scenario. Staff worked with local governments and transportation partners to develop the final Preferred Scenario. The Preferred Scenario includes roadway, transit, and bicycle projects along with the future land use types and intensities for our region.

Mr. Johner then discussed the phasing and financial constraints for the phases included in the 2015-2040 RTP which are: Phase 1—2015-2024; Phase 2—2025-2034; Phase 3—2035-2040; and Unfunded. He also discussed and previewed the newly developed interactive map now available on the WFRC website. This is a tool for local governments and others to view specific areas and projects included in the 2015-2040 RTP as well as to provide comments. The draft 2015-2040 Regional Transportation Plan is scheduled to be adopted in May.

It was noted that included in member packets and also distributed at the meeting was information detailing the Small Area Meetings being held across the Wasatch Front Region. Elected officials, city planners, engineers, planning commissions, and others have been invited to attend and provides an opportunity for them to ask questions and comment on the phased and financially constrained draft 2015-2040 RTP. Also distributed at the meeting was a flier with a schedule of Open Houses where the public can make comment on the Plan. All comments will be reviewed and answered.

Mr. Johner reported that WFRC staff is working and coordinating with the other Metropolitan Planning Organizations in the State (Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG), Dixie MPO, and Cache MPO) as well as the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) on the 2015-2040 Utah's Unified Transportation Plan due to be released later this year. This update to the Unified Plan builds on the previous version by adding a few enhancements. The Utah's Unified Transportation Plan consolidates all the regional plans in the State and includes roads, transit and bicycle improvement projects. This Plan also addresses regional and local needs, capacity and maintenance and preservation.

Also discussed during the meeting were the two bicycle layers that are included in the draft 2015-2040 RTP interactive maps. The Priority Bike Route was developed during the Utah Collaborative Active Transportation Study (UCATS) and is a high level grid that connects transit. The Base Bicycle map includes all the cities master plans bicycle routes.

Mr. Johner gave an overview of the financial assumptions that go into the Plan and include: 1) Updated growth rates; 2) Existing revenues; 3) New revenues; and 4) Identify the needs. He noted that revenues in the 2015-2040 RTP were initially developed using the assumptions from 2011 Plan.

Andrew Gruber noted that because this Plan goes out to 2040 and is an update to the current Plan which goes to 2040 we are not anticipating seeing dramatic swings in the big picture numbers but we are continually updating, identifying and balancing needs.

Information: Active Transportation 2015 key projects and programs

Julia Reynolds gave an overview of progress on plans and programs staff are working on. Her report included the following information:

- Active Transportation Benefits include:
 - Health and safety
 - Transportation choices
 - Economic development
 - Air Quality improvements
- The 2015-2040 RTP has incorporated bike paths as a main component
 - Bike Base Plan – a collaborative effort with updated data from every community in the Wasatch Front Region.
 - Priority Plan – a collaborative effort through all the counties in the region and through our regional agency partners.

Jennifer McGrath, UTA, reported on the UCATS Phase 1 & 2 effort. Phase 1 completed the end of 2013 and focused on: An overall Plan for a bicycle network for all ages and abilities; Enhanced connections to transit; Prioritized “backbone” network; and Integrate quality of life benefits. Recently kicked off UCATS Phase 2 will focus on: Implementing key projects (which were identified in the Top 25 from Phase 1); Determine the next high priority projects; Identify process to keep the Plan alive; Establish performance measures; and evaluate how the Plan affects our community—economy, traffic and property values.

Ms. McGrath also discussed the First/Last Mile Strategies effort that is a collaborative effort with UDOT, UTA, MAG, and WFRC. First/Last Mile is that portion of a transit riders trip from their point of origin to the transit station and then from the transit station to their final destination. The objective of the study was to provide recommendations for First/Last Mile Strategies that will be most effective for increasing ridership on the UTA system. Included in the next steps of the project are: Prioritize Implementation; Design recommended strategies for individual stations to develop preliminary costs; Identify partnership opportunities; Identify funding options; and Perform analysis that shows conditions before and after implementation to evaluate success.

Ms. McGrath also noted that the Mobile Active Transportation Tours (MATT) will continue through 2015. These tours make it possible for elected officials, city staff, and the public to actually see and participate in some of the bicycle infrastructure projects already in use in the State. The 2015 MATT locations include Provo, Moab, Riverdale, Park City and St. George.

Information: Discuss RGC 2015 focus areas

Ted Knowlton, WFRC, said that core responsibility of the Regional Growth Committee is to:

- Guide the Regional Transportation Plan
- Oversee intergovernmental coordination and visioning
- Inform land use and economic development assistance
- Advise metropolitan research and dissemination

Mr. Knowlton said that 2015 is a pivotal year as a new Plan is adopted and as we look back to 2011 and then forward to 2019 – where should the Regional Growth Committee focus its attention. He said that a Regional Transportation Plan is adopted every four years and each time a Plan is adopted staff are also looking forward and asking the question “what is the pathway within the process and what new things should be incorporated into the next Plan cycle?” He said that over the next several meetings staff will be looking for direction on a long-term basis from the Regional Growth Committee that will help guide staff to meet and help local government representatives address ongoing needs and issues. This information from the Regional Growth Committee along with the work that comes out of the Your Utah Your Future effort will also help in the beginning stages of setting the course for the 2019-2050 RTP.

Other Business

- WFRC Orientation will be held Thursday, February 26 at 2:00 p.m. in the WFRC offices. New committee members are encouraged to attend – all members are invited.
- WFRC 2015 Committees Meeting Schedule was distributed and also included in member packets

The next meeting of the Regional Growth Committee will be held on **Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

A recoding of this meeting may be found on the WFRC website at www.wfrc.org, under Committees, Regional Growth Committee, 2015 meetings.