

MINUTES
Wasatch Front Regional Council
Meeting of February 24, 2005

Mayor Nordfelt, Chairman, called the meeting of the Wasatch Front Regional Council to order at 3:10p.m. in the Regional Council offices at 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Members Present

Byron Anderson	Mayor, Grantsville
Ken Bischoff	Commissioner, Weber County
Bruce Burrows	Mayor, Riverdale
Dave Connors	Mayor, Farmington
Peter Corroon	Mayor, Salt Lake County
Craig L. Dearden	Commissioner, Weber County
Tom Dolan	Mayor, Sandy
George Garwood, Jr.	Mayor, South Ogden / ULCT
Matthew Godfrey	Mayor, Ogden
Robert Grow	Representative, Envision Utah
Daniel B. Hancock	Councilman, Morgan County
Michael H. Jensen	Councilman, Salt Lake County
Jerry E. Larrabee	Mayor, Woods Cross
Dannie R. McConkie	Commissioner, Davis County
Kent Money	Mayor, South Jordan
Dennis Nordfelt	Mayor, West Valley City
JoAnn B. Seghini	Mayor, Midvale
Jerry Stevenson	Mayor, Layton

Members Not Present

Ross C. Anderson	Mayor, Salt Lake City
Janice Auger	Mayor, Taylorsville
Camille Cain	Commissioner, Weber County, Rep. Of UAC

Alternate Members Present

Carlton Christensen	Councilman, Salt Lake City
Jennie Wilson	Councilmember, Salt Lake County

Others Present

Becky Aird	
Ed Blaney	WFRC Staff
Carlos Braceras	UDOT
Annette Call	Congressman Chris Cannon
Chuck Chappell	WFRC Staff
Randall Eames	
Sharon Gray	WFRC Staff
Doug Hattery	WFRC Staff
John Hiskey	Sandy
Sam Klemm	WFRC Staff
Ted Knowlton	Envision Utah
Rick McKeague III	DAQ
Lynn Moulding	Riverdale City
Glenn J. Mecham	Representing Senator Bennett
Malisa Neily	West Valley City Youth Council
George Ramjoue	WFRC Staff
Ashley Smith	West Valley City Youth Council
Wilf Sommerkorn	Davis County
Gordon Thomas	Cottonwood Heights
Ben Wuthrich	WFRC Staff

Mayor Nordfelt welcomed those in attendance. He introduced Malisa Neily and Ashley Smith who are members of the West Valley City Youth Council. He also introduced Councilmember Jennie Wilson who is an alternate member representing Salt Lake County and welcomed Mayor Byron Anderson (Grantsville) representing Tooele County COG.

Consent Agenda

Approval of minutes of the WFRC meeting of January 27, 2005: Commissioner McConkie moved to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting of January 27, 2005. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dearden and passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report

Reports from COGs: Mayor Nordfelt noted that there were no reports from the COGs for this meeting. He noted the following, who are the COG Chairmen for 2005:

Weber County - Mayor George Garwood
Tooele County - Mayor Byron Anderson
Davis County - Mayor Joe Johnson
Morgan County - Councilman Dan Hancock
Salt Lake County - Mayor Darrell Smith

Committee Appointments: Mayor Nordfelt stated that he has asked Councilman Dan Hancock to serve as Chairman of the WFRC Water Committee. He asked the Council for concurrence with the appointment. Commissioner Dearden moved to concur in the appointment of Councilman Dan Hancock as Chairman of the WFRC Water Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McConkie and passed unanimously.

Regional Growth Committee (RGC) Report

Mr. George Ramjoue briefly reported on the visioning process (Wasatch Choices 2040) which is underway in partnership with the Wasatch Front Regional Council, Envision Utah and Mountainland Association of Governments. He noted that eight workshops have been held thus far and have averaged close to 80 participants. He stated that the workshops are a great success and are achieving the purpose of obtaining creative input from the public and local governments (elected and appointed officials) relating to the region's core values on growth, land use and transportation. They will also help in the development of regional growth principles and alternative growth scenarios. He stated that once this input is obtained and evaluated, it will be used to update the Regional Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Mayor Connors noted that he has been encouraged with the participation in the workshops and felt that it was due, in part, to personal invitations. He stated that Envision Utah has also been helpful getting people to attend the workshops. He asked Mr. Ramjoue' to e-mail the Council members the schedule of remaining workshops.

Mr. Ramjoue' introduced Mr. Ted Knowlton, from Envision Utah.

Mr. Knowlton presented a PowerPoint presentation and briefed the Council on the Wasatch Choices 2040 process.

Mr. Knowlton reported that the information for scenarios (not plans) will be obtained from the 13 public workshops being held. Attendees participate in a Quality of Life Survey to find out what growth, transportation, and environmental issues people care about most. They also participate in group visioning to determine the group's ideal vision of transportation, growth, and open space. Open houses, discussions and surveys will then be held to assist the Steering Committee in developing draft initial growth principles to be presented to cities, counties and the MPOs (Wasatch Front Regional Council and Mountainland Association of Governments).

Mr. Knowlton stated that maps, transportation tape, and development chips are provided at the workshops for participants to, as a group, 'build' their vision of transportation routes and modes, growth near major transportation, priority open space, and to allocate remaining growth. The transportation elements include freeways, expressways, 4-lane roads, commuter rail, light rail (TRAX), rapid busway, and bike & pedestrian routes. The residential chips include very large lot, large lot, medium lot, and small lot residential, as well as townhomes and multi-family homes. Participants are asked to consider where they would prefer farming or conservation and then allocate the remaining areas for projected growth.

Mr. Knowlton stated that after the workshops, initial scenarios will be created by digitally comparing the results. Land use policy ideas will be applied around these transportation armatures based on guidelines distilled from the public. "What-if" scenarios for 2040 will be evaluated with regard to air quality, area developed, transit riders, traffic, water use, miles of driving, open space, and housing opportunities.

Mr. Knowlton reported that through June 2005, the Steering Committee will finalize scenario development and principles development. Open houses will be held and surveys distributed in late July and early August. From August to November, the Steering Committee will consolidate the scenarios and modify the principles, and obtain comments from the cities and counties on the principles. The Steering Committee will then make recommendations to the MPOs. The MPOs will then consider the adoption options from October 2005 to February 2006, after which the formal LRTP will be developed.

Mayor Nordfelt encouraged all elected officials to attend one or more of the workshops. He stated that attending the workshops indicates support, provides an opportunity to participate, and will give them confidence in the process when the time comes to adopt the LRTP.

Mayor Nordfelt thanked Mr. Knowlton for his presentation and for his attendance at the Council meeting.

Transportation Committee Report

Action on requests for additional Surface Transportation Program funding from Riverdale & Washington Terrace and West Valley City: Commissioner Bischoff asked Mr. Ben Wuthrich to report on the two requests for additional STP funding. Copies of the letters from West Valley City and Riverdale & Washington Terrace Cities were included in Council members' packets. Copies of spreadsheets of STP Programs for Salt Lake and Ogden/ Layton Urban Areas were also included in Council members' packets.

Mr. Wuthrich reported that in a letter dated January 25, 2005, West Valley City submitted a request for an additional \$450,000 in Urban Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for the reconstruction project located on 3200 West from 4100 South to 4700 South. He stated that the amount requested would pay for unforeseen construction conflicts as a result of a County storm drain constructed in the early 80's with insufficient pavement to accommodate the proposed pavement milling.

Mr. Wuthrich reported that Riverdale and Washington Terrace Cities have made a joint request for an additional \$1,322,662 in Ogden/ Layton Urban Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for the project located on 300 West from Riverdale Road to 4400 South (Washington Terrace). He stated that the amount requested would pay for cost increases due to updated land acquisition estimates and updated construction costs as explained in their attached letter.

Mr. Wuthrich stated that Trans Com reviewed these requests at its meeting on February 10 and recommended their approval. He also noted that the technical committees have reviewed the requests and determined that sufficient funding is available and that the request for additional funding will not delay any project.

Mayor Dolan moved that the Regional Council approve the requests for additional Urban Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for the West Valley project and the Riverdale-Washington Terrace project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McConkie and passed unanimously.

Approval of amendment to the 2004-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Commissioner Bischoff stated that Trans Com and the WFRC staff have recommended that the Regional Council approve a Resolution to amend the 2004-2008 TIP, as requested by UDOT. Copies of the Resolution to amend the 2004-2008 TIP along with copies of a table listing the projects were included in Council members' packets. He asked Mr. Wuthrich to report on the amendments to the 2004-2008 TIP.

Mr. Wuthrich reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) has received a request from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) to amend the 2004-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He stated that the amendment was made available for public review and comment by UDOT and the WFRC on December 18, 2004, and continued through January 17, 2005. He noted that no comments were received.

Mr. Wuthrich reported that because these projects are either enhancement projects, national recreational trail projects, safety projects, pavement rehabilitation projects, or bridge preservation projects, they are exempt from air quality conformity requirements, and additional conformity analysis will not need to be completed for these projects. He also noted that Trans Com reviewed the proposed amendment at its meeting on February 10th and has recommended its approval.

Commissioner Dearden moved that the Regional Council approve the Resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign it, amending the 2004-2008 TIP, as requested by UDOT. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jensen and passed unanimously.

Review of UDOT draft STIP projects: Commissioner Bischoff reported that UDOT's Regions have recently developed lists of priority projects that are submitted to the Transportation Commission for consideration to be included in the 2006-2010 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Copies of the list of UDOT Regions 1 and 2 priorities for addition to the STIP were included in Council members' packets. He asked Mr. Ben Wuthrich to report on the STIP priorities.

Mr. Wuthrich explained the following maps:

Long Range maps: Mr. Wuthrich stated that these maps have been developed over the past three years using the process of identifying the needs while keeping them financially constrained. He stated that was why the projects need to be prioritized in ten year phases.

10-year Priority Project maps: Mr. Wuthrich stated that the WFRC and MAG have jointly considered the "Transportation Challenges" and after consulting with UDOT, UTA, the Utah League of Cities & Towns, the Utah Foundation and the Salt Lake Area

Chamber of Commerce, have created a plan and adopted a resolution to meet the challenge of future growth through the integration of highways and transit in a ‘shared solution’.

TIP map: Mr. Wuthrich stated that the TIP map includes projects programmed over the next 5 years. He noted that the staff is currently in the early stages of developing the 2006-2010 TIP.

Mr. Wuthrich reported that several of the projects on the 10-year priority project maps are already programmed on the 2004-2008 TIP. He noted that some of the projects have full funding and others have only some funding programmed. The projects already on the TIP include:

Salt Lake County Area	I-15 Interchange at 11400 South SR 201 - Jordan River to Bangerter Highway 700 East - 9400 South to 12300 South 3500 South - 4000 West to Mountain View Corridor 7800 South - 2700 West to Bangerter Highway 10400 South - Redwood to Bangerter Highway Redwood Road - 10400 South to 12300 South
Davis County Area	500 South - I-15 to Legacy Parkway Legacy Parkway - I-15/US-89 Farmington to I-215 Syracuse Road - 1000 West to 2000 West
Weber County Area	I-15 - 31 st Street to 2700 North Riverdale Road - SR-126 to Washington Blvd.

Mr. Wuthrich reported that each year about this time each UDOT Region holds a “Region Workshop” where they discuss their needs and make recommendations for projects they would like to see added to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). He noted that in preparation for this workshop, each region holds a monthly Pavement Management or Roadway Management committee meeting to discuss the needs, concerns, and priorities of the roadway network throughout their regions.

Mr. Doug Hattery reported that the projects on UDOT’s Region lists are mostly preservation, reconstruction, or safety projects. He noted that in order to provide more opportunities for local official input into the STIP development process, these Region lists will be sent to all mayors and county commissioners or council members within each UDOT region. He also noted that UDOT has sent or will soon be sending a letter to all officials asking for their input and comments on these priorities. He asked Council members to provide UDOT and the Transportation Commission with their comments.

Commissioner Bischoff encouraged Council members to comment.

Copies of the brochure *Moving Forward Together*, prepared jointly by WFRC and MAG were distributed to those in attendance.

Review of Transportation Commission's Administrative Rule on Partnering: Commissioner Bischoff asked Mr. Chuck Chappell to report on the Transportation Commission's Administrative rule on partnering. Copies of a letter from Glen E. Brown, Chairman, Utah Transportation Commission, dated February 10, 2005 along with copies of the Administrative Rule on Partnering - SB11, 2004 General Session February 8 version, were included in Council members' packets.

Mr. Chappell reported that the Utah Transportation Commission has developed a draft rule to implement S.B. 11, Guidelines for Local Matching Dollars for Transportation Projects, adopted by the Legislature in 2004. He stated that the Commission is seeking comment from local officials before presenting the draft rule to the Legislature and then making it available for formal public review and comment. He suggested that the Council discuss any concerns they may have with the proposed rule, so they can be forwarded on to the Commission. He noted that comments can also be submitted directly to the Transportation Commission.

Mr. Carlos Braceras from UDOT stated that this is a difficult item for the Commission. He stated they are very sensitive about it and want to avoid leap frogging of projects. He noted that although the Commission has not yet begun the formal rule making process, they are at a starting point and would like Council member's thoughts and comments.

Mayor Godfrey commented that this legislation would allow smaller communities to get projects done.

Briefing on Legislature

Mr. Chappell distributed copies of a list of transportation bills that were presented to the Legislature this session. He then explained the following bills:

First Substitute Senate Bill 25: Mr. Chappell reported that this bill creates a system of prioritization for new highway capacity projects. He felt that this prioritization process is desirable because it requires consultation with the area MPOs. He noted that a critical amendment was added on the floor of the Senate which requires that UDOT not consider inducements for projects in the form of matching locally generated dollars unless all counties have an equal ability to raise those funds, making S.B. 11 moot. The bill passed the Senate on a unanimous vote and has been referred to the House.

First Substitute House Bill 18: Mr. Chappell reported that this bill creates a new highway investment fund called the Transportation Investment Fund (TIF). This bill would receive a set percentage of sales tax which would grow with inflation and the economy. He stated that the fund would start out at \$70 million per year and grow to approximately \$150 million per year in new funding. Mr. Chappell felt that it was a desirable bill, but is subject to annual appropriation. He noted that the bill was amended to make certain that the Centennial Highway Program (CHF) is completed on schedule and that the new TIF does not take away any needed funds from CHF. He stated that this bill has passed the House Transportation Committee and is currently awaiting House floor consideration. He asked Council members for their support for this bill.

Mr. Robert Grow expressed his thanks to Council members for their support with the transportation bills that were presented. He stated that without this group making a case for transportation needs, none of this would be happening.

Senate Bill 8: Mr. Chappell reported that this bill creates a corridor preservation fund for the use of local governments through the increase of automobile registration fees by up to \$20. He noted that the amount was cut to \$10 in the House and is presently awaiting floor action. He felt that this is a desirable bill from a local government standpoint because it makes new funding available for local corridor preservation.

In answer to a question by Mayor Seghini, Mr. Ramjoue' explained that the funding would apply to any regionally significant highway on the LRTP.

Mayor Money noted that this bill is really an investment, as the return on this money could be astronomical.

Second Substitute Senate Bill 183: Mr. Chappell explained that this is a controversial bill that, initially, would have required a vote in Utah County as to whether or not transit funding should be raised to a half cent. He noted that the requirement for that vote was dropped and left optional. He stated that the bill would also cede the 'quarter of the quarter' money presently going to highways in Salt Lake County to transit when the current bonds of that fund are paid off in approximately 8 years. He stated that this bill has been referred to the full Senate by a committee vote of 4 to 2.

Council members discussed S.B. 183 and noted that these funds need to be a full mixture and provide funding for A, B, and C road funds. Council members felt that this bill could provide support for shared solutions.

Mr. Chappell noted that the Governor will probably hold a transportation summit this summer.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Other Business

Mayor Nordfelt introduced Commissioner Craig Dearden and Mayor Bruce Burrows, who are new members of the Council.

The next meeting of the Wasatch Front Regional Council will be held on March 24, 2005.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45p.m.