



## MINUTES

### Wasatch Front Regional Council Meeting of January 24, 2013

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	General Manager, Utah Transit Authority
Len Arave	Mayor, North Salt Lake
Carlton Christensen	Councilman / Utah League of Cities & Towns
Kelvyn Cullimore	Mayor, Cottonwood Heights
Brad Dee	Representative, Utah State House
Louenda Downs	Commissioner / Utah Association of Counties
Kerry Gibson	Commissioner, Weber County
Richard Harris	Mayor, North Ogden
Michael Jensen	Councilman, Salt Lake County
Ben McAdams	Mayor, Salt Lake County
Bret Millburn	Commissioner, Davis County
John Njord	Ex. Director, Utah Department of Transportation
John Petroff	Commissioner, Davis County
Jan Zogmaister	Commissioner, Weber County

#### Alternate Members Present

Matthew Bell	Commissioner, Weber County
Josh Mills	Mayor, Herriman City
Logan Wilde	Councilman, Morgan County

#### Others Present

Carlos Braceras	UDOT
Dave Goeres	UTA
John Hiskey	Sandy City
Rob Jolley	RRJ Consulting
Linda Johnson	League of Women Voters-Salt Lake
Jennifer Kohler	UTA
John Park	Cottonwood Heights City
Randy Minson	Congressman Chris Stewart's Office
Ron Phillips	Phillips Associates, Inc.
Tim Rose	UDOT – Region 2
Matt Sibul	UTA
Brett Wood	Herriman City
Wayne Bennion	WFRC Staff
LaNiece Davenport	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
Ted Knowlton	WFRC Staff
Andy Li	WFRC Staff
Eloise Thomson	WFRC Staff
Ben Wuthrich	WFRC Staff

Senator Stuart Adams, Mayor Ralph Becker, Mayor Mike Caldwell, Mayor Tom Dolan, Robert Grow, Mayor Steve Hiatt, Councilmember Tina Kelley, and Mayor Darrell Smith were excused from the meeting.

### **Welcome**

Commissioner Millburn welcomed Council members, new members to the Council and visitors. Introductions were made.

### **Consent Agenda**

**ACTION**—Councilman Michael Jensen moved to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting held October 25, 2012 and the Financial Statements and Check Registers for October, November and December 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner John Petroff and passed unanimously.

### **Chairman's Report**

Commissioner Millburn, reported that WFRC is made up of 18 members appointed by the Councils of Governments (COGs) of the five-county area: Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, Morgan and Tooele. He also said that there are seven non-voting members appointed by WFRC partners within the region and those appointments are for one-year terms.

**Information—Welcome New Members/Recognize Out-going Members:** Commissioner Millburn recognized and welcomed the following new members of the Council: Mayor Ben McAdams, Salt Lake County; Commissioner Kerry Gibson, Weber County; Councilman Carlton Christensen, Salt Lake City / Utah League of Cities and Towns; Senator Stuart Adams; and, Representative Brad Dee.

Commissioner Millburn expressed appreciation to outgoing members of the Council for their service: Peter Corroon, former Salt Lake County Mayor, Russ Wall, former Taylorsville City Mayor, Senator Scott Jenkins, and Representative (and now Senator) Wayne Harper outgoing members of the Council for their service. He also expressed appreciation to Craig Dearden, former Weber County Commissioner and Chairman for the past two years of the Wasatch Front Regional Council. Mr. Dearden was unable to attend the meeting. A plaque will be presented to him at a later time.

**ACTION—Election of Chair and Vice Chair:** Commissioner Millburn explained that the WFRC Bylaws require that a Chair and Vice-Chair be elected at the first regular meeting in odd number years. The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected for two-year terms. He said at the October meeting Chairman Dearden appointed a five-member Nominating Committee representing the region's five counties—Commissioner Jan Zogmaister, Weber County; Draper Mayor Darrell Smith, Salt Lake County; Grantsville Mayor Brent Marshall, Tooele County; Councilmember Tina Kelley, Morgan County; and chaired by Davis County Commissioner John Petroff.

Commissioner John Petroff reported that the Nominating Committee met and unanimously recommends that Commissioner Bret Millburn, currently Vice-Chair of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, be nominated as Chair for a two-year term. The Committee also unanimously recommends that Mayor Tom Dolan serve as Vice-Chair for the two-year term. The motion was seconded by Councilman Michael Jensen and passed unanimously. It was noted that the change is to be effective immediately.

**ACTION—Endorse Appointments to WFRC and Committees:** Chairman Millburn said the pursuant to the WFRC bylaws and resolutions, the WFRC Chairman makes appointments of WFRC members to the Regional Growth Committee (RGC), Trans Com, Air Quality Committee (AQC), Budget Committee, Active Transportation Committee (ATC), and the Joint Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC). He said that some appointments to these committees are also by the County COGs within the region and several other entities, depending on the committee. He reviewed the committee lists and noted that the Nominating Committee made recommendations for appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the committees. The majority of the members are continuing their service. The changes to each of the committees are highlighted in the information packet provided at the meeting.

Councilman Michael Jensen moved to approve the members, alternates, Chairs and Vice-Chairs of each of the committees as reflected in the roster as WFRC appointments. Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**ACTION—Resolution to Establish Active Transportation Committee:** Commissioner Downs reminded the Council that in May 2012 the Active Transportation Committee was informally established to provide a forum for regional collaboration specifically on active transportation issues. She noted that there is a growing interest in active transportation and that the committee would benefit from a more formal structure. She briefly discussed the Resolution included in Council member packets which described the purpose, structure and membership of the committee.

Jory Johner, WFRC, reviewed the purpose of the committee as: 1) Advise the Regional Growth Committee on long-range planning and growth issues related to active transportation. 2) Advise Trans Com on short-range programming issues related to active transportation. 3) Serve as a forum for regional collaboration between local governments, agencies and other stakeholders on active transportation issues.

Mr. Johner said the ATC members will be appointed by the WFRC Chair with concurrence of the Council. He noted that ATC's membership will be made up of elected officials from each of the Counties in the WFRC region as well as the Utah Department of Transportation, the Utah Transit Authority, the Mountainland Association of Governments, and others as needed.

John Njord suggested that an element of safety be included as part of the discussions for the Active Transportation Committee. He noted that a number of bicyclists and pedestrians had been in fatal crashes last year on our roads. Commissioner Downs said that safety is one of the key elements and very important piece of the Committee discussions.

Commissioner Jan Zogmaister moved that the Active Transportation Committee be established by resolution as presented. Mayor Richard Harris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Resolution is available in the Council offices.

**Information—Legislative Preview:** The 2013 legislative session begins on Monday, January 28. Sam Klemm provided an overview of the proposed legislation affecting transportation and / or other issues relevant to the Wasatch Front Regional Council. His report included: Federal Issues – Congress avoided the so-called fiscal cliff by agreeing on tax issues and putting off a decision on possible spending cuts (“sequester”) until March 1. WFRC will be closely following the transportation portion of any spending reduction negotiations. Federal budget authorization expires at the end of March. The debt ceiling increase is being extended for three months (until May).

State Issues –

1) Gasoline tax revenues have lost approximately 40% of their purchasing power since the rate was last raised in 1997. There has been considerable discussion about taking steps to address this decline; however, at this time no legislation has been introduced. Jory Johner distributed a copy of a chart and briefly discussed the information regarding the *Declining Buying Power of the Utah Fuel Tax*. The chart reflects the impact of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) on buying power of fuel tax

Andrew Gruber added that the gas tax is the principle source of revenue that is used by UDOT as well as by municipalities to maintain their transportation facilities. It is not used for transit but it is used for roads. He said our State has done a tremendous job of keeping up with the growing demand on our transportation system. However, an area we have not been as successful as a State is in maintaining the vast transportation network that we have. It may not be as exciting as new projects but it’s just as important and that’s what this issue is really about – the declining buying power for the State and for local communities to maintain their transportation infrastructure.

2) There may be an effort to re-institute local governments’ power of eminent domain for active transportations facilities. There is a draft bill circulating among interested parties but as yet there is no sponsor.

3) There may be a bill to grant a state tax credit for private entities installing a compressed natural gas fueling facility for centrally fueled fleets.

4) HB 11 – Representative Brad Last has proposed a bill that would allow locally collected corridor preservation funds to be used for transportation master planning in areas of a county not covered by a metropolitan planning organization.

5) SB 29 – Senator Kevin Van Tassell is sponsoring an annual housekeeping bill to adjust the state highway network. This bill will add the Mountain View Corridor as State Road 85.

6) SB 121 – Senator Karen Mayne is sponsoring a bill that “requires the operator of a vehicle to yield the right-of-way to a public transit vehicle traveling in the same direction that has signaled and is re-entering the traffic flow...”

Michael Allegra, UTA, commented that SB 121 is about safety, ridership reliability and air quality. Seven other states have a similar provision. It is relatively minor but it is helpful to UTA. He then introduced Jennifer Kohler and Dave Goeres who provided more information on SB 121. The penalty at this time is not clearly defined in this bill. It also does not relieve the vehicle operator of any safety obligations. Also in the States that adopted the bill it did increase the schedule reliability. It was also noted that all police departments would have the ability to enforce it as well as UTA Police. Mr. Goeres then briefly discussed some UTA actions to

improve safety and showed signs UTA is using as they activate the new transit lines this year. He invited members to inform their jurisdictions regarding safety issues.

Mr. Klemm said that it is anticipated that there will be other transportation related issues during the session. Newly introduced legislation will be monitored on a daily basis for possible impacts on transportation. WFRC staff will consult with the WFRC Executive Committee no less than weekly during the Legislative Session and will keep members updated as information becomes available.

Councilman Michael Jensen moved to approve the recommendations given by staff to support HB 11 and SB 29 and to monitor other bills as presented going forward. Commissioner John Petroff seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Information—Service Awards:** Andrew Gruber recognized Eloise Thomson, Transportation Planner (GIS), and presented her with a certificate for her 20 years of service. Mr. Gruber also recognized LaNiece Davenport, Regional Planner and Executive Director of the Wasatch Front Economic Development District and presented her with a certificate for 10 years of service.

### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments

### **Regional Growth Committee**

**Information—Wasatch Choice for 2040 Visioning Update:** Ted Knowlton, WFRC, gave a brief overview of the Wasatch Choice for 2040 (WC2040) effort. The Wasatch Front Regional Council plans for a long-term future – the next 30 plus years. We are all familiar with the significant challenges that we have. Utah is the third fastest growing State over the last ten years. We occasionally have air quality issues and the face of the Region is changing pretty dramatically. One of the very basic challenges that we have in this region is that we are expected to grow by another 1.4 million people. That growth is even more of a challenge in our region when you consider the geography of the metropolitan area. He said that as part of the WC2040 effort, a coalition of agencies including WFRC, Mountainland Association of Governments, Salt Lake County, UTA, the University of Utah, and UDOT have been developing a variety of tools to assist local governments in their individual community development efforts. He said that in 2013 these tools and resources will be made available through the internet and training opportunities.

Mr. Knowlton reviewed a draft “Illustrative Planning Process” document and graphic that was included in Councilmember packets. He said that the WC2040 technical team has been working to show how the WC2040 tools and resources might inform and add value to a local stakeholder-driven planning process. In the “Illustrative Planning Process” there are a variety of tools that could provide information about impacts of a potential future. ET+ would be one tool, and other tools include form-based code, housing analysis and assessing barriers. He said that as the tools are released this year, staff will demonstrate how the tools can be used in a process that local government or a developer might go through that does a good job of informing residents about the consequences of a development.

Mr. Knowlton’s report also included an assessment of the amount of growth happening through infill and redevelopment. Infill and redevelopment growth utilizes existing infrastructure reducing the need to build new infrastructure. It also tends to put new residences and jobs in more

centralized locations where travel distances tend to be shorter.

Mr. Knowlton then provided information as to what will be going on with the Wasatch Choice for 2040 effort over the next year noting the following activities: In May there will be a consortium meeting with speakers that will talk about the market fit of various different growth patterns. In the summer staff will visit with cities around the region to talk about the Regional Transportation Plan but also to preview some of these tools and resources that will be available to them. Staff from cities and counties will also be invited to beta test these tools and give us feedback about how can we make them a useful resource. In the fall this will all be released with a new web hub that a local government could use if they would like to engage their residents – all of these tools and a host of training opportunities will be available across the metropolitan area.

**Information—Utah’s Unified Transportation Plan Process:** Ned Hacker, WFRC, reminded the Council of the responsibilities of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) regarding the Regional Transportation Plan. The WFRC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the three urbanized counties of Weber, Davis and Salt Lake. It is required by federal mandate to produce a regional plan every four years. The Plan must be financially constrained, it must have a horizon of at least 20 years, and it has to meet the air quality conformity regulations. The current Plan was adopted by the Council in May 2011. We are now in the process of updating that Plan. We anticipate adoption of the 2015-2040 RTP in May of 2015. He briefly reviewed the 2015 RTP Schedule: Spring 2012 – the High Level Process was presented outlining the plan process and development over the next two and one-half years; Fall 2012-Spring 2013 – Goals and Performance Measures were adopted through a combined collaborative effort with our partners. Currently, the scenario planning and an extensive Needs Analysis is underway; Fall 2013 – Local and public review of the scenarios will take place and a draft preferred scenario will be developed by the end of the year.

Mr. Hacker said that the third iteration of Utah’s Unified Transportation Plan is underway to coincide with the updates to the transportation plans throughout the State. A coordinating Committee meeting was held in November and identified a committee structure that includes a policy committee, coordinating committee and five sub-committees to focus on finance, safety, data, performance measures, and transit. He said that WFRC would again be collaborating with our partner agencies – Dixie MPO, Cache MPO, Mountainland Association of Governments, UDOT and UTA.

Mr. Hacker said that the staff would continue to update the Council on progress being made and efforts that are underway in the coming months.

**ACTION—Regional Transportation Plan Amendment:** Val John Halford said that although the RTP received considerable review before being adopted in May 2011, the identification of new funding sources or the rapid development of certain projects may warrant a change to the RTP.

Mr. Halford reported that staff had received a request from Herriman City to amend the 2011 RTP with the addition of two roadway facilities and a change to the phasing of a third facility. These amendments would allow Herriman City to apply for Salt Lake County corridor preservation funds to help partially finance these projects. The projects include:

- Fort Herriman Parkway: Herriman Main Street to 13400 South, .78 miles—collector. This is new construction – five lanes in width at a cost of \$5 million. New project to be added to Phase 1

- 13400 South: 5200 West to 5600 West, .36 miles—minor arterial. Widening from two to five lanes at a cost of \$2 million. Move from Phase 3 to Phase 1.
- Herriman Main Street: 6200 West to 7575 West, 1.56 miles—minor arterial. Widening from two to four lanes at a cost of \$6 million. New project to be added to Phase 1.

The three roadway facilities are not regionally significant. The amendment to the RTP is a Board Modification which requires review by the Regional Growth Committee's Salt Lake-West Valley City Area Technical Advisory Committee, the Salt Lake County Council of Governments, and the Regional Growth Committee. All three committees reviewed the proposed amendments and recommended adoption. This Board Modification does not require that a new air quality conformity analysis be performed.

Commissioner Jan Zogmaister moved to approve the 2011-2040 Regional Transportation Plan Amendment 2 as presented. Commissioner Kerry Gibson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

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

**Information—Concept Reports Received for STP, CMAQ and Transportation Alternatives Program:** Ben Wuthrich, reported that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a six-year program of highway and transit projects for the Salt Lake-West Valley and the Ogden-Layton Urbanized areas. The Wasatch Front Regional Council is responsible for developing the TIP in cooperation with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), the Utah Transit Authority (UTA), and the cities and counties in the region.

He said that the Wasatch Front Regional Council has the specific responsibility in coordinating the planning and the programming for the Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds, the Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ) funds, and the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds.

Mr. Wuthrich distributed a copy of the list of the concept reports received by staff to date for projects submitted for funding consideration. He asked that each jurisdiction verify the projects submitted or if other projects should be on the list. The document is six pages and divided by region and also divided into funding type. He asked Council members to review the list and contact WFRC staff with any concerns or questions. He said staff will now begin the evaluation process and will meet with the Technical Advisory Committees the end of January. In February staff will come back with some of the preliminary data for the projects and introduce the TACs to all the projects. In March staff will ask the TACs to make recommendations for programming the STP, CMAQ, and TAP funds.

**Information—Board Modifications to the 2013-2018 TIP approved by Trans Com:** Ben Wuthrich, reported that the WFRC received a request in November 2012 to modify the 2013-2018 Transportation Improvement Program. He said that since the Regional Council was not meeting, Trans Com, by delegated authority, reviewed the request and approved the modifications. Mr. Wuthrich reviewed the modifications – Amendment Two as information for Council members and noted that a copy of the Resolution was included in member packets. A copy of the Resolution is available in the Council offices.

**ACTION—Approve Board Modifications 2013-2018 Transportation Improvement Program:** Ben Wuthrich, reported that WFRC had received requests to modify the current 2013-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The modifications require action from the Regional

Council and the Transportation Commission but do not require a new conformity analysis or 30-day public comment period. Mr. Wuthrich reviewed the modifications and noted that a copy of the revised 2013-2018 TIP Amendment Three was included in member packets.

Councilman Michael Jensen moved to approve the Resolution to modify the 2013-2018 Transportation Improvement Program as requested. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kerry Gibson and passed unanimously. A copy of the Resolution is available in the Council offices.

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

Andrew Gruber provided update and report on the following items:

- Utah's Unified Transportation Plan continues to garner support around the State. The Salt Lake Chamber recently put out their public policy guide for 2013 which specifically endorses and supports the Unified Plan.
- Andrew Gruber, John Njord and Mike Allegra recently had the opportunity to present the Unified Plan to Governor Herbert and Lt. Governor Greg Bell at the Governor's Economic Council. They adopted a White Paper that is in support of the Unified Plan. Mr. Gruber said he would be happy to share the Paper with anyone who would like to see it.
- Mr. Gruber briefly reviewed the WFRC 2013 Schedule of Meetings and Proposed Agenda Topics. The schedule shows the WFRC meetings and all of the Committee meetings and staff estimate of what the subject matter will be for all those meetings as we look out ahead for the year. The Schedule is available for the public and may also be found the WFRC website at [www.wfrc.org](http://www.wfrc.org).
- .Mr. Gruber commented that for WFRC air quality is important to WFRC's mission. We are required by law to demonstrate that the long range transportation plans we have conform with federal requirements on air quality. He said that when you look over the SIP process from 2008 – 2019 the emissions from automobiles is actually declining by 45%. Most of that is due to cleaner burning cars but also, due in part, to the work that WFRC has done collectively to provide transportation choices to people. These choices allow the option to either not drive by taking transit or bike or walk or to carpool or use other innovative strategies. He further said that the Unified Plan is the most balanced transportation plan that our State has ever had in terms of providing people transportation choices. Mr. Gruber also said that one of the fundamental strategies of the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Vision is to allow opportunities for new development to occur in centers so people have other options to driving or if they are going to drive they can drive shorter. He also said that WFRC has an Air Quality Committee that has been working for several years and has developed proactive transportation related strategies. The Active Transportation Committee also is looking at ways to provide people other options. He concluded by saying that air quality is fundamental to what we are doing, and while we can always do more, we are working hard on ways to improve.
- Mr. Gruber said that WFRC is updating our look and our feel and as well as our website. He noted that Suzie Swim, a member of the WFRC staff, has been leading our efforts. He said that the new website has a cleaner look and is organized in a way to have the data more available and will be up and running very soon.



Mr. Gruber expressed appreciation to all the members who have served and those who will be serving the next year and that WFRC would not be able to do what they do without the support and collaboration of the members.

**Other Business**

Orientation for new members and others interested in attending will be held on **February 28, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.**

The next Council meeting will be held on **March 28, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.