

Morgan County Rural Planning Organization

August 2024 Meeting

Meeting Minutes

DATE: August 8, 2024
TIME: 4:00 pm
LOCATION: This meeting was a hybrid meeting. The anchor location for this meeting was at the Morgan City Office, 90 West Young Street, Morgan City, Utah.

ATTENDEES: Mayor Steve Gale, Morgan City
Ty Bailey, Morgan City
Lance Prescott, Morgan City
Commissioner Blaine Fackrell, Morgan County
Julie Bjornstad, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Jory Johner, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Chay Mosqueda, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Ryan Halverson, Utah Department of Transportation

1 Introductions [00:00:00]

Julie Bjornstad from the Wasatch Front Regional Council opened the Morgan County Rural Planning Organization meeting.

2 **Action:** Approval of the May 2024 meeting minutes [00:00:01]

Approval of the May 2024 May 2024 meeting minutes was tabled until the November RPO meeting.

3 Opportunity for Public Comment [00:00:03]

There no were no members of the public present.

4 **Information:** Introduction to Jory Johner & Chay Mosqueda, WFRC Long-Range Planning [00:00:03]

There will be new staff representation from WFRC for the RPO. Jory Johner is the Director of Long-Range Planning and Chay Mosqueda is the roads planner on the long-range planning team. They will now lead the RPO. Julie Bjornstad will remain as a resource to the RPO.

5 **Information:** UDOT updates [00:00:07]

Ryan Halverson from UDOT gave an update on UDOT projects in the area. He mentioned that UDOT recently completed a cable project on I-84, a repaving in Weber Canyon, and a repaving on Old Highway. The reconstruction of Croydon bridge is still ongoing. There are also a few upcoming projects such as the rehabilitation of the bridge east of the rest area in Weber Canyon - this is not in the County, it will affect Morgan County; work on the columns on the bridge east of Taggert's - this should not affect traffic; design work is being done on installing high friction on some of the corners in Weber Canyon - this should not affect traffic; and installing fiber optic projects in Weber Canyon and then over Trappers to SR-39. If there is enough funding, this installation project will continue to the maintenance shed. This new fiber will be installed in the existing conduit for weather stations and cameras.

Ryan also gave an update on the I-84/US-89 project. It is funded for Phase 1 and Phase 2. This includes the interchange to the railroad bridges just north of the interchange. Phase 2 includes commuter lanes going over I-84 and the railroad. The idea that users from South Ogden can bypass the interchange. Ryan will send YouTube videos of what the interchange and traffic pattern will look like. Contracting should begin in the next six months. Jory asked if the environmental study was completed. Ryan was unsure if they have their signed record of decision, but will find out. Jory mentioned that there were trail connections from the interchange up the Canyon and over US-89 and I-84.

UDOT is analyzing the impacts for the I-84 Mountain Green Interchange for environment documents. This is anticipated to be completed by spring 2025.

The Utah Trail Network has begun funding projects this year. UDOT is hiring a consultant to identify the overall Utah Trail Network and exploring what UDOT's role should be regarding things like maintenance. This next phase is not about gathering more projects that have not already been identified through other planning processes, however there could be more projects as they identify the spine of the network. Ryan says the city and county need to have up-to-date active transportation plans and it would be good for Region 1 to coordinate on most planning documents. Ryan will send a link out to the UTN website.

Commissioner Fackrell asked about an ADA-compliant crosswalk over Trappers Loop on the Sinclair side and the County has been talking directly to Rob about it. Ryan wasn't aware of funding. This is a request from the school district. Commissioner Fackrell also needs help on moving forward with active transportation improvements. For instance, Region 2 has painted sharrow in SR-65 and the Commissioner would like this continued into Morgan County on all state highways. He said Morgan County was willing to help, but they need a starting point. UDOT will meet with Morgan County to discuss.

6 **Information:** WFRC funding programs [00:00:36]

Chay Mosqueda reviewed the WFRC funding programs. Letters of intent are normally due around the end of September. Commissioner Fackrell asked what the County can use Community Development Block Grants for and Ty Bailey answered mostly for ADA-related improvements. For Community Impact Board funds, Ty said Morgan County does not qualify for grants but they do for

loans - this is the reason they do the capital improvement program lists every year to be eligible for loans.

Transportation Alternatives Program funds will come through UDOT. Jory asks if counties can apply for TAP funds. Ryan will ask about the application process and bring more information about the process to the next meeting.

Ty asks about the State Street project through the Emerging Areas funds and studying the interchange at State Street at same time. Christopher said there was funding for this which Morgan City would not have to apply for but there was no source identified to the City. Ryan will follow up with the Emerging Areas funding.

7 Discussion: Future population & employment forecasts for Morgan County [00:00:56]

Chay introduced a [population and employment forecasts map](#) that WFRC developed. WFRC will send the link to the meeting attendees. Commissioner Fackrell thinks the County numbers will be higher than what is shown. There are about 4,200+ new homes in Mountain Green that have been approved, plus additional home sites. Development in Mountain Green will also include restaurants and hotels, so there will be an increase in employment in the area as well - although it is hard to predict what this will look like. WFRC will reach out to the County planning staff about locations for development in the Mountain Green area and in the remainder of the County. Morgan City also said the 2024 information is incorrect for the City. For the City, it is hard because there are a few large acres of land left in the City and when these areas turn over, it will be thousands of acres at once instead of a few acres at a time.

Ryan explained how UDOT uses this information to forecast traffic - new Census information, household travel survey information, and information from the County will be used to project future forecasts for population and employment.

8 Discussion: RPO Long-Range Plan goals and projects review [00:01:14]

Julie reviewed the process to develop the RPO Long-Range Plan. Jory mentioned the fall workshops WFRC is organizing and mentioned that there will be coordination with Morgan County about hosting one for the County and RPO. He will coordinate with UDOT and is looking to schedule one in the coming weeks.

9 Call for agenda items and meeting adjournment [00:01:28]

Ty asks if the RPO meeting can be held during the day. WFRC will arrange a new meeting time via Doodle Poll or through Wanda. The meeting was then adjourned.