



WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL

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MINUTES

Wasatch Front Regional Council Meeting of January 26, 2012

Commissioner Bret Millburn, Vice 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
Peter Corroon
Kelvyn Cullimore
Louenda Downs
Richard Harris
Tina Kelley
Bret Millburn
John Petroff
JoAnn Seghini
Darrell Smith
Russ Wall
Mike Winder
Jan Zogmaister

Utah Transit Authority
Mayor, North Salt Lake
Mayor, Salt Lake County
Mayor, Cottonwood Heights
Commissioner / Utah Association of Counties
Mayor, North Ogden
Councilmember, Morgan County
Commissioner, Davis County
Commissioner, Davis County
Mayor, Midvale City
Mayor, Draper City
Mayor, Taylorsville/ Utah League of Cities & Towns
Mayor, West Valley City
Commissioner, Weber County

Other Officials Present

Brian Butters

Councilman, South Jordan City

Others Present

Roger Borgenicht
Nicole Christensen
Robert Ett
Robin Hutcheson
Andy Kitchen
Lee Logston
Chad Mullins
Cory Pope
Reed Ryan
Larry Shepherd
Leah Sirmin
Wayne Bennion
Andrew Gruber
Ned Hacker
Val John Halford
Doug Hattery
Jory Johner

Future Moves
Congressman Jim Matheson's Office
Robert Ett AIA Consulting
Salt Lake City Transportation
Civil Science
West Valley City Planning
Salt Lake County Bicycle Advisory Committee
UDOT
Utah Asphalt Pavement Association
Senator Mike Lee's Office
FHWA / WFRC
WFRC Staff
WFRC Staff
WFRC Staff
WFRC Staff
WFRC Staff
WFRC Staff

Pam Jorgensen
Sam Klemm
Jon Larsen
Ben Wuthrich

WFRC Staff
WFRC Staff
WFRC Staff
WFRC Staff

Commissioner Craig Dearden, Mayor Ralph Becker, Mayor Mike Caldwell, Mayor Tom Dolan, Councilman Michael Jensen and Mayor Jamie Nagle were excused from the meeting.

Welcome

Commissioner Bret Millburn welcomed Council members and visitors and introductions were made.

Consent Agenda

ACTION: Commissioner John Petroff moved to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting held October 27, 2011. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jan Zogmaister and passed unanimously.

ACTION: Mayor Darrell Smith moved to approve the Financial Statements and Check Registers for September, October and November 2011. The motion was seconded by Commissioner John Petroff and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There were no public comments

Chairman's Report

Vice Chairman Bret Millburn recognized and welcomed new members of the Council: Mayor Mike Caldwell, Ogden City and Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, Cottonwood Heights City, as well as new alternates Mayor Scott Osborne, South Jordan, Mayor Korry Green, Hooper, and Councilman Donald Mathews, Morgan County. He expressed appreciation to Mayor Kent Money, South Jordan and Mayor Bruce Burrows, Riverdale – outgoing members of the Council for their service.

ACTION: Endorse Appointments to WFRC and Committees: Mayor JoAnn Seghini moved to endorse the appointments made by WFRC Chairman Dearden and by the COGs and other appointing authorities to the WFRC and its committees. These appointments were included in the information packet sent with the agenda. Mayor Peter Corroon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Information: Legislative Update: Sam Klemm, WFRC, reported that the \$280 million in additional anticipated Utah State revenues will just be enough to fund growth in public and higher education student enrollment, Medicare/Medicaid and a few other smaller programs. There will be little, if any, left over for new initiatives. He also said that the annual appropriation of \$70,000 each for the Wasatch Front Regional Council and Mountainland Association of Governments was included in the Governor's proposed budget.

Mr. Klemm reported on the following transportation related issues:

- Possible changes to the use of UDOT funding streams to allow for more money to be channeled to maintenance. This may involve combining various funds that exist within the transportation budget into one to allow UDOT more flexibility in the usage of those dollars. He said that the Governor proposed using much of the new money generated under SB 229 for highway and building maintenance.
- Possible amendment to allow the third quarter cent sales tax fund for transportation in counties of the second class to be used on collector roads. It is understood this would primarily affect Weber County.
- HB 264 – this bill would allow UDOT to raise the speed limit on HOV lanes to 75 mph. The bill has been referred to the House Transportation Committee.
- There are four un-numbered bills dealing with transportation that the sponsors have not yet unveiled.

The following air quality related issues were discussed:

- HB 70 – Representative Patrice Arent – This bill would set up a legislative task force over the interim period to evaluate “public and private sector efforts to improve air quality in Utah” and “...suggest changes to state laws and regulations that could improve air quality in Utah.” The bill passed out of the House Utilities Committee.

Mayor JoAnn Seghini made a motion that the Wasatch Front Regional Council support HB 70. Mayor Peter Corroon seconded the motion. After some discussion the Council asked that a letter of support be sent to legislators from the region in support of this bill.

- SB 21 – Senator Margaret Dayton – Rework of appointments to Air Quality Board – This bill would revamp all the boards serving within the Department of Environmental Quality including the Division of Air Quality. It would also shift some authority to administrative law judges. It is currently circled and awaiting the Senate 2nd reading.

Mr. Klemm also reported that in the 2011 Legislative session, HB 287 required a study of various state government agencies including the Department of Community and Culture for the purpose of recommending efficiencies. One of those recommendations is that the Division of Housing and Community Development be moved to the Department of Workforce Services which would require legislation.

Some members of the Council expressed concern regarding HB 287 and said we should continue to monitor this bill.

Service Award: Andrew Gruber recognized Val John Halford and presented him with a certificate for his 15 years of service.

Regional Growth Committee

Information: Wasatch Choice for 2040 Update: Ned Hacker, WFRC, provided an update on the work being done through a HUD Sustainable Communities grant. He said that for the past year, WFRC has been working collaboratively with many partners across the region to create the relationships and tools necessary to implement the Wasatch Choice for 2040, the land-use and transportation “Vision” for Weber, Davis, Salt Lake and Utah Counties. The “Vision” was developed by elected officials and the public to improve our quality of life as our region experiences dramatic growth. Mr. Hacker gave a brief update on the following six program

areas:

- Regional Housing Plan – The Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) is preparing a regional plan at the University of Utah.
- Envision Tomorrow Plus – ET+ is a tool that will allow planners and local officials to better evaluate the impacts of proposed developments. It will have 18 applications including: transportation effects; housing and transportation cost; energy consumption; air quality impacts; water consumption; and public fiscal impact.
- Financial Forum – UTA and Envision Utah are bringing together financial institutions to identify ways to develop financing strategies for the type of development envisioned in the Wasatch Choice for 2040.
- Form Based Code – The consortium is working with a consultant to develop model form-based code ordinances. These will encourage the use of physical form, rather than separation of land uses, as the organizing principle for planning and zoning ordinances.
- Catalytic Site Development – Envision Utah is working with six local communities to develop plans for six demonstration sites including: Downtown Sandy, Downtown Provo, Salt Lake City Depot District, Salt Lake City Downtown Streetcar Corridor, Magna Main Street, and 3900 South Meadowbrook Station/Millcreek RDA. The catalytic sites represent different community types.
- Communication and Outreach – The consortium has developed a comprehensive outreach effort to engage community leaders, agencies, special interest groups and individuals to inform and educate on tools developed and lessons learned. The first WC 2040 Consortium Meeting was held in September 2011 with over 350 participants. The second WC 2040 Consortium Meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2012 at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City.

ACTION: Utah's Unified Transportation Plan 2011-2040: Jory Johner, WFRC, reported that *Utah's Unified Transportation Plan: 2011-2040* is a comprehensive summary of the statewide transportation investments needed over the next 30 years for state and local roads and mass transit. The Unified Plan reflects Utah's approach to providing transportation choices to its residents, responding to the anticipated population and job growth, and maintaining and preserving the systems that we have in place.

Utah's Unified Transportation Plan: 2011-2040 combines the long-range transportation plans for Cache MPO, Wasatch Front Regional Council, Mountainland Association of Governments, Dixie MPO, and UDOT (rural areas). Each agency conducted an extensive visioning and strategic planning process that serve as the foundation for their long-range transportation plans. The Unified Plan is financially constrained and is based on reasonable cost and revenue assumptions developed by a Unified Plan finance committee.

Mr. Johner said that a published copy of *Utah's Unified Transportation Plan: 2011-2040* would be available in the next few weeks. He also noted that the individual agencies have detailed transportation plans that may be found on their websites.

Commissioner Jan Zogmaister moved to approve this Resolution included with the agenda, endorsing Utah's Unified Transportation Plan 2011-2040. Mayor Peter Corroon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Information: Statewide Household Travel Survey Update: Jon Larsen, WFRC, reported that the last household survey along the Wasatch Front was conducted in 1993. Since that time, the population along the Wasatch Front has grown larger and more diverse. In addition, there are new transportation options such TRAX, FrontRunner, expanded trail systems, more bikes lanes, and HOV / Express Lanes on I-15. The WFRC is now working with the UDOT and the other MPOs in the state to conduct a new household travel survey to allow all agencies to update their travel models with more current data.

Survey participants will be selected from households throughout the State and will be asked to track all their trips throughout an entire day. The data will then be entered into the models to help in more accurately forecasting travel demand for all projects in the Regional Transportation Plan.

To date a consultant has been hired (Resource Systems Group), a scope of work has been developed, the survey instruments and survey methodology created, and the development of add-on surveys that include questions regarding bicycle and pedestrian travel, long distance travel, and individuals state preference toward housing and transportation completed.

Information: Active Transportation Report: Commissioner Louenda Downs reported on a meeting held just before this Council meeting regarding bike transportation and Active Transportation. She said there's a lot going on but there isn't coordination often times in the planning for these facilities.

The meeting brought together an elected official and representative from Weber, Davis, Salt Lake and Utah Counties and representatives of WFRC, MAG, UTA, UDOT, and the Utah Department of Health. After a two hour discussion and information sharing time, it was determined unanimously that we want to work towards promoting a committee that works on Active Transportation including bike trails and walking, to move us forward.

Andrew Gruber responded to this report by saying the WFRC staff wants to work on this issue with and for the Council and move forward in a real multi modal way into the future.

Transportation Committee (Trans Com)

Information: STP and CMAQ Concept Reports Received: Mr. Ben Wuthrich reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council is responsible for programming the Urban Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds and Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (CMAQ) funds for the Salt Lake and Ogden / Layton Urbanized Areas. In September 2011 the staff initiated the process of developing STP and CMAQ Program portions of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for fiscal years 2013-2018.

The WFRC staff requested that potential project sponsors submit "letters of intent" applying for the available STP and CMAQ funds. A list of all the projects submitted were presented to the Council of Governments (COGs), the Technical Advisory Committees (TACs), and Trans Com for review. After initial eligibility screening, the potential sponsors were then asked to prepare a project concept report providing further detail on their projects.

Mr. Wuthrich briefly discussed the list of Concept Reports Received and said the projects would go through an evaluation process during the months of February and March including field reviews, meeting with project sponsors, and review of statistical data. Results of the evaluation would be presented to the TACs at their meeting on March 28 where they will make recommendations of proposed projects. The information will also be presented to the COGs for their review and input. The recommendations from the TACs and the input from the COGs will be presented to Trans Com in April where Trans Com will review everything and make recommendations to the Regional Council. Trans Com recommendation will then be brought to the Council for the projects to be included in the Draft STP and CMAQ Programs.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Andrew Gruber reported the following:

- Creation of a new position at WFRC, the Director of Sustainable Programs. The position will initially will be funded from some of the funds that we received from the HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative Grant. This position will help coordinate our responsibility of transportation planning with economic development, land use, air quality, and quality of life issues.
- WFRC is conducting a communications audit. Penna Powers Brian Haynes (PPBH) will be helping us. The objective is to look at the way we communicate with the public, local and state officials, the business community, partner agencies and other stakeholders through our materials, public outreach, electronic forms of communication and make sure we are doing a good job sharing information and that we are getting information to the public effectively.
- Washington D.C. and transportation issues – the latest extension of the Federal Surface Transportation legislation expires March 31. There continues to be a lot of conversation in Washington about the possibility of adopting a new piece of legislation. The conversation is revolving around keeping the funding relatively flat. We will continue to watch and share information as we go forward.
- Air Quality – There are a lot of air quality efforts underway. The Governor has announced an air quality initiative. At the request of the Governor's Office Andrew will be speaking about the Wasatch Choice for 2040 and the air quality efforts that we have underway. The WFRC will continue to work with others to coordinate these efforts.
- Andrew expressed appreciation to all the agencies, organizations, cities, counties, for the wonderful cooperative relationships WFRC enjoys with each. He said we do better when we collaborate and we're always open to suggestions.

Other Business

Mayor Smith commented that there is an article in "Governing Magazine" on Utah being a role model to the rest of the country on transportation and growth planning.

The next Council meeting will be held on **March 22, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.