



WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL

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MINUTES

Wasatch Front Regional Council Meeting of May 26, 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

Len Arave	Mayor, North Salt Lake
Peter Corroon	Mayor, Salt Lake County
Craig Dearden	Commissioner, Weber County
Tom Dolan	Mayor, Sandy City
Louenda Downs	Commissioner, Davis County / UAC
Richard Harris	Mayor, North Ogden
Wayne Harper	Representative, Utah House of Representatives
Tina Kelley	Councilmember, Morgan County
Brent Marshall	Mayor, Grantsville City
Alan Matheson	Envision Utah
Bret Millburn	Commissioner, Davis County
Jamie Nagle	Mayor, Syracuse City
John Njord	Utah Department of Transportation
John Petroff	Commissioner, Davis County
JoAnn Seghini	Mayor, Midvale City
Darrell Smith	Mayor, Draper City
Russ Wall	Mayor, Taylorsville / ULCT
Mike Winder	Mayor, West Valley City
Jan Zogmaister	Commissioner, Weber County

Alternate Members Present

Bill Applegarth	Mayor, Riverton City
Carlton Christensen	Councilman, Salt Lake City

Other Officials Present

Larry Short	Councilman, South Jordan City
Gordon Thomas	Councilman, Cottonwood Heights

Others Present

John Bennett	Governors Office of Planning and Budget
Roger Borgenicht	Future Moves
Dianne Browning	Senator Orrin Hatch's Office

Lee Davidson	Salt Lake Tribune
Austin Fredrickson	UBET
Chuck Gates	ULCT / UTA
John Hiskey	Sandy City
Ken Leetham	North Salt Lake City
Terry Marasco	Utah Clean Air Alliance
Chad Mullins	Salt Lake County Bicycle Advisory Committee
Paul Ottoson	North Salt Lake City
Daniel Page	Utah Department of Transportation
Cory Pope	Utah Department of Transportation
Matt Sibul	Utah Transit Authority
Renaë Widdison	UBET
Heather Williamson	Senator Mike Lee's Office
Loveit Baumgardner	WFRC Staff
Wayne Bennion	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
Barbara Thomas	WFRC Staff
Eloise Thomson	WFRC Staff
Ben Wuthrich	WFRC Staff

Mayor Ralph Becker, Mayor Bruce Burrows, Councilman Michael Jensen, and Mayor Kent Money were excused from the meeting.

Welcome

Commissioner Craig Dearden welcomed Council members and visitors.

Consent Agenda

ACTION: Mayor Tom Dolan moved to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting held March 24, 2011. The motion was seconded by Mayor Brent Marshall and passed unanimously.

ACTION: Mayor Brent Marshall moved to approved the financial statements and check registers for February, March and April 2011. Mayor Tom Dolan seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed.

Chairman's Report

Service Award: Andrew Gruber recognized Scott Festin and presented him with a certificate for his 15 years of service.

Public Comment

There were no public comments

Budget Committee Report

ACTION – Amend FY 2011 and FY 2012 Budgets: Commissioner John Petroff reported that as is sometimes the case at the end of the fiscal year, it is necessary to make changes to the budget. He noted that this is actually a two-year budget. He briefly discussed the amendments to address the following items:

- Equipment Purchases – an increase of \$10,000 in the equipment budget to replace equipment and make major repairs to the office building.
- Economic Development – expected amount to be awarded is \$42,000 in July 2011 – this will decrease the FY2011 budget by \$25,000 and increase the FY2012 budget by \$17,000.
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Small Cities Program – included in the FY2012 budget were funds in the amount of \$90,000. Federal funding to the CDBG program has been reduced and WFRC will receive \$50,000 during FY2012.
- Model Development – Mountainland Association of Governments has committed \$80,000 to support work on Model Development in FY2012. These funds will be used to pay for consultant services to assist with the work.

Commissioner John Petroff moved to amend the FY2011 and FY2012 budgets to adjust for changes in the Economic Development and CDBG grant awards, increase funds for Model Development, and increase the Capital Purchase budget. Mayor Mike Winder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Regional Growth Committee

ACTION – Adopt 2040 Regional Transportation Plan & Air Quality Conformity: Commissioner Jan Zogmaister reported that this is a big day for the Wasatch Front Regional Council as we culminate a four-year effort of development, review and refinement of the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan. Prior to action being taken Val John Halford was asked to review the RTP process.

Val John Halford reported that the Regional Transportation Plan is governed by a set of federal requirements that includes:

- Planning horizon extends at least 20 years
- The Plan must be updated every four years
- Plan must meet SAFETEA-LU requirements
- Plan conforms to State Air Quality Plan
- Plan is subject to public comment
- Plan must be financially constrained and
- The Plan must be approved by the Wasatch Front Regional Council

Mr. Halford said that the Plan was a region-wide collaborative effort that included planners from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), Utah Transit Authority (UTA), Mountainland Association of Government (MAG), the Councils of Government, Technical Advisory Committees, State and Federal Agencies, stakeholders and general public, the Regional Growth Committee and the Wasatch Front Regional Council.

He also said that this Plan is unique in that the Growth Principles played an important part in the development of the 2040 RTP. Particularly the alternatives scenarios that were developed in addition to the phasing of the projects relied heavily on the Growth Principles that were adopted in October of 2005. He further commented that the Regional Vision known as the Wasatch Choice for 2040 played an integral part. The Vision was used to allocate all socioeconomic growth projections and future land use assumptions out to the year 2040.

Mr. Halford reported that the following are included in the Planned Highway Improvements:

- Approximately 1,071 lane miles of capacity
- Two new major freeway facilities (Mountain View Corridor and West Davis Corridor)
- Improvements to I-15, US-89, and Bangerter Highway
- Emphasis on increased east-west travel capacity
- Operational enhancements to maximize efficiency
- Safety and system preservation are noted priorities

Planned Transit Improvements build on investments made over the past ten years and include:

- Approximately 296 miles of major public transit improvements
- Streetcar, TRAX, commuter rail, and bus rapid transit modes of travel
- A comprehensive transit network that links fixed guideway facilities, park and ride lots, and transit hubs throughout the Region

Following Mr. Halford's presentation members and others attending the meeting had an opportunity to comment on the 2040 RTP:

- Commissioner Craig Dearden said, "This Plan is a common sense approach to meeting the needs of a population that will grow dramatically in future years. It is based on the 'Vision' for growth and development that was adopted a year ago by the Council and its implementation will create a more vibrant, livable future for all of us."
- Mayor JoAnn Seghini commented, "Our communities have grown a great deal in terms of options and I think we really do lead the Nation in transportation that considers all modes as the key to better living."
- Commissioner Jan Zogmaister said, "The residents of the more rural areas of the region appreciate the fact that the Plan balances the needs of rural, suburban, and urban communities across the Wasatch Front."
- John Njord, UDOT, said, "UDOT appreciates the proactive manner in which the Plan has been developed in which our concerns have been addressed early in the process where they are much easier to deal with."
- Mike Allegra, UTA General Manager, said, "Utah Transit Authority is pleased with the direction of the Plan, especially when considered alongside the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Regional 'Vision'. The 'Vision' and the 'Plan' insure our community has a bright economic future. Together, they provide a blue print for implementing a truly comprehensive transit system for the residents of the Wasatch Front."

- Alan Matheson, Envision Utah, said, "What has happened here is really a step forward and unusual. We have a regional vision in place and use that as the basis for our transportation plan. Utah is taking the lead and a lot of people are watching."
- Roger Borgenicht representing Utahns for Better Transportation commented that, "We are pleased to see that the goals and objectives of the Regional Transportation Plan support a balanced approach leading to shared solutions to our future mobility needs."

Commissioner Jan Zogmaister moved to approve the Wasatch Front Regional Transportation Plan: 2011-2040 and Air Quality Memorandum as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner John Petroff and passed unanimously.

Transportation Committee (Trans Com)

Information – UDOT Bridge Inspection Presentation: John Njord, UDOT, said that at the last meeting there were some questions about an adjustment that UDOT was making and putting some more resources toward bridge inspections and it was suggested that a report on the Bridge Inspection Program would be helpful in understanding the need for these additional resources.

Danny Page, UDOT structural engineer, said that the State of Utah Bridge Inventory currently consists of a total of 2900 bridges – 1800 State bridges and 1100 Local Government bridges. He said UDOT is responsible for all bridge inspections in the State. Mr. Page then discussed UDOT's four Bridge Programs: Bridge Inspection Program, Bridge Load Rating Program, Bridge Unknown Foundations Program and Bridge Scour Program. He said these Programs ensure public safety, monitor and investigate bridge assets, correct deficiencies, assist in developing and prioritizing bridge projects, and minimize future maintenance costs.

ACTION – Draft 2012 2017 STP and CMAQ Program: Mr. Ben Wuthrich reported that on a yearly basis Wasatch Front Regional Council is responsible for programming new projects for the Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality Program (CMAQ) funds for the Salt Lake and Ogden / Layton Areas. He said that over the past several months staff from the Wasatch Front Regional Council have met with staff of the local governments in all three counties (Davis, Weber and Salt Lake) along with the staff from UDOT and UTA and have presented to all three counties Council of Governments and Trans Com the new projects to be added to the STP and CMAQ Programs.

Mr. Wuthrich reviewed and discussed the list of projects for the CMAQ Program that was included in the member packets. He noted that the annual apportionments for CMAQ funds are projected to be approximately \$5,057,000 through the year 2017 with \$7,000,000 available to program in the Salt Lake Area and \$2,493,000 in annual apportionments in the Ogden/ Layton Area with \$2,100,000 available to program.

He also reviewed and discussed the list of STP projects submitted for funding and said that the annual apportionments for STP funds are projected to be approximately \$16,500,000 through the year 2017 in the Salt Lake Area and \$7,800,000 in the Ogden/ Layton Area. He noted that because of prior years of programming conservatively and project cost savings, there is an estimated \$37,000,000 available for the year 2017 in the Salt Lake Area to program, and \$22,350,000 available in the Ogden/ Layton Area for programming.

Mayor JoAnn Seghini moved to approve the Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ) projects as presented and that they be added to the 2012-2017 STP and CMAQ Programs. Commissioner John Petroff seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

Information – Review Obligations of Federal Highway and Transit Funds: Mr. Ben Wuthrich reported that SAFETEA-LU requires each metropolitan planning organization (MPO), State, and public transportation operator(s) cooperate in preparing a report of federal funds obligated during the prior fiscal year. The Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) with the assistance of Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) have prepared a report of obligated federal, state, and local funding during fiscal year 2010 (October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010).

Mr. Wuthrich reviewed the information provided in member packets on the 2010 Federal Highway Funds Obligation by Project Improvement-Statewide and the Federal Transit Funds Obligated for Davis, Morgan, Salt Lake, Tooele and Weber Counties for FY2010.

ACTION – Approve 2011-2016 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment: Mr. Ben Wuthrich reported that a request 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 analysis or a 30-day public comment period. Mr. Wuthrich reviewed the modifications and noted that a copy of the revised 2011-2016 TIP Amendment 7 was included in member packets.

Mayor Darrell Smith moved to approve the Resolution to modify the 2011-2016 Transportation Improvement Program as requested. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bret Millburn and passed unanimously. A copy of the Resolution is available in the Council offices.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Andrew Gruber said the Clear the Air Challenge begins June 13. He encouraged everyone to participate by signing up on the website as an organization, group or individual and help make a difference. He noted that Kate Lilja from Salt Lake City is working with this program and would be happy to assist in getting you or your organization set up.

Mr. Gruber also invited those interested to attend the "kick off" event for the Wasatch Choice for 2040 HUD Sustainable Communities Grant which is being held on Wednesday, June 1 at 11:00 a.m. at the Rio Grande Station – Third South and Fifth West in downtown Salt Lake City. Shaun Donovan, U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will be in attendance.

Other Business

Mayor Peter Corroon expressed appreciation to the Wasatch Front Regional Council, Envision Utah and all the organizations involved for their work on the Sustainable Communities Grant.

He also said that he had received a letter from Congressman Chaffetz about two bills in Congress that are being proposed regarding allowing federal gas tax revenues to be returned to the state's where they are collected. He requested feedback on the two items of legislation and whether it is something that should be supported or not be supported.

Andrew Gruber said that WFRC, UDOT and UTA would review the proposed bills.

The next Council meeting will be held on August 25, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.