

**Minutes**  
Regional Growth Committee  
Meeting of January 21, 2016

A meeting of the Regional Growth Committee was held on Thursday, January 21, 2016 in the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Commissioner John Petroff**, RGC Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Commissioner Petroff welcomed committee members and guests and introductions were made. The following were in attendance:

**RGC Members and Alternates Present**

Abby Albrecht	Utah Transportation Coalition/SL Chamber
Mark Allen	Mayor, Washington Terrace City
Len Arave	Mayor, North Salt Lake City
Ron Bigelow	Mayor, West Valley City
Wade Bitner	Commissioner, Tooele County
Steve Call	FHWA
Don Carroll	Mayor, Fruit Heights City
Reid Ewing	University of Utah
Ted Eyre	Mayor, Murray City
Gary Gygi	Mayor, Cedar Hills
Jeff Harris	UDOT
Brent Marshall	Mayor, Grantsville City
Dan R. McConkie	Commissioner, UDOT Commission
John Petroff	Commissioner, Davis County
Christine Richman	ULI
Matt Sibul	UTA
Wilf Sommerkorn	UAC
Derk Timothy	Mayor, Bluffdale City
Gary Uresk	Woods Cross City
Troy Walker	Mayor, Draper City
Logan Wilde	Councilman, Morgan County
Cherie Wood	Mayor, South Salt Lake City

**RGC Representatives and Others Present**

Ryan Beck	Envision Utah
Roger Borgenicht	Assist, Inc.
Travis Campbell	Representative Bishop's office
Adam Gardiner	Salt Lake County
Robin Hutcheson	Salt Lake City
Hal Johnson	UTA
Linda Johnson	Breathe Utah
Jim McNulty	UTA
Justin Morgan	FHWA
Kathy VanDame	Breathe Utah
Will Wright	Clinton City
Nicole Zinnanti	Assist, Inc.
Wayne Bennion	WFRC
Julie Bjornstad	WFRC
Andrew Gruber	WFRC
Ned Hacker	WFRC
Val John Halford	WFRC

Scott Hess	WFRC
Jory Johner	WFRC
Pam Jorgensen	WFRC
Ted Knowlton	WFRC
Jon Larsen	WFRC
Callie New	WFRC
Suzie Swim	WFRC
Muriel Xochimitl	WFRC

Mayor Karen Cronin, Commissioner James Ebert, and Charles Henderson were excused from the meeting.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Brent Marshall moved that the minutes of the Regional Growth Committee meeting held October 15, 2015 be approved as written. Mayor Derk Timothy seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Opportunity for Public Comment**

Kathy VanDame commented on an article that Linda Johnson (in attendance at the meeting) wrote in December complimenting the Wasatch Front Regional Council for being responsible to the constituents they represent and being a model of governance perhaps for other agencies.

### **Action: Regional Transportation Plan 2015-2040 amendment**

Every four years the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) prepares and adopts a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) to identify needed transportation improvements. WFRC adopted the current RTP in May 2015. While the RTP receives considerable review before being formally adopted, changing circumstances across the Region may warrant periodic change to the RTP. A process has been formally adopted by WFRC to consider periodic revisions.

Jory Johner, WFRC, reported that at the October 15, 2015 Regional Growth Committee meeting, WFRC staff presented the proposed Amendment from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), the Utah Transit Authority (UTA), and Layton City to the 2015-2040 RTP. He said the WFRC staff analyzed the potential financial implications of including these projects in Phase 1 and determined there are adequate resources available and potential cost savings from a reprioritization of projects.

The formal public comment period took place from November 2 to December 1, 2015 with no comments being submitted. The WFRC staff, UDOT, UTA, and Layton City representatives presented the amendment to the Regional Growth Committee's Ogden-Layton Technical Advisory Committee and the Salt Lake County PlanTac on December 16, 2015.

Mr. Johner, then gave an overview of the Projects noting that the detailed information for each project was included in Committee member packets and also discussed in detail at the October 15, 2015 meeting. The Amendment includes these projects:

- UDOT proposed modifications—**US-89 Improvements in Davis County.**
- UTA proposed modifications—**Ogden-Weber State University Corridor Transit Line.**
- Layton City proposed modifications—**Gordon Avenue from 1600 East to US-89.**
- Other proposed additions—**I-15 Improvements in Salt Lake, Davis and Weber Counties.**

Comments during the discussion of the Amendment include:

- Concern with capacity projects being considered and included.

- Great strides have been made in the last 20 years with a move to transit and active transportation. However, concern that capacity projects continue to move forward.
- Concern that the capacity projects continue to contribute to air pollution through vehicle emissions and increased growth in the region.

Detailed information regarding the Amendment may be viewed on the WFRC website at [http://wfrc.org/new\\_wfrc/index.php/2015-rtp/rtp-amendments](http://wfrc.org/new_wfrc/index.php/2015-rtp/rtp-amendments).

**ACTION:** Mayor Derk Timothy moved to recommend to the Regional Council that the proposed Amendment to the 2015-2040 Regional Transportation Plan as presented, be approved. Mayor Mark Allen seconded the motion and the motion passed with Reid Ewing voting in opposition.

**Information: 2015-2040 Unified Plan**

Utah's Unified Transportation Plan, the first of its kind nationally, is founded upon principles of good stewardship. The Plan identifies the balanced investments in road, transit, bike and pedestrian infrastructure that are needed across Utah to stay ahead of future growth and take care of the infrastructure investments we have already made.

Muriel Xochimitl, WFRC, discussed the updated and recently published 2015-2040 Utah's Unified Transportation Plan. All of the state's transportation agencies and metropolitan planning organizations worked together to develop the Unified Transportation Plan. Each agency used shared growth projections, time horizons and financial assumptions to assemble complementary plans that integrate seamlessly with the Unified Plan.

The completion of the 2015-2040 Utah's Unified Transportation Plan is the culmination of a four-year process that has involved extensive input from city and county officials across the region, transportation partners, residents, and other interested stakeholders. The Plan is based on technical analysis and local community, partner and stakeholder input that reflects community and regional values.

Ms. Xochimitl said that in addition to the document, the first-ever Unified Plan website was recently launched and the complete document can be found at [www.utahunifiedplan.org](http://www.utahunifiedplan.org).

**Information: Regional Transportation Plan 2019-2050**

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is the region's shared blueprint for regional transportation. The process to develop the RTP spans four years and is a collaborative effort of communities, stakeholders, and transportation agencies (among others) that is convened and technically support by the Wasatch Front Regional Council. The 2019-2050 RTP will extend a decade beyond the current plan and is therefore a significant opportunity to address and plan for transportation needs in the region.

Ted Knowlton, WFRC, reported that the draft objectives of the 2019-2050 RTP Process include:

1. Engage communities, partner agencies, stakeholders and public in the planning process.
2. Coordinate regional transportation with local land use considerations.
3. Enhance planning for active transportation and integrate it with road and transit planning.
4. Utilize a performance-based approach to planning, including a focus on economic performance.

Mr. Knowlton discussed the first phase (first 18 months) of the development of the 2019-2050 RTP. He said that in the first phase, transportation and land development scenarios will be explored in distinct sub-areas of the metropolitan area. During Round 1 of the small-area scenario development staff will: 1) gather ideas, 2) develop Scenario 1, Scenario 2, and Business as usual, and 3) select a Scenario.

Mr. Knowlton encouraged Committee members to continue to provide any feedback they may have to the 2019-2050 RTP development process to staff. He also noted that the Small Area Meeting information, i.e. date, time, location, etc. is being finalized and will be distributed in the next few weeks.

### **Information: Active Transportation 2016 Priorities**

The Active Transportation Committee began in 2012. The Committee's primary focus has been and will continue to be bicycle and pedestrian improvements. The ATC reports directly to the Regional Growth Committee (RGC) and the Transportation Coordination Committee (Trans Com). Membership is broad and includes representation from cities and counties along the Wasatch Front, UDOT, UTA, the Utah Department of Health, Bike Utah, and Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG).

Scott Hess, WFRC, reported that most recently the ATC has been focused on identifying performance measures and priorities that will be included in the RTP for active transportation. The spreadsheet included in Committee member packets has seven ATC Priority Categories: 1) Plans/Policies/Programs; 2) Design/Engineering/Implementation; 3) Costs/Funding; 4) Benefits; 5) Education/Outreach; 6) Organizational Structure; and 7) Other. He then discussed the draft Proposed Performance Measures for each category and highlighted the importance of implementation and education.

Mr. Hess said the next steps will include refinement of the performance measures and tracking and reporting on them. He noted that through clearly identified priorities and trackable performance measures WFRC and its partner agencies will be able to identify regional success in active transportation over time.

### **Information: FAST Act overview (new federal transportation legislation)**

On December 4, 2015, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was signed into law. The FAST Act authorizes \$305 billion in federal funding for highway, transit and rail programs over five years from Federal fiscal years (FY) 2016 through 2020. The law provides modest increases in funding that essentially maintain current levels of spending when adjusted for inflation. FAST largely maintains the basic structures of current law. Early estimates project approximately \$1.9 billion in federal funding directed to Utah through FY2020.

### **Other Business**

- Hal Johnson, UTA commented that UTA will have enhanced bus service to the legislature this year. Some routes will change for the duration of the legislative session and will depart every 15 minutes from the Fifth South TRAX station. A formal announcement will be published soon.
- Christine Richman, ULI, said that ULI Utah is holding a breakfast meeting on February 11 to review a survey they did in November about community satisfaction and what people look for in terms of connectivity and amenities within their community. Please contact her if you would like to participate.

The next meeting of the Regional Growth Committee will be held on **Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

*A recoding of this meeting may be found on the WFRC website at [www.wfrc.org](http://www.wfrc.org), under Committees, Regional Growth Committee, 2016 meetings.*