



WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES
Of
The Regional Growth Committee
May 16, 2019

A meeting was held on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC), 41 North Rio Grande Street, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES	IN ATTENDANCE
Jeff Scott, Member (Box Elder County)	
Kenneth Braeger, Alternate (Box Elder County)	
Len Arave, Member (Davis County)	X
Rick Earnshaw, Alternate (Davis County)	
Jim Talbot, Member (Davis County)	
John Pohlman, Alternate (Davis County)	
Tina Cannon, Member (Morgan County)	X
Robert McConnell, Alternate (Morgan County)	
Jenny Wilson, Member (Salt Lake County)	X
Ron Bigelow, Alternate (Salt Lake County)	
Dawn Ramsey, Member (Salt Lake County)	
Aimee Winder Newton, Member (Salt Lake County)	X
Jim Riding, Member (Salt Lake County)	X
Jackie Biskupski, Alternate (Salt Lake County)	
Cherie Wood, Alternate (Salt Lake County)	
Troy Walker, Alternate (Salt Lake County)	
Kurt Bradburn, Alternate (Salt Lake County)	
Dave McCall, Member (Tooele County)	X
Kendall Thomas, Alternate (Salt Lake County)	X
Mark Allen, Member (Weber County)	
Norm Searle, Alternate (Weber County)	X
Robert Dandoy, Member (Weber County)	X
Jim Harvey, Alternate (Weber County)	
OTHER APPOINTED MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES	
Meghan Holbrook, Member, Utah Transportation Commission	
Dannie McConkie, Alternate, Utah Transportation Commission	
Beth Holbrook, Member, Utah Transit Authority Board	X
Carlton Christensen, Alternate, Utah Transit Authority Board	
Erin Mendenhall, Member, Utah Air Quality Board	X
Robert Grow, Member, Envision Utah	
Ari Bruening, Alternate, Envision Utah	
NON-VOTING MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES	
Teri Newell, Member, UDOT	
Andrea Olson, Alternate, UDOT	X
Laura Hanson, UTA	X
Levi Roberts, Alternate, UTA	
Bryce Bird, Air Quality Board	
Ivan Marrero, FHWA-Utah Division	
Steve Call, Alternate, FHWA-Utah Division	
Gary Uresk, Utah League of Cities and Townes	
Wilf Sommerkorn, Utah Assn of Counties	X
Jenny Rees, Mayor, Mountainland Association of Governments	
WFRC APPOINTMENTS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS	
Brian Wilkinson, Utah Urban Lands Institute	X
Evan Curtis, GOMB	
Abby Osborne, Utah Transportation Coalition	
Reid Ewing, University of Utah	X

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT (in alphabetical order):
Ryan Beck, Envision Utah
Roger Borgenicht, UBET
Evelyn Everton, Sandy City

Mikala Jordan, Salt Lake County Planning
Daniel Quintanilla, Salt Lake County Planning
Stan Summers, Box Elder County
Matt Taylor, Cottonwood Heights
Russell Weeks, Salt Lake City Council Staff
WFRC Staff: Julie Bjornstad, LaNiece Davenport, Katie Gerard, Bert Granberg, Andrew Gruber, Ned Hacker, Val John Halford, Scott Hess, Jory Johner, Ted Knowlton, Mary Pratt, Nicole Proulx, Suzie Swim, Megan Townsend, Lauren Victor, Hugh Van Wagenen, Chad Worthen

1. **Welcome and Introductions [Recording 00:12].** Mayor Dawn Ramsey was excused from this meeting; Councilmember Tina Cannon, Vice Chair, facilitated the meeting that was called to order at 9:52 AM. Round-table introductions were made. Andrea Olson is newly appointed from UDOT.
2. **Action Item: Approve Minutes from the March 21, 2019 meeting [Recording 00:03.11].** With no discussion or changes, Chair Cannon entertained a motion to accept the minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kendall Thomas, and seconded by Councilmember Dave McCall, that the minutes of March 21, 2019 be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Opportunity for Public Comment [Recording 00:03:43].** Chair Cannon welcomed public comment and opened for discussion. Roger Borgenicht, Co-Chairman of Utahns for Better Transportation, spoke of concerns and variables with the RTP research, referencing a key recommendation on Page 10. Funding is more for roadway projects than for transit dollars, and not having available revenue. He mentioned there are 15 projects that need funding. Chair Cannon advised there will be further discussion on the agenda items, and that adoption of the RTP will allow for changes made within the next four years. Andrew Gruber, WFRC, addressed the imbalance of investment, and indicated that the financial constraint has been a longstanding issue.
4. **Action Item: Wasatch Choice Vision—2019-2050 Regional Transportation Plan [Recording 00:11:27].** The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), based on the Wasatch Choice 2050 Vision and Goals, is adopted every four years. It includes economic development, land use, and long-range regional transportation planning projects. At today’s meeting, WFRC staff is recommending adoption of its final phase by RGC, the steering committee. Jory Johner, WFRC, reviewed the Regional Transportation Plan and its process, summarizing its investments, projected impacts and benefits. There was a web site overview and discussion of why the plan is important and how to implement it.

As part of the process, in October 2018, the WFRC Council released the drafted RTP for public comment, with a second one held between February and March 2019. There will be a minimum 20-year review based on federal goals and working with local committees to determine needs by 2050, including an air quality budget that can be amended within four years. The four-year process is based on changes of needs and funding with input from regional workshops.

Mr. Johner said that Julie Bjornstad, WFRC, provided data and impact based on the following performance measurements: (1) engagement efforts; (2) performance measures; (3) coordination with land use and transportation; (4) identification of new centers and timing; (5) interactive GIS mapping with the real estate market; and (6) phased bike projects based on needs. There was discussion on the following:

- a. Limited financial resources. WFRC has been working on a unified financial model with statewide partners, developing growth rates on projects, the prioritization process on goals, and identifying new funding sources. The financially constrained plan is broken into phases: Phase 1 will be for 2019-2030; Phase 2 will be from 2031-2040; and Phase 3 will cover 2041-2050.
- b. Needed unfunded projects. Approximately 400 roads were highlighted, with needs prioritized into four categories: (1) roadway; (2) transit; (3) active transportation; and (4) regional centers and job areas.

Professor Reid Ewing expressed concerns about whether a better balance could be obtained between highways and transit with the flexibility and funding provided. Ted Knowlton, WFRC, indicated that funding and sources are specific; and flexible funding is more challenging to work with. WFRC is working with the legislature. Mr. Knowlton stressed that with changes the four-year plan can be modified. It also would be at the direction of the council rather than WFRC staff. There was further discussion on vehicle miles traveled versus vehicle hours traveled as a future performance measure. Commissioner Erin Mendenhall also asked about issues and funding with clean air. Mr. Knowlton addressed the issue of how people move with travel demands, with options that become costly.

Mr. Johner introduced “Visions & Plans” on the WFRC website, then walked through an interactive map within each region. It includes projects in all three phases with estimated costs. There was more roundtable discussion of issues in various counties to explore in the future.

Mr. Johner further talked about travel planning, implementation, and land use transportation plans as funding sources. For ongoing vision and updates of projects, contact Megan Townsend, WFRC.

Chair Cannon entertained a motion that RGC recommend to the Wasatch Front Regional Council adoption of the final-phased and financially constrained 2019-2050 Regional Transportation Plan; and approve the Air Quality Conformity Memorandum Number 39 determination with the clause that it can be amended.

A motion was made by Councilmember Winder and seconded by Mayor Jim Riding that recommendation of adoption of the final phased and financially constrained 2019-2050 RTP be made to WFRC and approve the Air Quality Conformity Memorandum Number 39. Motion carried with one dissent by Reid Ewing.

Timeline and next steps for Wasatch Choice 2050 Vision include:

- An endorsement made by WFRC in May 2018
- Vision poster, website update, tools, resources, community visits, etc. begin in August 2019
- Utah’s 2019-2050 Unified Transportation Plan (4th plan) is due in October 2019

5. **Informational: WFRC resources to assist growth planning, SB34 (Affordable Housing Modifications), and SB136 (Transportation Governance Amendments) Implementation**

[Recording 1:04:57]. Mr. Gruber spoke about two important legislative bills: SB34 that was passed in 2019 and as it relates to SB136 on Transportation Governance passed the previous year. SB136 authorizes additional funds for transit and local needs. Both determine how and where development happens relative to transportation infrastructure, which is what WFRC is addressing. SB136 was discussed. This bill will modify prioritization criteria for state transportation funding, including local

land use; improved local access to jobs and other opportunities; and connect to project major centers. This has created the Transit Transportation Investment Fund (TTIF).

Julie Bjornstad of WFRC discussed resources that WFRC is making available to communities to implement both Senate bills. Specifically, seeking input on data resources, analyses, and planning resources. For more information on summary of Bills, go to www.wfrc.org. Highlights for SB34 included the following resources (also found on website that will be further updated):

- a. Data. Population for household and employment projections (2015-2050)
- b. Regional long-range transportation plans. Consider when developing local transportation plans.
- c. Major transit existing and planned transit investment corridors and stations. This includes known fixed guideway transit stations.

Growth Forecast. The RTP is built on growth projections. By Y2050, Utah will reach a population of 5 million. That compares to 3 million in Y2015.

Planning Technical Assisting Program. This is in partnership with Salt Lake County, UDOT and UTA. On Saturday, May 18, a three-hour training will be provided on transportation and land use connection on SB135 and SB34 resources.

A comment was made concerning the future planning and growth for SB136. The grid system on the roads has maximized the ability to have connectivity.

6. **Informational: Large-Scale Projects Update [Recording 01:18:55]**. Ted Knowlton provided brief updates on projects across the region. Mayor Cannon also shared an update on the Southwest Valley Vision.

- Inland Port Authority. Mr. Knowlton is working with the chair of a technical committee. They are gathering ideas for different scenarios (such as maximizing rail versus truck usages) and exploring how changes might unfold. Rounds of meetings are held, with one scheduled for June. Scenarios will be ready by the end of the summer.
- Southwest Salt Lake County Vision. Mayor Jim Riding of West Jordan talked about a proposed development of over 900 acres at Olympia Hills which has caught the attention of six mayors that have helped with funding, as well as WFRC.
- West Davis Corridor. Andrea Olson, UDOT, said that construction of four lanes on SR93 will begin in 2020 for completion in 2024.
- Mountain View Corridor. Ms. Olson announced that Phase I will be completed when the road is built from 4100 South to 2100 South at SR201 (first on outer lanes). The north and south ends are yet unfunded. Transit service is being reevaluated between phases.
- I-15 Statewide. Ms. Olson said that a study has been done between the Arizona and Idaho borders. UDOT is starting to develop a scope and schedule, especially how to implement a plan for urbanized areas.
- Ogden-Weber State Bus Rapid Transit. Laura Hanson, UTA, said that with local funds depleted, it will receive help from the Federal government for its final phase.
- Point of the Mountain Transit. An analysis study will soon be done by UTA between the east and west sides of I-15.

- Mid-Valley Bus Rapid Transit. UTA has identified it, and 30% of work is done (such as environmental impact and operations).
- Davis-Salt Lake Connector. Mayor Arave said this has been a 20-year process and getting developed. UDOT is selecting a consultant on an environment study and funding.
- Other brief updates on large projects by UDOT and UTA. There is groundbreaking for a much-needed bus garage; and there are increasing services to recreational areas (such as the Wasatch Canyons).

7. **Other Business [Recording 01:30:42]**. There was none.

8. **Upcoming Dates and Events:**

- a. Utah Land Use Institute, What Now? Practical Workshops on 2019 Legislation (Housing and Referenda): *May 18, 2019*
- b. Utah Economic Summit: *May 17, 2019*
- c. AASHTO Spring Meeting, Park City: *May 20-23, 2019*
- d. The next meeting for the Regional Growth Committee is scheduled for *Thursday, August 15th at 9:45 AM, at WFRC*.

9. **ACTION ITEM: Adjournment [Recording 01:31:24]**. With no further business, Chair Cannon entertained a motion for adjournment.

A motion was made by Councilmember Erin Mendenhall, and seconded by Mayor Jim Riding, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM.

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A recording of this meeting, agenda, and presentations may be found at www.wfrc.org, under Committees, Regional Growth Committee, 2019 meetings.