

Morgan County – Ogden Valley Rural Planning Organization

Minutes

Meeting
**RPO January
2019**

Date
January 3, 2019

Time
4:00 – 5:30 pm

Location
**Morgan City
Offices**

Julie Bjornstad, Wasatch Front Regional Council transportation planner, called the meeting of the Morgan County – Ogden Valley Rural Planning Organization to order at 4:18 pm in the Morgan City Offices located at 90 West Young Street, Morgan, UT.

Policy and Technical Committee	In Attendance
Huntsville	
Mayor Jim Truett	no
Morgan City	
Mayor Ray Little	yes
Ty Bailey	yes
Lance Prescott	yes
Morgan County	
Councilmember Robert Kilmer	yes
Darrel Rupp	yes
Bret Heiner	yes
Utah Department of Transportation	
Andrea Olson	yes
Utah Transit Authority	
Levi Roberts	no
Wasatch Front Regional Council	
Julie Bjornstad	yes
Weber County	
Commissioner Scott Jenkins	yes
John Lewis	no
Rick Grover	yes
Brooke Stewart	yes

Welcome [00:00:00]

Chair Darrell Rupp welcomed Morgan County-Ogden Valley Rural Planning Organization (RPO) members and technical committee members.

1. Opportunity for Public Comment [00:03:21]

Chair Rupp opened the meeting up for public comment. There were no public comments.

2. Seasonal variation and traffic growth [00:03:44]

Julie Bjornstad discussed seasonal variation and traffic growth in Morgan County and the Ogden Valley. Information regarding seasonal variation were distributed to meeting attendees. There are three automatic traffic recorders, owned and operated by the Utah Department of Transportation. These recorders are on I-84 near the Mountain Green Interchange, on SR-39 near SR-158, and on SR-167 near the Mountain Green Interchange. All three counters recorded highest traffic volumes in the months of June, July, August, and September. A conversation ensued regarding the contributing factors to this seasonal variation, such as recreational bicycling and reservoir usage.

Julie Bjornstad also presented information about traffic growth in the area. There are number of roads in the area that have historic average annual daily traffic. A handful of roads in the area have growth rates greater than 5 percent per year. The road with the highest growth rate in the area is Trapper's Loop. Roads with high percentages of truck traffic are SR-66, SR-158, SR-39, and SR-167.

3. **Action: Approval of November meeting minutes [00:17:10]**

Commissioner Jenkins made the motion to approve the November meeting minutes without changes. The motion was seconded by Mayor Little. All votes were in favor.

4. **Project development and scoring [00:17:44]**

A draft project scoring and ranking list was distributed. Julie Bjornstad reviewed the evaluation criteria, which includes improving safety, assuring mobility, maintenance and corridor preservation, providing access to jobs and businesses, providing access to recreation, and safely accommodating active transportation. This project selection criteria was used to score and rank projects. The draft scores did not include information for assuring mobility or bridge condition. These scores will also need to be informed by political and feasibility considerations.

Julie Bjornstad sought feedback and discussion regarding draft scoring. Rick Grover asked about active transportation safety on North Ogden Canyon Road. This road has poor pavement, limited shoulders, and signage that recommends no bicyclists. There were two safety hotspots on North Ogden Canyon Road. Julie Bjornstad stated she would provide Rick Grover with more information. Morgan Valley roads have higher usage of active transportation than the roads to and in Ogden Valley according to Strava data. Strava is an app people can use to record bicycling and walking trips.

The ranking of the Mountain Green interchange was also discussed. The importance of the interchange relocation for the future of the County was noted, but some members of the group did not feel that this was a current priority. As more growth occurs, the interchange relocation will be important in reducing traffic on Old Highway Road. It was noted that many people who live in this area would prefer the current interchange remain open and a new interchange be constructed. The Ogden Valley General Plan also considered the benefit of the interchange relocation on reducing traffic in Ogden Canyon. A discussed ensued regarding travel patterns in the area and whether people would reroute to Trapper's Loop since Ogden Canyon is a shorter travel distance.

Julie Bjornstad asked for further comments by email and noted an updated scoring sheet would be sent out when mobility and bridge data were available.

5. **Other business and updates on related studies [00:46:19]**

UDOT anticipates having alternatives for its I-84/Mountain Green Interchange corridor study, which is studying the feasibility of constructing the interchange sooner than the phasing in the UDOT long-range plan, in late January/early February. The study is planned to be completed in late February 2019 and will outline next steps. A follow-up meeting will be held in Morgan County when next steps are available.

Morgan City will reduce the amount of transportation impact fees assessed. The City conducted a study to determine need and the results of the study indicated that there is enough roadway capacity to meet new developments. Morgan County has voted to continue to assess their \$10 vehicle registration fee for corridor preservation. The County has yet to spend corridor preservation funds to purchase property. They have used this fund for maintenance.

Work continues on completing a wayfinding plan for Ogden Valley. Weber County is also continuing trail work and is completing the section of trail between Wolf Creek and the stop sign in the spring.

A discussion ensued about the purpose of the RPO, next steps, and frequency of meetings. There was a discussion about UDOT's role, how they've used the RPO, and the importance of UDOT communicating with local governments. Andrea Olson explained how UDOT would use the plan and the role the RPO could play in communicating with the region. Commissioner Jenkins suggested changing the schedule to quarterly meetings as the RPO continues, but Mayor Little would like to stay every other month. Ty Bailey mentioned that the RPO helped the City coordinate with Morgan County. Andrea Olson spoke about UDOT's corridor planning process and how this process could help the move projects forward.

6. **Next meeting**

The next meeting is March 7, 2019 at 4:00 pm at the Morgan City Offices. The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 pm.

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