

Minutes
Regional Growth Committee
Meeting of March 15, 2018

A meeting of the Regional Growth Committee was held on Thursday, March 15, 2018 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Welcome and Introductions [Recording 00:00]

Councilmember Tina Cannon, Morgan County, chaired the meeting on behalf of Mayor Ben McAdams. She called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. Councilmember Cannon welcomed committee members and guests, and introductions were made. The following were in attendance:

RGC Members and Alternates Present

IN ATTENDANCE	2018 RGC MEMBERS
	BOX ELDER COUNTY
	Member: Jeff Scott (Box Elder)
	Alternate: Kenneth Braegger (Willard)
	DAVIS COUNTY
	WFRC Appointments
x	Member: Len Arave (North Salt Lake)
x	Alternate: Mike Gailey (Syracuse)
	COG Appointments
x	Member: Jim Talbot (Farmington)
x	Member: Katie Witt (Kaysville)
	MORGAN COUNTY
	COG Appointments
	Member: John Barber (<i>Vice-chair</i>) (Morgan County)
x	Alternate: Tina Cannon (Morgan County)
	SALT LAKE COUNTY
	WFRC Appointments
	Member: Ben McAdams (<i>Chair</i>) (Salt Lake County)
x	Alternate: Ron Bigelow (West Valley City)
	COG Appointments
	Member: Dawn Ramsey (South Jordan)
(Gary Whatcott attended for Mayor Ramsey)	Member: Aimee Winder Newton (Salt Lake County)
x	Member: Jim Riding (West Jordan)
	Alternate: Jackie Biskupski (Salt Lake City)
	Alternate: Cherie Wood (South Salt Lake)
	Alternate: Troy Walker (Draper)
x	Alternate: Kurt Bradburn (Sandy)
	TOOELE COUNTY
	COG Appointments
x	Member: Wade Bitner (Tooele County)
	Alternate: Dave McCall (Tooele City)
	WEBER COUNTY
	WFRC Appointments
	Member: Mark Allen (Washington Terrace)
x	Alternate: Norm Searle (Riverdale)
	COG Appointments
x	Member: Jim Harvey (Weber County)
x	Alternate: Robert Dandoy (Roy)
	OTHER APPOINTMENTS
	Utah Transportation Commission
	Member: Meghan Holbrook
	Alternate: Dannie McConkie
	UTA Board
	Member: Charles Henderson
	Alternate: Necia Christensen
	Utah Air Quality Board
	Member: Erin Mendenhall
	Envision Utah
	Member: Robert Grow
x	Alternate: Ari Bruening
	NON-VOTING MEMBERS
	UDOT Representative
	Member: Nathan Lee
x	Alternate: Jeff Harris
	UTA Representative
x	Member: Laura Hanson
	Alternate: GJ LaBonty
	Air Quality Board, DAQ Staff Representative
	Member: Bryce Bird
	FHWA - UTAH Division Representative
	Member: Ivan Marrero
	Alternate: Steve Call
	Utah League of Cities & Towns Rep
x	Member: Gary Uresk

	Utah Association of Counties Representative
	Member: Wilf Sommerkorn (Salt Lake County)
	Mountainland Association of Governments
	Member: Steve Leifson (Spanish Fork)
	WFRC Appointments from other organizations:
	Member: Christine Richman (Utah Urban Land Institute)
	Member: Evan Curtis (GOMB)
	Member: Abby Osborne (Utah Transportation Coalition)
x	Member: Reid Ewing (University of Utah)

RGC Representatives and Others Present

Julie Bjornstad	WFRC
Carlton Christensen	Salt Lake County
LaNiece Davenport	WFRC
Bergen Eskildsen	WFRC
Evelyn Everton	Sandy City
Russ Fox	Draper City
Katie Gerard	WFRC
Jared Gerber	Sandy City
Bert Granberg	WFRC
Andrew Gruber	WFRC
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Scott Hess	WFRC
Jory Johner	WFRC
Linda Johnson	Breathe Utah
Sam Klemm	Salt Lake County
Ted Knowlton	WFRC
Heather McLaughlin-Kolb	WFRC
Jim McNulty	Murray City
Callie New	WFRC
Melinda Seager	South Jordan City
Glade Sowards	UDAQ
Megan Townsend	WFRC
Russell Robertson	FHWA
Russell Weeks	SLC Council
Will Wright	Clinton City

Action: Approval of Minutes [Recording 05:40]

Councilmember Cannon entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the Regional Growth Committee meeting held January 18, 2018. Mayor Mike Gailey, Syracuse, motioned to approve these minutes, and it was seconded by Mayor Len Arave, North Salt Lake. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Opportunity for Public Comment [Recording 04:38]

Linda Johnson, Breathe Utah, commented on a newspaper article that discussed the developments of highways in Salt Lake City. She shared her thoughts on this with the committee.

Chair Report [Recording 05:30]

Councilmember Cannon said that there have been several relevant changes for local government in the new US Tax Bill. She turned the time over to Callie New, Wasatch Front Regional Council, to provide the committee with an update.

Ms. New discussed the new Opportunity Zones Program. This is a program that was established from the tax cuts and jobs active 2017 under the Trump Administration. It established a new economic development program called Opportunity Zones which has been designed to encourage long-term, private investment in low-income communities. This program uses low-income community census tracks as a principal basis for determining areas for eligibility for opportunity funds. She explained that opportunity funds are private investment vehicles for angel investors or private equity funds, etc. to channel their capital in the form of unrealized capital gains in opportunity zones. Opportunity zones are designated by the Governor, and the state has until March 31, 2018 to designate up to 25% of Utah's low-income census tracks into opportunity zones. She commented that the state is requesting an extension for that deadline, to be moved to April 22, 2018. Ms. New said that it is expected that the state will receive the extension, and that WFRC has been working with cities and counties to designate 25% of their tracks within the county to be nominated for opportunity zones and to be considered by the Governor for designation. Those nominations should come to WFRC by April 2,

2018. Lastly, she explained that there are 181 eligible census tracts in the state of Utah, 98 of which are in the WFRC AOG area, and that there are 20 communities who can utilize the program.

There was a short discussion held among the committee.

Information/Discussion: Legislative Session Wrap Up [Recording 09:40]

LaNiece Davenport, WFRC, explained that this year was another big year for transportation during the legislative session, mainly due to the passing of Senate Bill 136. This is a significant, positive step forward for the future of our region and state. SB136 authorizes funding for transit and local needs, and enhances the coordination of transportation, land use, and economic development.

Some key highlights of this bill include:

- UTA governance: renames UTA to “Transit District of Utah” and changes the UTA Board from 16 part-time members to three full-time members (nominated by counties, appointed by the Governor, and confirmed by the Senate), and creates a nine-member local advisory board.
- Requiring UDOT to have two (rather than one) Deputy Directors: a deputy director of engineering and operations, and a deputy director of planning and investment (whose responsibilities will include coordinating with MPOs and local governments, corridor and area planning, asset management, programming and prioritizing projects.)
- Creates a Planning and Investment Division within UDOT with responsibility for:
 - Creating and managing an intermodal terminal facility.
 - Promoting development of an intermodal inland port.
 - Overseeing public-private partnerships.
- Requires UDOT to implement a road usage charge mileage-based revenue system demonstration program, including full implementation of such a program for alternative fuel vehicles by January 1, 2020. Owners of AV vehicles who participate in the program will be exempted from increased vehicle registration fees.
- Requires Transportation Commission to determine priorities and funding levels of projects in the state transportation systems and capital development of new public transit facilities.
- Creates new fund with UDOT for statewide transit capital projects. The Legislature may appropriate revenue into the fund. Also, beginning July 1, 2019, state sales taxes will be transferred into the Transit Transportation Investment Fund (TTIF) in an amount equal to 35% of the revenue generated from motor fuel taxes above 29.4 cents per gallon. This is estimated to generate approximately \$5M in FY2019, and with the indexing of motor fuel taxes to CPI under current law, grow over time.
- Creates a 13-member Transportation and Tax Review Task Force. Membership includes:
 - 4 members of the Senate, with 1 member from the minority party, appointed by Senate President
 - 6 members of the House, with 1 member from the minority party, appointed by the House Speaker
 - 3 members of the Executive Branch appointed by the Governor

Ms. Davenport discussed Senate Bill 71 which is one approach to Utah’s ongoing issues related to population growth within a limited geography and the pressures this places on our transportation infrastructure and limited funds for transportation. This also allows UDOT to toll existing, new or expanding roads with approval from Utah’s Transportation Commission.

Lastly, she discussed House Joint Resolution 20. This is a result of the Legislature and Our Schools Now coming together to increase revenue for our public education system and local roads. The resolution directs the Lieutenant Governor to present an opinion question to voters at the 2018 regular general election on November 6, 2018, to see if voters support a 10-cents per gallon tax increase. The tax would generate approximately \$170M in the first year, an estimated \$48 per year for the average driver.

There was discussion held among the committee regarding these bills.

Councilmember Cannon thanked Ms. Davenport for her Legislative update emails that were sent out weekly.

Information/Discussion: Wasatch Choice 2050: Addressing Disruptions and Uncertainties [Recording 47:56]

Julie Bjornstad, WFRC, reminded the committee that with our partners, we took the draft preferred scenario to the communities through ten vision workshops that were held over the last six weeks. At these workshops, we discussed the growth that this region is expected to have over the next 30 years, and we also presented on how the region is currently performing based on our goals, and what we might expect the future to look like if we keep on the same path as we are today.

The purpose of these meetings is to refine the vision based on comments that we received, allow for another review by your planners in April, and ultimately adopt the preferred scenario in May. She commented that we are working towards phasing the preferred scenario and are working with UDOT and UTA in finalizing those criteria and reviewing data.

There are a lot of emerging trends and technologies that may have a big impact on the way our communities grow, our urban design and land use, and how we travel. These trends include:

- Decline of brick-and-mortar retail
- Decline of retail
- Sharing economy
- Electric vehicles and e-bikes
- Connected and autonomous vehicles

Ms. Bjornstad explained that we are exploring what technologies may impact our transportation networks and what the range of the impact might be. We are also exploring how trip generation, mode choice, and land use might change, and how our analytical tools, like our travel demand model, may react to those changes. She commented that we are beginning to reach out to our partners to help us assess the impacts of disruptive technologies and what this means for the projects that are in our plan. She said that we need to remain flexible because there are so many possible ways that changing technology could affect Utah's long-term transportation needs.

There was discussion held among the committee on how these trends may affect the communities.

Information/Discussion: Transportation and Land Use Connection 2018 Project Awards [Recording 1:12:20]

Megan Townsend, Wasatch Front Regional Council, shared that this is an exciting time of year for the Transportation and Land Use Connection (TLC) program, as we are announcing the 2018 awards. The TLC is a partnership between UDOT, UTA, Salt Lake County, and WFRC. This program supports local governments in their planning efforts, implementing the Wasatch Choice Vision. She stated that the program goals include:

- Maximizing the value of investment in public infrastructure.
- Enhancing access to opportunity.
- Increasing travel options to optimize mobility.
- Creating communities with opportunities to live, work, and play.

Ms. Townsend explained that this year, \$904,922 TLC funds were awarded, with a local match of \$281,525. A total of 13 awards were given this year; seven in the Salt Lake Urbanized Area, five in the Ogden/Layton Urbanized Area, one in Tooele County, with three of these projects being multi-jurisdictional. These awards include:

- City Wide Projects
 - Salt Lake City Street Typologies plan
 - \$120,000 Budget
 - Roy City General Plan and Ordinance Update

- \$130,000 Budget
 - Grantsville City General Plan Update
 - \$72,000 Budget
- Center Plans
 - Millcreek Town Center Plan
 - \$70,000 Budget
 - West Jordan Center Station Area Plan
 - \$100,000 Budget
 - Woods Cross Station Area Plan
 - \$85,000 Budget
 - Ogden Railyard Master Plan Study
 - \$30,000 Budget
- Active Transportation & Trails Plans
 - South Jordan + West Jordan Active Transportation Plan
 - \$97,447 Budget
 - Holladay Canal Trails Study
 - \$75,000 Budget
 - West Valley Active Transportation Plan
 - \$100,000 Budget
 - Plain City Transportation and Trails Master Plan
 - \$15,000 + TLC Technical Assistance
 - South Davis (North Salt Lake, Centerville, Bountiful) Active Transportation Plan
 - \$112,000 Budget
- Region-Wide Plan
 - Salt Lake County + Jordan River Commission Blueprint Jordan River Plan Update
 - \$180,000 Budget

Information/Discussion: Active Transportation in the Wasatch Front: Key 2018 Activities [Recording 1:20:57]

Scott Hess, WFRC, discussed what Gil Penalosa, founder of the non-profit, 80 Cities, presented on during the Bike Summit, and that is preparing and planning for the most vulnerable citizens in your community. This includes those who are eight years old, and those that are 80. If you can facilitate those age groups to get around your community effectively, you make the community better for everyone. Mr. Hess reminded the committee of the 2018 Active Transportation Goals:

1. Update shared Regional Priority Bicycle Routes Plan/Map
2. Cities and counties adopt Local Active Transportation Plans
3. Fund and construct priority projects
4. Build support for AT through effective engagement and outreach

There was discussion on each one of these goals.

Mr. Hess invited the committee to attend the upcoming Golden Spoke event on Saturday, June 2, 2018 to celebrate the completion of over 100 miles of connected pathways from Weber County to Utah County. More information on the event will be forthcoming

Other Business [Recording 1:35:18]

Utah State law requires that elected officials serving on committees such as those of the Regional Growth Committee receive training regarding the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act. An 11-minute training video was presented.

Councilmember Cannon entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting after the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act video is complete. Reid Ewing, University of Utah, motioned to adjourn the meeting, and this was seconded by Commissioner Bitner, Tooele County. The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the Regional Growth Committee will be held on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.

A recording of this meeting may be found on the WFRC website at, under Committees, Regional Growth Committee, 2018 meetings.