



MINUTES
Wasatch Front Regional Council
March 23, 2023

A meeting was held on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at the WFRC Offices, 41 N Rio Grande Street, Salt Lake City and via Zoom.

The following were present:

WFRC COUNCIL MEMBERS - 2023		
BOX ELDER COUNTY	Yes/No	Alternates / Others in attendance:
Member - Lee Perry	yes	Jeff Acerson, UTA Board of Trustees
Alternate - Dennis Bott	no	Peter Asplund, UDOT
DAVIS COUNTY MEMBERS		Michelle Larsen, UTA
Brandon Stanger	yes	Catherine Kanter, SLCounty
Mark Shepherd	no	Mike Weichers, Cottonwood Heights Mayor,
Joy Petro	yes	Lorin Palmer, Herriman Mayor,
Bob Stevenson	yes	Nathan Cherpeski, Herriman
MORGAN COUNTY		Wendy Thomas, Herriman
Member - Mike Newton	yes	Jennifer Elsken, FHWA
Alternate - Blaine Fackrell	yes	Jennilyn Tockstein, Envision Utah
SALT LAKE COUNTY MEMBERS		Ryan Beck, Envision Utah
Jenny Wilson	yes	Chandler Beutler, John Hiskey, Kimberly Bell,
Erin Mendenhall	no	Pat Shea, Brad T Rutledge, John Gleeve,
Dawn Ramsey	yes	Carl Fisher, Mike Marker, Gary Peterson,
Aimee Winder Newton	yes	Richard Markos, Leslie Kovatch, Shaun Enos,
Jeff Silvestrini	yes	Mike Maru, Elle Maru, Kael Weston,
Robert Dahle	yes	Roger Borgenicht, Brittany Manookin,
Dirk Burton	yes	Steve Van Maren, Del Draper, John Kennington,
Kristie Overson	yes	Kathryn Gustafson, Kody Fox, Skylar Harris,
TOOELE COUNTY		Noah Miterko, Kirsten Kolter, James Hicks,
Member - Scott Wardle	yes	Carston Oliver, John Woeste, Brandon Weston,
Alternate - Debbie Winn	yes	Diane Forster-Burke, Brandon unknown,
WEBER COUNTY MEMBERS		Bret unknown, Carissa unknown, NN, TW,
Gage Froerer	yes	18018095682
Jim Harvey	yes	
Robert Dandoy	yes	
Mike Caldwell	yes	
UDOT & UTA		WFRC:
Member - Carlos Bracerias, UDOT	yes	Andrew Gruber, Ted Knowlton,
Alternate - Teri Newell, UDOT	no	Bert Granberg, Hugh Van Wagenen,
Member - Carlton Christensen, UTA Board of Trustees	yes	Julie Bjornstad, Jory Johnner, Mike Sobczak,
Alternate - Beth Holbrook, UTA Board of Trustees	yes	Megan Townsend, Christy Dahlberg,
NON-VOTING MEMBERS		Ben Wuthrich, Wayne Bennion, Mikala Jordan,
Lorene Kamalu - Utah Association of Counties	yes	Miranda Jones Cox, Sarah Lawless, Suzie Swim,
Troy Walker - Utah League of Cities and Towns	yes	Kevrine Wells, Marian Florence,
Ari Bruening - Envision Utah	yes	Rosie Hernandez, Andrea Pearson
Wayne Harper - State Senate	yes	
Mike Schultz - State House of Representatives	yes	
Laura Hanson – State Planning Coordinator	yes	

1. Welcome and Consent Agenda [00:00:04]

At 2:06pm, Council Chair Mayor Dawn Ramsey welcomed the Wasatch Front Regional Council members and guests. Introductions were made around the table, and online via roll call.

- a. **[00:02:37] ACTION:** Mayor Joy Petro made a motion to approve the [Minutes of the January 26, 2023](#) meeting and [Financial statements](#) and check registers for Dec 2022 & Jan 2023 and Budget/Expenditure Report to date. Mayor Jeff Silvestrini seconded the motion, there was no discussion. Approved unanimously.

2. Public Comment [00:03:34]

Mayor Dawn Ramsey welcomed all guests from the public, and explained the public comment process in relation to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Mayor Ramsey stated that, during this meeting, there will be 15 minutes allotted for public comment - approximately 10 in person attendees and five online attendees. Public comments were made by:

Patrick Shea - Friends of Alta	Gary Peterson - UT Taxpayer	Leslie Kovach - Save Not Pave
Carl Fisher - Save our Canyons	John Gleeve - SL Resident	Brad Rutledge - Wasatch Backcountry Alliance
Mike Marker - Friends of LCC	Shaun Enos - UT Taxpayer	Richard Markos - Utah Stories Magazine
Mike Meru - Sandy Resident	Elle Meru - Sandy Resident	Kael Weston - Utah Resident

Mayor Ramsey thanked everyone for their comments, and reminded members and guests that the RTP will reach the conclusion of the required four year update process, and will be voted on for approval in the May 2023 Council meeting.

3. Chair Report [00:21:41]

- a. Mayor Ramsey introduced Utah State Representative Mike Schultz, and Utah State Senator Wayne Harper, who each took some time to discuss the [Legislative Session outcomes](#). Representative Schultz discussed HB301 that he and Senator Harper sponsored together. **[00:32:17]** Senator Harper talked about how the 2023 Legislative Session helped to set the framework for a more comprehensive multi-modal transportation plan. **[00:37:51]** Carlos Braceras, UDOT Executive Director, discussed the Utah Trail Network and the funding that is available through that program, to help expand Active Transportation throughout the state. Director Braceras also touched on the funding that is allotted to support Phase 1 of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Little Cottonwood Canyon projects. **[00:50:28]** Miranda Jones Cox, WFRC, talked about the record breaking passage of 575 bills during this Legislative Session, and the largest state budget at just over \$29M, which will be used, in part, to focus on planning for and investing in Utah's future growth.

4. Regional Growth Committee (RGC) [00:59:21]

- a. Mayor Bob Dandoy, Chair of the Regional Growth Committee, gave an update from the RGC meeting that was held on March 19, 2023. Mayor Dandoy then introduced Megan Townsend, WFRC Community and Economic Development Director, who gave an update on Station Area Planning. Ms. Townsend explained that HB462 required cities to plan around their fixed rail and BRT stations and in 2023 Legislation, SB27 made an impactful change to allow prior planning to be considered as long as it meets the objectives for requirements towards certification. **[01:11:39] ACTION:** Mayor Dandoy made a motion to approve the [amendment](#) to the WFRC Station Area Plan Certification Policy, and Mayor Jeff Silvestrini seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

5. Transportation Coordinating Committee (Trans Com) [01:12:13]

Commissioner Jim Harvey, Vice Chair of Trans Com, excused Mayor Mark Shepherd, Trans Com Chair, from this meeting. Commissioner Harvey introduced Ben Wuthrich, WFRC.

- a. Mr Wuthrich gave a report on the [Board modifications](#) to 2023-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), that were approved during the Trans Com meeting on February 16, 2023.
- b. **[01:23:04]** Mr. Wuthrich continued his presentation, highlighting more requested modifications to the 2023-2028 TIP. **ACTION:** Commissioner Jim Harvey made a motion to approve the currently requested [Board modifications](#) to the 2023-2028 TIP. Carlos Bracerias, UDOT, seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- c. **[01:24:31]** Mr. Wuthrich then presented information on the annual [obligations](#) of federal transportation funds during FY22

6. Budget Committee [01:26:27]

Mayor Ramsey then brought the group's attention to Mayor Mike Caldwell, WFRC Budget Committee Chair, for the WFRC Budget Committee report.

- a. Mayor Caldwell turned the time over to Andrew Gruber, WFRC Executive Director, who gave an overview on the process for the FY24 Goals, Budget, and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mr. Gruber provided a high-level summary of WFRC's FY24 Goals and the UPWP. **[01:33:07]** Marian Florence, WFRC Chief Financial Officer, presented the FY24 Draft WFRC Budget, discussing the two major changes to the budget: consulting, and staffing. **[01:39:44]** **ACTION:** Mayor Caldwell made a motion to release the [draft FY24 WFRC Goals, Budget, and Unified Planning Work Program \(UPWP\)](#) for public comment. Mayor Joy Petro seconded the motion. With no further discussion, releasing the three FY24 documents was approved unanimously.
- b. **[01:40:18]** Andrew Gruber, WFRC, discussed an amendment that was recommended by UTA, which would allow for a grant that will evaluate its paratransit service, to be included in the current FY23 Unified Planning Work Program. This project is scheduled to begin Spring 2023. **[01:41:39]** **ACTION:** Mayor Caldwell made a motion to accept the [amendment](#) to the FY23 Unified Planning Work Program as presented. Commissioner Bob Stevenson seconded the motion. No further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

7. Reports

- a. **[01:42:39]** Mayor Debbie Winn gave a report on the Wasatch Front Economic Development District (WFEDD), and their focus on the 5-year regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).
- b. **[01:44:21]** Mayor Troy Walker gave an update for the Active Transportation Committee (ATC). He touched on the Safe Streets 4 All grant that was given to both WFRC and Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG), and the excitement behind the Utah Trails Network funding that was recently passed. He announced some upcoming community events that relate to Active Transportation.
- c. **[01:48:57]** Christy Dahlberg, WFRC, announced the awards for the [Community Development Block Grant \(CDBG\)](#).
- d. **[01:50:01]** Andrew Gruber, WFRC, gave his Executive Director's Report and recognized two of WFRC's staff.
 - Bert Granberg, Analytics Director, who has been employed with WFRC for five years.
 - Sarah Lawless, Data Analyst II, who joined the WFRC Analytics team in February.

8. Other Business and Adjournment [01:53:15]

The next meeting of the WFRC Council will be held on May 25, 2023. Mayor Joy Petro made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mayor Brandon Stanger. There was no discussion, and the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4pm.

A recording of this meeting, as well as meeting packet materials, may be found on the WFRC website at www.wfrc.org