



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 August 25, 2011

Commissioner Craig Dearden, 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

Michael Allegra
Len Arave
Ralph Becker
Peter Corroon
Craig Dearden
Tom Dolan
Louenda Downs
Scott Jenkins
Michael H. Jensen
Richard Harris
Tina Kelley
Bret Millburn
Kent Money
Jamie Nagle
John Njord
John Petroff
JoAnn Seghini
Darrell Smith
Mike Winder
Jan Zogmaister

UTA
Mayor, North Salt Lake
Mayor, Salt Lake City
Mayor, Salt Lake County
Commissioner, Weber County
Mayor, Sandy City
Commissioner, Davis County / UAC
Senator, Utah State Senator
Councilman, Salt Lake County
Mayor, North Ogden
Councilmember, Morgan County
Commissioner, Davis County
Mayor, South Jordan City
Mayor, Syracuse City
Utah Department of Transportation
Commissioner, Davis County
Mayor, Midvale City
Mayor, Draper City
Mayor, West Valley City
Commissioner, Weber County

Alternate Members Present

Carlton Christensen

Councilman, Salt Lake City

Other Officials Present

Greg Hughes
Gordon Thomas

Chair, UTA
Councilman, Cottonwood Heights

Others Present

Jacob Anderegg
John Bennett
Roger Borgenicht

Senator Mike Lee's Office
GOPB / Utah Quality Growth Commission
Future Moves

Carlos Braceras	UDOT
Deborah Burney-Sigman	Breathe Utah
Nicole Christensen	Congressman Jim Matheson's Office
Robert Ett	Architecture / TOD Consulting
Russell Fox	Draper City
Shane Greenwood	South Jordan City
John Hiskey	Sandy City
Rob Jeppsen	Salt Lake County Mayor's Office
Dave Nazare	HDR
Kathy Olson	UTA
Angelo Papastamos	UDOT
Cory Pope	Utah Department of Transportation
Wendell Rigby	West Jordan City
Matt Sibul	Utah Transit Authority
Wayne Bennion	WFRC Staff
Kip Billings	WFRC Staff
LaNiece Davenport	WFRC Staff
Scott Festin	WFRC Staff
Andrew Gruber	WFRC Staff
Ned Hacker	WFRC Staff
Val John Halford	WFRC Staff
Doug Hattery	WFRC Staff
Jory Johner	WFRC Staff
Pam Jorgensen	WFRC Staff
Sam Klemm	WFRC Staff
Ali Oliver	WFRC Staff
Christopher Strong	WFRC Staff
Barbara Thomas	WFRC Staff
Ben Wuthrich	WFRC Staff

Mayor Bruce Burrows and Mayor Brent Marshall were excused from the meeting.

Welcome

Commissioner Craig Dearden welcomed Council members and visitors.

Consent Agenda

ACTION: Councilman Michael Jensen moved to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting held May 26, 2011 and the financial statements and check registers for May and June 2011. The motion was seconded by Mayor Mike Winder and passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report

Service Awards: Andrew Gruber recognized Barbara Thomas and Pam Jorgensen and presented each with a certificate for five years of service.

UTA Report on Transit Oriented Development: Greg Hughes, Chair of UTA Board of Trustees discussed his vision for transit oriented development (TOD) in the region and what UTA is doing regarding TOD. Included in his comments are the following:

- He recognized the unique collaboration of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, UDOT, UTA, the MPOs, local governments, and others in investing in the public transportation infrastructure to the benefit to Utah's economy. Such collaboration is not common around the country.
- He credited the Regional Council for seeing the importance of the RTP 2040 Plan and developing a Vision for dealing with the future projected population growth along the Wasatch Front.
- He said the future of the State of Utah is how we are going to manage the growth. Transit Oriented Development around the public infrastructure that is being put in place now is the future to accommodating the kind of growth that is projected.
- He pointed out that the Legislature has allowed UTA to be part of the development process. He feels it is important to learn what has worked and what hasn't from other areas of the country.
- He emphasized his belief that Utah will continue to lead the nation and earn infrastructure funding because we can complete projects ahead of schedule and under budget.

Public Comment

Debbie Sigman with Breathe Utah (an air quality advocacy group) addressed the Council to remind them of the problem and make them aware of the importance of including ways to reduce ozone pollution in the transportation planning process. She said that the use of cars and trucks for our daily commerce is a major source of adding to ozone pollution. She asked that in transportation planning consideration be given to reducing the amount of vehicle travel through design, public behavior and education.

Regional Growth Committee

ACTION – Adopt CDBG RRC – Approve Chairman and Update: LaNiece Davenport reported that the Regional Review Committee (RRC) was created to help guide the expenditure of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The Committee's purpose is to provide a structured method for reviewing, rating, and ranking CDBG applications. Membership includes Morgan, Tooele and Weber Counties. Each of the three eligible counties has two representatives appointed by their respective county Councils of Governments (COG). The COGs appoint one staff member and one elected official for a total of six committee members. Each member serves a two-year term.

Ms. Davenport said that the committee has nominated Commissioner Jan Zogmaister as the Vice Chair of the RRC and is asking the Council to approve the nomination.

Councilman Michael Jensen moved to approve the appointment of Weber County Commissioner Jan Zogmaister as the Vice Chair of the Community Development Block Grant Program's Regional Review Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Carlton Christensen and passed unanimously.

Information – Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program: Sam Klemm reported that the Utah Division of Homeland Security (DHLS) has provided the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) with a U.S. Department of Homeland Security Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant (IECG) to develop a Tactical Interoperable Communications (TIC) Plan for the Wasatch Front counties.

The TIC Plan addresses three major components of emergency communications: 1) identifying specific jurisdiction public safety communications resources; 2) identifying communications equipment that could be placed into service by responding agencies following a major emergency; and 3) facilitating the development of emergency communications contingency objectives for agencies operating in the Wasatch Front.

Three table top exercises were conducted in 2010 involving all of the county stakeholders. Several weeks following these exercises, a functional exercise was conducted. The goal was to confirm the ability of each dispatch center, Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and mobile command post to communicate with the others.

Currently, each jurisdiction operates under their own set of protocols without any regional coordination. The next step is to develop and include in the TIC Plan a set of implementation procedures and Standard Operating Protocols. The TIC Plan and the ability of the emergency preparedness community to effectively communicate on a regional scale will be further tested during a FEMA sponsored statewide exercise in the spring of 2012.

Air Quality Committee

Information – Proactive Air Quality Improvement Strategies: Mayor Becker reported on the work that the Air Quality Committee has been doing the past few months. He said that the Committee had decided that they would look beyond reacting to the federal requirements that have come to the area but rather look at the region more proactively in addressing our air quality problems. Mayor Becker reviewed the list of “Air Quality Improvements: Proactive Transportation Related Strategies” that was included in Council member packets. He said that the Committee has identified seven actions within those categories listed to further discuss and receive comment and direction on:

1. Timing improvements for 150 signals and set to specific goals beyond what is already being done for traffic signal control for synchronization.
2. Travelwise Program and how to boost and support that effort.
3. Mid-Jordan Light Rail Program – improve pedestrian and bicycle access along that route and stations.
4. Additional 40 Vanpools – support and expand the existing vanpools.
5. Fuel Tax increase as a way to help fund transportation needs.
6. Doubling speed fines on air quality alert days.
7. Transit Oriented Development – focusing greater attention and be a supporter of TODs.

Following the discussion of the above items, Mr. Gruber noted that the specific strategies for each of these categories require more work. He said that in moving forward the next steps would be to bring together the various stakeholders around the region to look at what the potential benefits would be and how we would move forward.

Kip Billings further discussed the list of strategies. He noted that this was a first draft and is subject to further research and refinement. He discussed the new information and the more detailed work on specifically implementable projects under each of the categories. He said that comments and suggestions are welcomed as the Committee moves forward with finding ways to improve the Region’s air quality.

Transportation Committee (Trans Com)

ACTION – Board Modification to the 2011-2016 TIP: Mr. Ben Wuthrich reported requests had been received from the Utah Department of Transportation to modify the current 2011-2016 Transportation Improvement Program. The modification requires action from the Regional Council and the Transportation Commission but does not require a new conformity or 30-day public comment period. Mr. Wuthrich reviewed the modifications and noted that a copy of the revised 2011-2016 TIP Amendment 9 was included in member packets.

Mayor Peter Corroon moved to approve the Resolution to modify the 2011-2016 Transportation Improvement Program as requested. Commissioner John Petroff seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Resolution is available in the Council offices.

ACTION – Self Certification of the Transportation Planning Process: Mr. Ben Wuthrich reported that each year the Regional Council and the Department of Transportation certify to FHWA and FTA that the transportation planning process is addressing the major transportation management issues facing the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Mr. Wuthrich stated that WFRC and UDOT staffs with personnel from UTA have worked together to evaluate how well the federal requirements are being met. Based on this review, the WFRC staff prepared a Resolution certifying the planning process for the region. He also noted that a description of the technical process, coordination and other elements of the planning process were included in Council member packets.

Commissioner Craig Dearden moved to approve the Resolution certifying the transportation planning process. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jan Zogmaister and passed unanimously. A copy of the Resolution is available at the Council offices.

ACTION – Approve 2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Determination: Mr. Ben Wuthrich reported that the draft 2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Program was reviewed by Trans Com in June and made available for public review and comment. Weber, Davis, and Salt Lake County Councils of Government (COG) reviewed the draft TIP during their June meetings.

Mr. Wuthrich said that an analysis of the TIP completed by the WFRC staff shows that the 2012-2017 TIP conforms to the state air quality plans. The public comment period extended from July 2 through August 6, 2011. Mr. Wuthrich said that a list of the Transportation Improvement Program Projects, copies of the comments received pertaining to the TIP or to the conformity finding, and a copy of the Resolution approving the 2012-2017 TIP were included in Council member packets

Mayor Peter Corroon moved to adopt the Resolution approving the 2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Program and the conformity determination for the 2012-2017 TIP. Commissioner Bret Millburn seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION – FY2011 and FY2012 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment: Mr. Wayne Bennion said that the Unified Planning Work Program is a document that describes the planning work that will be accomplished by UTA and UDOT planning staff and the Regional Council staff over a two year period. He said that the UPWP is required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in order to receive federal

transportation dollars for the region.

Mr. Bennion reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council had received a request from the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) to modify the FY2011 and FY2012 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The amendment includes work by UTA related to three grants from FTA: 1) \$500,000 for a transit asset management study to look at ways to more effectively manage the Utah Transit Authority's growing number of rail lines, rail cars, and buses; 2) \$113,000 for innovative work force training and computer based leadership development training; and 3) \$51,000 for transit climate change adaptation assessment to determine potential future climate change impacts to UTA's facilities.

Mayor Tom Dolan moved to approve the amendment to the FY2011 and FY2012 Unified Planning Work Program as requested. Commissioner Bret Millburn seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Andrew Gruber discussed the following:

- Mr. Gruber expressed concerns of all in the State that the flow of federal funding for transportation dollars continue, be stable and meet the critical needs. He said that the Joint Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC), Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) and the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) around the State had developed some common objectives and ideas on transportation issues. A copy of the document *Utah's Federal Transportation Authorization Principles* was included in a letter to Utah's Congressional Delegation. Mr. Gruber noted that a copy of the letter and attachment would be forwarded to Council members.
- Mr. Gruber reported that in the past week announcements were made by the Federal Highway Administration of grants coming to Utah of close to \$13 million for a range of projects – some UTA and some UDOT. He said that the process for awarding those grants was a national competitive selection process that looked at the ability for projects to create jobs, promote quality of life, and have innovation and efficiency. He expressed appreciation to UDOT, UTA and all those who worked on these grants.
- Mr. Gruber said the Consortium that was brought together under the HUD Sustainable Communities Grant will meet on September 26 in the Salt Palace. He said that this first meeting would draw interests from all over the region to look at the direction our region is going in the future. Mr. Gruber said that a "Consortium Member Letter of Intent" is available for those interested. He noted that the letter was a way to ask interested stakeholders to say "yes" that they would like to participate in the dialogue about where our region is going. He noted that the Consortium plans to meet quarterly and encouraged participation and attendance at the September 26 meeting.

Other Business

The next Council meeting will be held on October 27, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.