



## **WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL**

295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road • Salt Lake City, Utah 84116 • www.wfrc.org  
Phone Salt Lake: 801.363.4250 • Fax: 801.363.4230 • Phone Ogden: 801.773.5559

### **MINUTES**

#### **Wasatch Front Regional Council Meeting of October 25, 2007**

Mayor Petroff, Chairman, called the meeting of the Wasatch Front Regional Council to order at 2:05 p.m. in the Regional Council offices at 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

#### **Members Present**

Byron Anderson  
Bruce Burrows  
Carlton Christensen  
Peter Corroon  
J. Lynn Crane  
Craig L. Dearden  
Tom Dolan  
Louenda Downs  
Michael H. Jensen  
Bret Millburn  
Dennis Nordfelt  
Ron Russell  
Bruce Sanders  
JoAnn B. Seghini  
Russ Wall

Mayor, Grantsville  
Mayor, Riverdale  
Councilmember, Salt Lake City  
Mayor, Salt Lake County  
Mayor, Herriman  
Commissioner, Weber County  
Mayor, Sandy  
Representative, Utah Association of Counties  
Councilmember, Salt Lake County  
Commissioner, Davis County  
Mayor, West Valley City  
Mayor, Centerville  
Councilmember, Morgan County  
Mayor, Midvale  
Representative, ULCT

#### **Members Not Present**

Ken Bischoff  
Matthew Godfrey  
Robert Grow  
Joe L. Johnson  
Kent Money  
John Petroff, Jr.

Commissioner, Weber County  
Mayor, Ogden  
Representative, Envision Utah  
Mayor, Bountiful  
Mayor, South Jordan  
Mayor, West Point

#### **Alternate Members Present**

William Applegarth  
David B. Newton  
Neka Roundy  
Darrell H. Smith  
Todd Stevenson  
Jenny Wilson

Mayor, Riverton  
Mayor, West Jordan  
Mayor, Kaysville City  
Mayor, Draper  
Mayor, Fruit Heights  
Councilmember, Salt Lake County

**Other Elected Officials Present**

Gordon Thomas Cottonwood Heights

**Press Present**

Brandon Loomis Tribune

**Others Present**

Mike Allegra	UTA
Steve Avis	Hansen, Barnett & Maxwell
Loveit Baumgardner	WFRC Staff
Roger Borgenicht	Future Moves
Melanie Bowen	Office of Senator Hatch
Steve Call	FHWA
Chuck Chappell	WFRC Staff
Mark Christensen	Washington Terrace City
Mick Crandall	UTA
Mary DeLoretto	UTA
LaNiece Dustman	WFRC Staff
Sharon Gray	WFRC Staff
Val John Halford	WFRC Staff
Steve Handy	Northern Utah Transportation Alliance
Steve Harris	Washington Terrace City
Doug Hattery	WFRC Staff
Jeff Hawker	Riverton City
Meg Holbrook	Transportation Commission
Ben Horsley	Congressman Bishop's Office
Ahmad Jaber	UDOT
Jory Johner	WFRC Staff
Sam Klemm	WFRC Staff
G. J. LaBonty	UTA
John Linton	Congressman Cannon's Office
Kane Loader	Midvale City
Rick McKeague	Utah Department of Air Quality
Glenn J. Mecham	Senator Bob Bennett
John Njord	UDOT
John Taylor	Taylorsville City
Mary Taylor	Senator Orrin Hatch
Barbara Thomas	WFRC Staff
Eloise Thomson	WFRC Staff
Ben Wuthrich	WFRC Staff

Commissioner Bischoff, Mayor Matthew Godfrey, Mayor Joe L. Johnson, and Mayor John Petroff, Jr. were excused from the meeting.

The meeting was Chaired by Councilman Jensen, Vice-Chairman, in Mayor Petroff's absence.

## Consent Agenda

**ACTION – Minutes of the WFRC meeting of August 23, 2007 and ACTION – Financial Statements and Check Registers for July and August, 2007:** Commissioner Dearden moved to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting of August 23, 2007 and the financial statements and check registers for July and August, 2007. The motion was seconded by Councilman Christensen and passed unanimously.

## Public Comment

No public comment.

## Chairman's Report

**Discussion of an Amendment to the Agreement Establishing the Regional Council:** Mr. Chappell reported that one of the strategic goals identified by the Regional Council for the coming year was to consider adding members to the Council representing UDOT, UTA, and the Legislature. He noted that a draft amendment was considered by the five county Councils of Governments. He stated that the proposal would add four new non-voting members to the Council: one from UTA [Mr. John English, General Manager], one from UDOT [Mr. John Njord, Executive Director], one appointed by the Speaker of the State House of Representatives, and one appointed by the President of the State Senate.

Mr. Chappell reported that Davis, Morgan, Weber, and Tooele COGs have approved the Resolution which would add four non-voting members to the Council. He noted that Salt Lake COG is in favor of adding the four members, but recommended that the Legislators be voting members of the Council. Copies of the draft Resolution amending the agreement establishing the Regional Council was included in Council members' packets.

Mayor Corroon moved that the Council approve adding the four additional members as non-voting members [to get them on board quickly]. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dearden.

Council members discussed having the COGs and Council look into making them voting members after a three to six month trial.

Mayor Corroon amended his motion adding that a future Council discussion and vote be held to make the Legislative members full voting members. Commissioner Dearden agreed to the amended motion, which passed unanimously.

**Legislative Audit Committee:** Mayor Nordfelt briefly reported on the mathematical mistake reported in a Legislative Audit in the process used for establishing priorities on projects to be funded with the ¼ cent sales tax approved in Salt Lake County last year. He noted that the Legislature initiated the audit, as they wanted Salt Lake County to use the funding for roads and not rail projects. He said he had agreed as the Chair of the COG to have the expanded COG meet and reconsider its decision using the corrected information.

Mayor Nordfelt stated that even with the mathematical correction, the two Salt Lake County TRAX lines and the I-80 project remained in the same quartile on the list of priorities. He stated that a

corrected list will be mailed to COG members today and will be voted on at their next COG meeting. He noted that 5 points need to be followed:

1. The statute needs to be followed
2. A list needs to be developed using the formula
3. If a project is chosen out of order a reason must be listed
4. Money needs to be used for projects, not operations
5. UTA will enter into no new contracts that bind them until the list is resolved.

Mayor Nordfelt stated that the COG will meet on November 1, 2007 to vote on the updated priority list.

Mr. Chappell stated that WFRC found the error before the audit and had fixed the error before going through the process with Davis and Weber Counties.

Mayor Smith stated that this is an important issue. He thanked Mayor Nordfelt for his work in representing Salt Lake County over the past two weeks.

**Nominating Committee:** Councilman Jensen stated that a Nominating Committee needs to be established to make recommendations for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council for 2008. He noted that it would require a commitment of one meeting. The following Council members were asked [and agreed] to serve on the committee: Mayor Petroff, Mayor Wall, Commissioner Dearden, Mayor Anderson, and Councilman Sanders. Mayor Wall agreed to Chair the Nominating Committee.

Mayor Nordfelt moved to approve the appointment of Mayor Petroff, Mayor Wall, Commissioner Dearden, Mayor Anderson, and Councilman Sanders to the Nominating Committee, with Mayor Wall serving as the Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mayor Seghini and passed unanimously.

**Planning Award:** Mr. Hattery reported that the Regional Council recently received a planning award for the Active Living portion of the Regional Transportation plan.

**Mission Statement:** Mr. Hattery reported that at the June 2007 Council retreat, Council members discussed the need for a mission statement describing the areas the Council is involved with. He distributed copies of a draft Regional Council Mission Statement and asked Council members to provide him with any comments or suggestions.

The draft Regional Council Mission Statement read as follows: The Wasatch Front Regional Council is committed to deploying a multimodal regional transportation system that is integrated into local community plans for Salt Lake, Davis, Weber, Morgan, and Tooele Counties. As a voluntary association, our primary objective is to foster cooperation and consensus between member local governments on regional transportation, air quality, and community development plans and projects. We prioritize transportation projects and CDBG applications to effectively utilize available federal, state, and local funds. We also support local efforts in corridor preservation. The Regional Council adopts and provides support to local governments in implementing regional growth principles that will enhance the region's future quality of life. Finally, the Regional Council provides a unified voice for local officials in its five-county area as they work with state and federal agencies/officials to meet the regional needs.

**UDOT Bridge Overpass:** Mr. John Njord reported on UDOT's pre-constructed bridge project that was moved in place on I-215 and 4500 South. He stated that there had been live reporting on the project from 8:00 p.m. on Friday evening until Monday morning at 5:00 a.m. He also stated there had been a great deal of interest from neighboring states, as 120 people from 30 different states were here to watch.

Mr. Njord reported that the traffic impact of the project was one weekend vs. nine months, as traditional bridge design and construction would take just over nine months, but this process only took one weekend to move into place. He noted that this project was a test, but because the impacts are less, UDOT would like to do more projects like this in the future.

In answer to a question on structural stability, Mr. Njord stated that the concrete quality is better on this project, as acceleration in the curing of the concrete was not needed.

**Continuous Flow Intersection:** Mayor Nordfelt invited Council members to experience the "wonderful" engineering design of the Continuous Flow Intersection on 3500 South in West Valley City.

### **Budget Committee Report**

**ACTION to amend the Bylaws of the Regional Council:** Councilman Jensen reported that the WFRC staff has proposed that additional persons be able to sign checks for the agency. He noted that this will require an amendment to the Bylaws of the Regional Council. He stated that currently, only the Chair, Vice Chair, and Executive Director of the Council can sign checks. Two of the three signatures are needed on each check. The proposed amendment would add the Chair of the Budget Committee and the Deputy Director to the list of those who could sign. He noted that two signatures would still be required, and one of them would still need to be an elected official.

Mr. Chappell stated that the Regional Council can approve an amendment to the Bylaws after notifying the five county Councils of Governments (COGs). He stated that the WFRC staff presented this proposal to all five COGs during October, and they all supported the proposal. Copies of a draft Resolution amending the Bylaws of the Regional Council were included in Council members' packets.

Mayor Seghini moved that the Council approve the Resolution amending the Bylaws of the Regional Council which would add the Chair of the Budget Committee and the Deputy Director to the list of those who could sign checks for the Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Christensen and passed unanimously.

### **Transportation Committee (Trans Com)**

**Report on TIP/STIP Staff Modifications to the 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Program:** Mr. Wuthrich reported that there have been only a couple of staff modifications to the 2008-2013 TIP and the STIP since the Council last met. Copies of the modification list for the TIP/STIP along with the list of the National Recreational Trail projects and the streamlined list of State projects for the Concept Development list were included in Council members' packets.

Mr. Wuthrich reviewed and distributed copies of a PowerPoint presentation on the Staff Modifications to the 2008-2013 TIP/STIP to those in attendance.

***ACTION on Board Modification to 2007-2012 TIP:*** Mr. Wuthrich reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council has received several requests to modify the current 2008-2013 TIP. He stated that these modifications require Regional Council and Transportation Commission action but do not require a new conformity analysis or a 30-day public comment period.

The three requests for an increase in funding include:

- Bountiful City - 1500 South - 5-Point Round-about intersection improvement - \$248,617
- Washington Terrace - 5000 South; Washington Blvd. to 400 West - asphalt pavement reconstruction - \$1,557,011
- Herriman City - Main Street; 6200 West to 5600 West - asphalt pavement reconstruction - \$1,278,847

The six requests for a change in funding are from UDOT and include:

- I-84; US-89 to SR-167, Weber Canyon - Pavement and Structure Rehabilitation - \$4,300,000
- US-89 - Uintah Junction to SR-203 - Project Combination / Reduction (included in above project)
- US-89; Washington Blvd (us-89); 36th Street to 26th Street - Pavement Reconstruction - \$1,400,000
- Mountain View Corridor (EIS) Environmental Study - \$3,000,000
- SR-201; I-80 to SR-202 - Asphalt Pavement Rehab. Project
- I-80; SR-201 to SR-202, widen to 5 Lanes - \$2,165,000

Mr. Wuthrich stated that the Technical Committees reviewed these requests and recommend that the Regional Council approve the resolution to modify the 2008-2013 TIP. Copies of the Resolution to amend the 2008-2013 TIP were included in Council members' packets.

Councilman Christensen moved that the Council approve the Resolution to amend the 2008-2013 TIP. The motion was seconded by Mayor Smith and passed unanimously.

***Discuss priorities for 2009-2014 Transportation Improvement Program for input to UDOT:*** Mr. Wuthrich reported that the WFRC staff is beginning the process to select projects to add to the Surface Transportation Programs (STP) and Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) Programs as part of the 2009-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He stated that the WFRC staff would like to give members of the Regional Council an opportunity to suggest projects to be considered by both the WFRC and UDOT as the TIP is developed and asked Council members to submit letters by October 26, 2007, if possible. He noted that the review process will begin the first of the year.

Mr. Chappell stated that staff members will visit the COGs with the hope that the mayor's projects won't slip through the process.

Mr. Wuthrich stated that UDOT's Regions are also reviewing their needs and developing recommendations to be presented to the Transportation Commission next spring for projects to be added to the TIP.

Mr. Njord stated that Council members' input and comments are welcome relating to state roads. He noted that the projects come from the Concept Development portion of the STIP.

### **Regional Growth Committee**

**ACTION to Endorse Commuter Rail South Locally Preferred Alternative:** Mayor Burrows reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council has participated in the preparation of Draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) for the Provo to Salt Lake City FrontRunner (Commuter Rail) Corridor, which was completed in August 2007. Copies of a Resolution adopting the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for Commuter Rail South, and a map showing the Locally Preferred Alternative in the Provo to Salt Lake City FrontRunner (Commuter Rail) Study Area were included in Council members' packets. Mayor Burrows asked Mr. G.J. LaBonty, manager for this project, to update Council members on this project.

Mr. LaBonty reported that UTA sponsored this project with coordination and support from local jurisdictions, UDOT, WFRC and Mountainland Association of Governments to advance the Provo to Salt Lake City FrontRunner (Commuter Rail) proposed in the MPO's Regional Transportation Plans through the environmental approval processes. He noted that based on this thorough technical evaluation and public input, the stakeholders of the Provo to Salt Lake City Commuter Rail Project have designated the Locally Preferred Alternative in the Provo to Salt Lake City FrontRunner Study Area. He distributed copies of a handout titled **Provo to Salt Lake City FrontRunner Project – Description of the Proposed Action**, along with an updated map of the proposed Commuter Rail Transit System and the Locally Preferred Alternative. He stated that UTA is requesting that the Regional Council formally adopt the LPA at this time so the Project can continue to move forward.

Mayor Burrows reported that the LPA being proposed is consistent with the WFRC and MAG 2030 Regional Transportation Plans adopted by their respective Councils, in spring 2007.

Mayor Nordfelt moved that the Council adopt the Resolution endorsing the Locally Preferred Alternative developed by the stakeholders of the Project for the Provo to Salt Lake City FrontRunner (Commuter Rail), in Salt Lake County, and to include the alignment, mode, and station locations. The motion was seconded by Mayor Dolan and passed unanimously.

Mr. Allegra answered Council members' questions relating to the Commuter Rail line north. He stated that the track work has been completed, the signals are almost done, and that trial rides are taking place once each month. He stated that 500 people rode the train, which reached speeds of 79 mph, during the last trial from Farmington to North Salt Lake. He stated that UTA is currently in the process of completing the safety system for the project and getting their operators certified. He noted that FrontRunner should open in April, 2008. He also stated that the FrontRunner cars will be stored at the old diesel mechanic shop on 1800 North in Salt Lake City for both the north and south projects.

**ACTION to Support Passage of One-Quarter Percent Sales Tax in Davis and Weber Counties:** Mr. Klemm reported that the Weber and Davis County Commissions have placed a question on the November ballot regarding a proposal to raise sales taxes by 1/4 cent for the purpose of funding transportation projects and corridor preservation. He noted that the Regional Growth Committee discussed and recommended approval of these ballot measures at their meeting on October 18, 2007. Copies of a Resolution of support for the proposal were included in Council members' packets.

Mayor Russell moved that the Council approve the Resolution that supports the proposal to raise sales taxes by 1/4 cent for the purpose of funding transportation projects and corridor preservation in Davis and Weber Counties. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dearden and passed unanimously.

### **Executive Director's Report**

**Status of proposed changes to the 2007-2030 Regional Transportation Plan:** Mr. Chappell reported that the transit project on 5600 West and the North Legacy connection project in Farmington may be brought before the Council in the future.

Report on National Conference of MPOs (Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organizations): Mr. Chappell briefly reported on the conference he attended. He briefly discussed the following:

- Authorization for the next Federal Surface Transportation Act
- The Highway Trust fund will be short by \$9 billion in FY 2009
- Infrastructure needs far exceed the ability to fund everywhere
- Allies for MPO agencies may include the National Governor's Conference, the National League of Cities, and State Legislators
- MAG & WFRC cannot be forced to be one MPO
- MPOs are supposed to have operational agencies [i.e. UDOT, UTA, and airports] included

**Executive Committee advisory meetings:** November 20, 2007 and January 15, 2008 @ 12:00 (noon): Mr. Chappell stated that an Executive Committee advisory meeting is needed to discuss the Legislative audit. He noted that a math error was found and refinements to the calculations need to be discussed. He stated that a final ranking list will be completed prior to the next Salt Lake COG meeting, and will be slightly different than what was presented in the audit report.

Mr. Chappell stated that the Executive Committee members include the Council's Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and the Chairman of the Budget Committee, RGC and Trans Com.

Councilman Christensen suggested that all three versions of the ranking list outcomes be presented, which he felt would help to avoid any questions regarding the documentation.

Mayor Nordfelt noted that he felt the auditors did the Council a real service as the process is much better now.

**WFRC Members for 2008:** Mr. Chappell asked all Council members to please have their COGs appoint their WFRC members for next year prior to January 2008.

### **Other Business**

**Next meeting:** Mr. Chappell noted that the next WFRC meeting will be held on January 24, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. [which is the new permanent meeting time].

There being no further business, Commissioner Dearden moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Councilman Christensen and the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.