

MINUTES

Wasatch Front Regional Council Meeting of August 25, 2005

Mayor Nordfelt, Chairman, called the meeting of the Wasatch Front Regional Council to order at 3:04 p.m. in the Regional Council offices at 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Members Present

Byron Anderson	Mayor, Grantsville
Janice Auger	Mayor, Taylorsville
Bruce Burrows	Mayor, Riverdale
Dave Connors	Mayor, Farmington
Peter Corroon	Mayor, Salt Lake County
George Garwood, Jr.	Mayor, South Ogden / ULCT
Matthew Godfrey	Mayor, Ogden
Michael H. Jensen	Councilman, Salt Lake County
Jerry E. Larrabee	Mayor, Woods Cross
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
Ken Bischoff	Commissioner, Weber County
Camille Cain	Commissioner, Weber County, Rep. of UAC
Craig L. Dearden	Commissioner, Weber County
Tom Dolan	Mayor, Sandy
Robert Grow	Representative, Envision Utah
Daniel B. Hancock	Councilman, Morgan County
Dannie R. McConkie	Commissioner, Davis County
Kent Money	Mayor, South Jordan

Alternate Members Present

J. Lynn Crane	Mayor, Herriman
Wes C. Losser	Mayor, South Salt Lake
Bryan Holladay	Mayor, West Jordan

Other Elected Officials Present

Gary Herbert	Lt. Governor
Gordon Thomas	Cottonwood Heights City

Press Present

Patty Henetz	Salt Lake Tribune
Lisa Roskelley	Standard-Examiner
Nicole Warburton	Deseret Morning News

Others Present

Justin Allen	Congressman Bishop's Office
Bret Anderson	UDOT
Loveit Baumgardner	WFRC Staff
Ed Blaney	WFRC Staff
Kip Billings	WFRC Staff
Steve Call	FHWA
Mark Christensen	City of Washington Terrace
Roger Borgenicht	Future Moves
Joe Brown	Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
Chuck Chappell	WFRC Staff
Nina Dougherty	Sierra Club
Scott Festin	WFRC Staff
Sharon Gray	WFRC Staff
Doug Hattery	WFRC Staff
Hal Johnson	UTA
Sam Klemm	WFRC Staff
Ted Knowlton	Envision Utah
Alan Matheson	Envision Utah
Rick McKeague	Utah Department of Air Quality
Glenn J. Mecham	Senator Bob Bennett's Office
John Njord	UDOT
Jared Perry	Senator Bob Bennett's Office
George Ramjoue	WFRC Staff
Paula Lee Roberts	WFRC Staff
Greg Scott	WFRC Staff
Wilf Sommerkorn	Davis County
Walt Steinvorth	UDOT
Mary Taylor	Senator Orrin Hatch's office
Joe Thomas	Utah Department of Air Quality
Russell Weeks	Salt Lake City Council Staff
Ben Wuthrich	WFRC Staff

Mayor Nordfelt welcomed those in attendance and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Mayor Nordfelt excused Commissioner McConkie, Mayor Ross Anderson, Commissioner Bischoff, Commissioner Cain, Councilman Hancock, Commissioner Dearden and Mayor Money from the meeting.

Consent Agenda

ACTION on the minutes of the WFRC meeting of May 26, 2005: Mayor Corroon moved to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting of May 26, 2005. The motion was seconded by Mayor Larrabee and passed unanimously. Mayor Connors abstained from the vote, as he had not attended the May 26, 2005, Council meeting.

ACTION on the financial statements and check registers for May and June 2005: Councilman Jensen moved to approve the financial statements and check registers for May and June 2005. The motion was seconded by Mayor Seghini and passed unanimously.

In answer to a question by Mayor Connors, Ms. Baumgardner stated that the check to B.Y.U. was for consulting work on the transit corridor study. Mr. Hattery added that the consultants completed historical and archeological work.

Chairman's Report

Announce new Deputy Director: Mr. Chappell reported that Mr. Doug Hattery has recently been appointed to the position of Deputy Director for the WFRC staff.

Announce new City Planner Contact List: Mr. Chappell reported that in order to improve the coordination between the WFRC staff and the planners in the cities and counties in our region, a staff member has been appointed as a contact for each city and county in the region. Copies of a list of city and county planners was distributed to Council members in attendance. Mr. Chappell stated that the staff would be contacting the planners on the list with a letter and a follow-up phone call. He asked Council members to review the list and let the WFRC staff know if any changes or corrections needed to be made in the list of planners.

Special Report by Lt. Governor Gary Herbert

Mayor Nordfelt introduced Lt. Governor Gary Herbert. The Lt. Governor said he would be meeting with Associations of Government in the state to discuss the state's transportation problems and possible solutions. The input received at these meetings will be used to develop the program for a Transportation Summit.

Lt. Governor Herbert distributed copies of a handout titled ***Draft Discussion Points, Utah Transportation: 2005 and Beyond.*** He discussed the following topics that were reviewed in

the handout:

- Utah's Unique Challenge
- Utah's Current Revenue Resources
- Fuel tax Increases: Just a Quick Fix?
- The Huntsman/Herbert Objective
- Transportation Initiative Principles
- Items for Discussion / Potential Solutions

Mr. Njord added that UDOT is facing a bigger challenge ahead than they have had before. He noted that UDOT doesn't have the resources to complete the needed projects.

Lt. Governor Herbert stated that he and the Governor campaigned on issues that included economic development as a key component. He added that the state needs a transportation plan that makes sense for all areas of the state, and noted that they are visiting all four corners of the state to gather input to help tackle the transportation problems. He said the Governor's Transportation Summit will be held on October 14, 2005.

Lt. Governor Herbert asked Council members for their input for discussion items at the Transportation Summit. The following input was provided from Council members.

- Land use is an important key that affects transportation
- It's important for the communities to receive funding for projects equal to the taxes that were paid
- Need for a buy-in from the Legislature to fund projects
- Education for citizens
- Importance of de-politicizing the decision-making process
- Importance of using Council input during Legislative process
- Importance of making sure everyone feels they are involved
- Importance of fairness in taxing for projects

In answer to a question relating to the Legacy Parkway, Lt. Governor Herbert stated that negotiations are ongoing and they are working toward resolution of the issues.

Lt. Governor Herbert reminded Council members that transportation problems are statewide. He thanked Council members for their comments and added that the state cannot find solutions without local government support and input. He encouraged Council members to participate in the Transportation Summit on October 14, 2005, and help to provide solutions for the difficult questions.

Budget Committee Report

ACTION on budget amendments: Councilman Jensen reported that the following six amendments to the budget need Council discussion and action:

1. **Legislative Consultant for Permanent AOG funding** – Mr. Chappell reported that in the past, WFRC has received state grant funds in the amount of \$55,000 per year from the Community Impact Board. He stated that these funds were used, in part, for federal match requirements for the Council's transportation planning program, with the remainder being used for rural county planning assistance. He noted that the Community Impact Board has made it clear that there will be no future funding available for this purpose.

Mr. Chappell stated that the seven Utah AOG directors have agreed to seek permanent state funding for the AOGs and noted that the WFRC has been asked to participate in sponsoring a legislative consultant to assist in securing this permanent funding during the 2006 Legislative Session. He stated that WFRC's share of the cost for this effort is approximately \$1,430.00 and noted that the Council's current budget has sufficient local funds to pay this cost, therefore no additional funding is required for this amendment.

Councilman Jensen moved that the Council amend the budget in the amount of \$1,430.00 to hire a legislative consultant to assist in securing permanent funding for the AOGs during the 2006 Legislative Session. The motion was seconded by Mayor Connors and passed unanimously.

2. **Legislative Consultant to Support WFRC Recommendations at the 2006 Utah Legislative Session** – Mr. Chappell reported that during the 2005 Utah Legislative Session, the WFRC received funding from the Utah Transit Authority for a consultant to support WFRC transportation recommendations. He stated that this funding will not be available from UTA for the 2006 session.

Councilman Jensen stated that the Council needs a policy decision to decide if it is appropriate to hire a lobbyist and then a decision on funding for the position by October 2005. He noted that at the strategic planning retreat held in April 2005, the Council leadership recommended that WFRC continue this effort. He noted that estimated costs for a consultant are \$30,000.

There was a lengthy discussion by Council members on hiring a lobbyist for the 2006 Utah Legislative Session. Council members felt that it was appropriate and a smart thing to do, and felt that the five counties in the region were taken care of during the 2005 Utah Legislative Session. Council members felt that a lobbyist could facilitate needed work, keep Council members informed during the session, and be there at critical times. Council members noted the importance of the staff being involved. Mr. Chappell also noted the importance of local elected officials being involved during the session.

Council members briefly discussed funding for the lobbyist. Mr. Thomas cautioned Council members about hiring the "cheapest" lobbyist during the bidding process.

Mayor Burrows moved that the Council state, as a policy issue, the need for the Council to have its own lobbyist, and that the Council pursue funding for a lobbyist. He also

reaffirmed the need for local elected officials and staff to be involved in the 2006 Utah Legislative Session. The motion was seconded by Mayor Holladay and passed unanimously.

3. **CDBG Technical Assistance Grant** – Councilman Jensen reported that the WFRC has received a contract from the Department of Community and Economic Development for providing rating and ranking assistance for the CDBG program in the amount of \$8,000. He stated that these funds were unexpected and were not included in the FY06 Budget approved by the Council.

Mr. Klemm explained that the funding applies only to the non-entitlement areas of the region in Davis, Weber, Morgan, and Tooele Counties.

Mayor Auger moved to accept the contract from the Department of Community and Economic Development for providing rating and ranking assistance for the CDBG program in the amount of \$8,000. The motion was seconded by Mayor Larrabee and passed unanimously.

4. **Quality Growth Commission Critical Land Planning Grant** – Councilman Jensen reported that on July 27, 2005, the Quality Growth Commission approved a Critical Land Planning Grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC). He stated that the purpose of the grant is to expand the Wasatch Choices 2040 visioning process, which Envision Utah is conducting, to include more detailed mapping and evaluation of critical lands, such as wetlands, surface waters, wildlife habitat, prime agriculture, trails, and the like, in Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, and Utah Counties. He noted that although the WFRC is the grantee of the grant, the proceeds of the grant will be forwarded to Envision Utah who will have responsibility for the work.

Mayor Connors moved that the Council approve any budget changes or amendments necessary to accept the Critical Land Planning Grant in the amount of \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Mayor Larrabee and passed unanimously.

5. **Housing/Homeless Study** – Councilman Jensen reported that the Utah State Department of Community and Culture has requested that the Council accept the responsibility of a contract for \$20,000 for fiscal year 2006 to evaluate shelters and other housing available to the homeless in Davis, Weber, Tooele and Morgan Counties. He noted that the evaluation will consist of a count of actual beds available and the purpose of those beds such as overnight shelters, transitional housing, housing for the mentally ill, housing for women, housing for families, etc. He also noted that the funding was agreed to with the understanding that the work would be subcontracted.

Councilman Jensen noted that Council staff members are presently preparing a scope of work document to be added to the contract. It is expected that a contract will be let in the next couple of months and that the study will be complete this fiscal year.

Mr. Klemm noted that the contract has been changed to \$10,000.

Mayor Connors moved that the Council accept the pass-through contract to evaluate shelters and other housing available to the homeless in Davis, Weber, Tooele and Morgan Counties in the amount of \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Mayor Seghini and passed unanimously.

6. ***Amendment to Envision Utah Contract/Active Living Concepts*** – Mr. Chappell explained the amendment to the Envision Utah Contract. He stated that this amendment would provide funds to enhance the Regional Transportation Plan to include active living concepts. He noted that the anticipated cost of this work will be \$10,000, and that a description of this work will be added to the Unified Planning Work Program.

Councilman Jensen stated that this cost can be met within the Council's current budget.

Councilman Jensen moved that the Council accept this addition to enhance the Regional Transportation Plan and to amend the Envision Utah contract and the Council's budget to include \$10,000 for this work. The motion was seconded by Mayor Connors and passed unanimously.

Mayor Connors noted that the Council won't get more favorable comments on any project than they will with this type of project being added to the Regional Transportation Plan.

Regional Growth Committee

ACTION on MOA regarding conformity process: Mayor Corroon asked Mr. Billings to report on the Council's Air Quality Planning Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the WFRC and the Department of Air Quality (DAQ).

Mr. Billings reported that the purpose of the MOA is to define the responsibilities of the two agencies relative to air quality planning. He stated that the agreement is a requirement to remain certified with the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. He reported that the existing MOA between WFRC and DAQ was signed in 1978. The last two Certification Reviews by FHWA and FTA have strongly urged that this document be updated.

Mr. Billings reported that WFRC and DAQ have collaborated to draft an updated MOA that both agencies feel is ready to be signed. Copies of the agreement were included in Council members' packets. He noted that once the MOA is approved by the Council, it can be signed by both parties.

Mayor Corroon moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the WFRC and DAQ, and to authorize the necessary signatures for the MOA. The motion was seconded by Mayor Seghini and passed unanimously.

ACTION on sponsoring a Poll of SL County voters regarding transit funding and phasing: Mayor Corroon asked Mr. Chappell to explain the transit phasing and funding portions of the Long Range Transportation Plan Update – 2004 to 2030, which the Council adopted on December 18, 2003.

Mr. Chappell reminded Council members that the financial component of the 2003 plan was refined on October 26, 2004, in a joint meeting with the Mountainland Association of Governments. He stated that in the joint resolution, MAG and WFRC supported the “shared solution” of highways, transit, and non-motorized systems and supported diversifying the funding sources for each, including equalizing funding sources with transit service provided. He noted that specifically, the two organizations recommended to the Legislative Transportation Planning Task Force that the second ½ cent sales tax be replaced with a GO Bond Property Tax to be voted on in 2006. They also recommended equalizing the transit-supporting sales tax at ½ cent across the region.

Mr. Chappell reported that the 2005 Legislature provided sales tax funds to highways on a yearly basis at a much lower level than recommended by MAG and WFRC and took no position on transit funding besides recognizing the UTA authority to sponsor a referendum on GO bonds. He noted that with the passage of SAFETEA-LU the formula transit funds will increase over the past and noted that increases are anticipated in discretionary capital funds over historic levels.

Mr. Chappell stated that the Council needs to begin preparing for the next legislative session. He discussed WFRC participating with UTA on a poll of Salt Lake County voters to determine support for a GO Bond/property tax referendum in 2006.

Councilman Jensen noted that although UTA needs to find out how Salt Lake voters feel, the Salt Lake County Council will ultimately make the decision.

In answer to a question by Mayor Auger, Mr. Chappell noted that the poll would cost under \$5,000 and he stated that those costs will fit within the Council’s current budget.

In answer to a question by Mayor Godfrey on whether Weber and Davis Counties will have Council support when they’re ready, Mr. Chappell stated that future funding can’t be guaranteed. Mayor Nordfelt stated that if funding were possible, support for Davis and Weber Counties would be the fair thing to do. Mayor Godfrey added that Davis and Weber Counties would like the same enthusiasm and support at a later time.

Mayor Corroon moved that the Council approve funding (up to \$5,000) for an opinion poll of Salt Lake County voters to determine support for a GO Bond/property tax referendum in 2006. The motion was seconded by Mayor Godfrey and passed unanimously.

“Visioning” information: Mayor Corroon reported that the RGC/Steering Committee has been meeting regularly over the past several months to consider growth scenarios and draft regional

growth principles. He asked Mr. Knowlton to update Council members on the Wasatch Choices 2040 activities.

Mr. Knowlton distributed copies of the Wasatch Choices 2040 newsletter. He briefed Council members on the four scenarios which were built based on feedback from the public workshops held in February and March, 2005.

Mr. Knowlton distributed copies of a handout titled ***How the Scenarios Compare***. It included information on the following:

- Growth
 - mix of housing types
 - vacant land consumption
 - growth near public transportation
 - balance between jobs and housing
 - growth in mixed use areas
 - land reuse
- Transportation
 - Traffic Congestion
 - Public Transportation
 - Vehicle Hours of Travel
 - Driving Distances (auto)
 - Commute Time (auto)
 - Speed of Auto Travel
- Environment
 - Growth Impact on Highly Sensitive Lands
 - New Water Sources (Outdoor Use)
 - Winter Carbon Monoxide
 - Winter Dust

Mr. Knowlton explained that they are studying what differences land use can make to reduce the future transportation demand. He felt that everyone can try to make changes in minor ways which would broaden the options for property or landowners. He asked Council members to call him if they had any questions at (801)303-1458.

Mr. Chappell reported on the ***Preferred Vision***, the coordination effort with local government on this preferred vision, and the process of making the transition between the vision and the Regional Transportation Plan. He stated that the ***Preferred Vision*** will be presented to Council members at the October 27, 2005, Council meeting for their information and feedback. Mr. Chappell also noted that although the Growth Principles will be voted on at a later time, Council members will be shown what effect they would have on the future.

Mr. Knowlton reported that starting next month, Envision Utah, WFRC, and MAG will be meeting with all cities and counties to discuss the ***Preferred Vision*** at the local level.

ACTION on Grantsville City application to Community Impact Board (CIB): Mayor Corroon asked Mr. Klemm to report on Grantsville City's application to the Community Impact Board (CIB)

Mr. Klemm reported that Grantsville City is applying for funds from the CIB in the amount of \$2,000,000 to fund the construction of a new fire station. He stated that the total will be made up of \$1,500,000 in the form of a no interest loan and a \$500,000 grant. He noted that the Wasatch Front Regional Council is required to take action on this item before it is presented to the CIB by Grantsville. Copies of a draft approval letter to be signed by Council Chairman Dennis Nordfelt and copies of a document from Grantsville City giving a basic description of project, funding sources and estimated costs were included in Council members' packets.

Mayor Anderson moved that the Regional Council endorse Grantsville City's grant application for submission to the Permanent Community Impact Fund Board. The motion was seconded by Mayor Auger and passed unanimously.

Transportation Committee Report

ACTION on Self Certification of the Urban Transportation Planning Process: Councilman Jensen reported that each year when Trans Com reviews and recommends the approval of the Transportation Improvement Program to the Regional Council, they also need to certify that the transportation planning process meets all federal planning requirements. He stated that the WFRC and UDOT staffs have worked together to evaluate how well the requirements are being met. Based on this effort, a resolution has been prepared certifying the planning process for the region.

Councilman Jensen stated that Trans Com reviewed the proposed self-certification of the transportation planning process at its meeting on August 11 and recommended its approval. He noted that the Regional Growth Committee has also reviewed and recommended approval of the resolution at its meeting on August 18. Copies of the Resolution certifying the planning process were included in Council members' packets.

Councilman Jensen moved that the Regional Council approve the Resolution certifying the planning process. The motion was seconded by Mayor Connors and passed unanimously.

ACTION on 2004-2008 TIP Amendments: Councilman Jensen reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council has received three requests to amend the 2004-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He stated that two of these requests came from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) - a request for an additional \$520,000 of Bridge Off System funds for a bridge project located at 700 South and Jordan River in Salt Lake and a new Transportation Enhancement project on the ramps of I-215 and Redwood Road in Taylorsville. He stated that the third request was from Riverdale and Washington Terrace for an additional \$905,492 in Ogden/ Layton Urban Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for their project on 300 West from Riverdale Road to 4400 South. Copies of a letter from Riverdale and Washington Terrace, a Resolution to amend the 2004-2008 TIP, and a list of the projects to add

to the 2004-2008 TIP were included in Council members' packets.

Councilman Jensen noted that the proposed Transportation Improvement Program amendment does not need to be reviewed for conformity and consistency with the State Implementation Program, because the amended projects are already included in the TIP or are exempt from air quality conformity requirements. He also noted that the amendment was made available for public review and comment by the Utah Department of Transportation and the Wasatch Front Regional Council from July 5, 2005, through August 10, 2005. Trans Com reviewed the proposed amendment at its meeting on August 11 and recommended its approval.

Councilman Jensen moved that the Regional Council approve the Resolution to amend the 2004-2008 TIP, as requested. The motion was seconded by Mayor Auger and passed unanimously.

ACTION on new 2006-2010 TIP: Councilman Jensen reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council is responsible for developing a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) annually and assuring that the TIP conforms with air quality plans. He stated that a draft 2006-2010 TIP was reviewed by Trans Com and the Regional Council in May and was made available for public review from July 5 to August 10, 2005. He noted that Trans Com reviewed the proposed 2006-2010 TIP at its meeting on August 11 and recommended its approval. Copies of a summary of the proposed 2006-2010 TIP, a Resolution approving the 2006-2010 TIP, a letter from the Sierra Club, and the Council's response to the Sierra Club's comments were included in Council members' packets.

Councilman Jensen noted that Trans Com has recommended approval of the TIP and its conformity finding.

Councilman Jensen moved that the Regional Council adopt the Resolution approving the 2006-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the conformity finding for the 2006-2010 TIP. The motion was seconded by Mayor Larrabee and passed unanimously.

Executive Directors Report

Rail~volution Announcement: Mr. Hal Johnson from UTA reported that the Rail~volution 2005 conference will be held in Salt Lake City at the Grant America Hotel on September 8-10, 2005. He noted that the conference will include information on building livable communities with transit and is designed for people from all perspectives who want to learn more about the role of land use and transit as equal partners in the quest for greater livability and greater communities. He stated that the conference will feature innovative presentations from a variety of disciplines, including developers, elected officials, urban planners, advocacy experts, transportation professionals, financiers, citizen groups, architects and others. Copies of a pamphlet on the conference were distributed to those in attendance. He noted that anyone who is interested is invited to attend.

Acronym list: Mr. Chappell noted that a list of the Council's "most used" acronyms has been prepared. Copies were distributed to those in attendance.

UrbanSim policy: Mr. Chappell briefly reported the Council's UrbanSim guidance. He noted that he has directed the staff to use UrbanSim in the following applications:

- Analysis for and by public agencies (WFRC and MAG) and,
- Analysis on a regional (4 county) scale vs. for sub-regional planning project analysis (i.e. NEPA), and
- For analysis and comparison studies within the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), through 2006, and
- Only as a tool to the RTP process and not as the official projections input to the transportation demand models.

Progress Report: Mr. Chappell reported that in the spring of 2004, the leadership of the Regional Council, including the Chair and Vice-Chair and the Chairs of Trans Com, the Regional Growth Committee, and the Budget Committee, met with the management team for the staff and prepared a set of Strategic Goals for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. He stated that these goals addressed coordination with other agencies, support for Hill Air Force Base, the need for an updated project selection process, recommendations for pursuing additional transportation funding, and other areas. He reported that the WFRC staff has prepared a report on how well these goals were accomplished during the fiscal year.

Mr. Chappell also reported that the staff has prepared a completion report documenting the work accomplished by the WFRC and its partners, including UDOT and UTA, during the 2005 program year. Copies of the Accomplishment Report on meeting Strategic Goals and a summary of completion report for the 2005 program year were included in Council members' packets.

Next Meeting – October 27, 2005: Mr. Chappell noted that the next meeting of the Wasatch Front Regional Council will be held on October 27, 2005.

Mr. Chappell noted that the next JPAC meeting will be held on Thursday, September 1, 2005, at 12:00 noon.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.