



WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES
Of
The Regional Growth Committee
March 21, 2019

A meeting was held on Thursday, March 21, 2019 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC), 41 North Rio Grande Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

1. Welcome and Introductions [Recording 00.00].

Mayor Dawn Ramsey called the meeting to order at 9:37 AM. Mayor Ramsey welcomed committee members and guests, and introductions were made. Andrew Gruber, Executive Director of WFRC, also welcomed everyone and made announcements (see “Other Business”).

The following were in attendance:

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES	(X) Attended
Jeff Scott, County Appointed Member (Box Elder County)	X
Kenneth Braeger, County Appointed Alternate (Box Elder County)	
Len Arave, WFRC Appointed Member (Davis County)	X
Rick Earnshaw, WFRC Appointed Alternate (Davis County)	
Jim Talbot, COG Appointed Member (Davis County)	X
John Pohlman, COG Appointed Alternate (Davis County)	
Tina Cannon, COG Appointed Member (Morgan County)	X
Robert McConnell, COG Appointed Alternate (Morgan County)	
Jenny Wilson, WFRC Appointed Member (Salt Lake County)	X
Ron Bigelow, WFRC Appointed Alternate (Salt Lake County)	X
Dawn Ramsey, COG Appointed Member (Salt Lake County)	X
Aimee Winder Newton, COG Appointed Member (Salt Lake County)	X
Jim Riding, COG Appointed Member (Salt Lake County)	X
Jackie Biskupski, COG Appointed Alternate (Salt Lake County)	
Cherie Wood, COG Appointed Alternate (Salt Lake County)	
Troy Walker, COG Appointed Alternate (Salt Lake County)	
Kurt Bradburn, COG Appointed Alternate (Salt Lake County)	X
David McCall, COG Appointed Member (Tooele County)	X
Kendall Thomas, COG Appointed Alternate (Tooele County)	
Mark Allen, WFRC Appointed Member (Weber County)	X
Norm Searle, WFRC Appointed Alternate (Weber County)	
Robert Dandoy, COG Appointed Member (Weber County)	X
Jim Harvey, COG Appointed Alternate (Weber County)	X
OTHER APPOINTED MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES	
Meghan Holbrook, Member, Utah Transportation Commission	
Dannie McConkie, Alternate, Utah Transportation Commission	
Beth Holbrook, Member, Utah Transit Authority Board	X
Carlton Christensen, Alternate, Utah Transit Authority Board	
Erin Mendenhall, Member, Utah Air Quality Board	X
Robert Grow, Member, Envision Utah	
Ari Bruening, Alternate, Envision Utah	X
NON-VOTING MEMBERS	
Teri Newell, Member, UDOT Representative	
Jeff Harris, Alternate, UDOT Representative	
Laura Hanson, UTA Representative	X

Levi Roberts, Alternate, UTA Representative	
Bryce Bird, Air Quality Board, DAQ Staff Representative	
Ivan Marrero, FHWA-Utah Division Representative	
Steve Call, Alternate, FHWA-Utah Division Representative	
Gary Uresk, Utah League of Cities and Townes Representative	
Wilf Sommerkom, Utah Association of Counties Representative	X
Jenny Rees, Mayor (Cedar Hills); Mountainland Assn. of Governments	X
WFRC APPOINTMENTS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS	
Christine Richman, Utah Urban Lands Institute	X
Evan Curtis, GOMB	X
Abby Osborne, Utah Transportation Coalition	
Reid Ewing, University of Utah	X

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT (in alphabetical order)	
Roger Borgenicht, UBET	Brynn Mortenson, SL Chamber
Julie Bjornstad, WFRC	Aimee Winder Newton, SL County
Christy Dahlburg, WFRC	Andrea Olson, UDOT Planning
Samantha Defeelhorst, Herriman City	Rachel Otto, ULCT
Scott Festin, WFRC	Trevor Ovenden, SLC Council
Russ Fox, Draper City	Angela Papastamos, UDOT Planning
Katie Gerard, WFRC	Mary Pratt, WFRC
Bert Granberg, WFRC	Mike Reberg, SL County
Andrew Gruber, WFRC	Alex Roy, WFRC
Jim Harvey, Weber County	Debbie Sigman
Ned Hacker, WFRC	Suzie Swim, WFRC
Val John Halford, WFRC	Megan Townsend, WFRC
Scott Hess, WFRC	Lauren Victor, Intern, WFRC
Jory Johner, WFRC	Hugh Van Wagenen, WFRC
Catherine Kanter, SL County	Jason Wheeler, ASSIST, Inc.
Ted Knowlton, WFRC	Chad Worthen, WFRC
Heather McLaughlin-Kolb, WFRC	Nicole Zinnanti, ASSIST

2. ACTION: Approval of Minutes [Recording 6:45].

After review of minutes, no comments were made. Chair Ramsey entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the Regional Growth Committee meeting held January 17, 2019. A motion was made by Tina Cannon, Morgan County; and seconded by Jeff Scott, Box Elder County to approve these minutes as written. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment [Recording 7:30].

Mayor Ramsey welcomed public comment and opened for discussion. There was none.

4. 2019 Legislative Session [Recording 7:50].

LaNiece Davenport, WFRC, highlighted a few important bills from the legislative session that will affect our region’s growth, housing, and transportation (handouts). There was a record number of 73 passed (with an \$18 billion budget).

- *SB72 Sub 3, Transportation Governance and Funding Revisions (Senator Harper); and SB136 Sub 6, Transportation Government Amendments (Harper/Schultz).* Andrew Gruber spoke about SB72, which was passed as a furtherance to SB136, a significant tax reform bill that was passed last year to create the new state transit transportation investment fund authorizing state infrastructure dollars—to be spent on transit for the first time. It will also require UDOT to modify their prioritization process to look at a

broader plan called “U Vision” for their existing transportation investment fund for roads (which is about \$7 million per year). UDOT is asked to consider land use, housing, and economic development.

- SB 136 is also working with the UTA governance structure. Mr. Gruber explained that a new task force was created, which leads to SB72. This made further modifications for local flexibility and usage.
- SB34 Sub4, Affordable Housing Modifications (Senator Anderegg). Mr. Gruber described SB34 as a housing bill corollary which is in sync with the SB72. Ms. Davenport highlighted changes as outlined on the summary handout, noting that on the Moderate Income Housing element, general plans need to be adopted by December 1, 2019. There is a requirement to do an annual report on progress on meeting needs and implementation.
- Tax Reform bills were not passed. There was much involvement by legislators to discuss whether to broaden the sales tax base, and lower the rate. They decided to set up a task force under HB495, Tax Restructuring and Equalization Task Force to hold public meetings and report back to the legislator in August for a special session. This will become broader than sales tax and include every county. Representative Mike Schultz will speak at a council meeting with WFRC next week.
- Air Quality bills and Appropriations. LaNiece Davenport indicated that a one-time allocation of \$28.8 million was received for air quality with an additional ongoing funding of \$35,400.

5. Wasatch Choice Vision [Recording 35:55].

Mr. Ted Knowlton, WFRC, addressed how to implement SB34. He discussed what is to come with the Regional Transportation Planning (RTP) and Wasatch Choice. The RGC, as a steering committee for RTP and Wasatch Choice, will recommend an adoption of that plan to the full council (a four-year process for growth and economic development) in May. The 2019-2050 RTP is one element of the Wasatch Choice Vision. Objectives are to work at a local level; then connect local planning to the regional level surrounding major transit to connect between homes and jobs; and project key growth areas. There was extensive roundtable discussion. High density issues were discussed.

There was a request to share more information from the leagues to the communities. Mr. Knowlton stressed that members of RGC come first as being local government representations; and second with the RGC. WFRC will help with training and assistance to understand the process. He encourages new members to visit the web site to review the process and highlight the final products.

6. Impacts of Community Design [Recording 1:12]

Reid Ewing, renowned professor from the University of Utah and member of RGC gave a presentation on types of changes and impacts of community design. He discussed recent research on the impact community design has on quality of life, depending on density and

diversity. Professor Ewing explained that the way intersections are designed are a more important variable than density and driving behavior. Due to time constraints, Professor Ewing will be presenting more information at future meetings.

7. **Transportation and Land Use Connection Program (TLC) [Recording 1:30:56].**
Meghan Townsend, Transportation Land Use Connection Program Manager, provided an update on ways the TLC program will provide technical assistance to communities with growth-related challenges during 2019 (such as help resolve issues and reach goals). The TLC is a partner with WFRC, Salt Lake County, UDOT and UTA. This partnership supports local governments with planning that relate to the Wasatch Choice Vision. There are \$1.5 million funds available.

Ms. Townsend also announced 15 awards for next year (5 are multi-jurisdictional).

8. **Other Business [Recording 1:38].**
Upcoming Dates: WFRC will host its first full Council meeting at these offices on March 28 at 2 PM. Afterwards, WFRC will have an Open House and celebration of its 50th Anniversary from 4-6 PM with everyone is invited.
9. **ACTION: Adjournment [Recording 01:38:43].**
Mayor Ramsey entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was moved by Meghan Holbrook, and seconded by Erin Mendenhall that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Next Meeting.

The next scheduled meeting is tentatively set for Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 9:30 AM at the offices of WFRC, 41 North Rio Grande Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. To accommodate attendees who travel on FrontRunner, and to best serve members of the committee, Ted Knowlton is considering changing the meeting times from 9:30-11:00 to 9:45-11:15 AM.

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Materials and recording of this meeting may be found on the WFRC website under Committees at www.wfrc.org.