



WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES
Regional Growth Committee
 January 16, 2020

A meeting was held on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at the offices of the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC), 41 North Rio Grande Street, in Salt Lake City, Utah. The following were present:

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES	IN ATTENDANCE
Jeff Scott, Member (Box Elder County)	Yes
Len Arave, Member (Davis County)	Yes
Jim Talbot, Member (Davis County)	Excused
John Pohlman, Alternate (Davis County)	Yes
Tina Cannon, Member (Morgan County) <i>Vice Chair</i>	Yes
Jenny Wilson, Member (Salt Lake County)	Yes
Ron Bigelow, Alternate (Salt Lake County)	Yes
Dawn Ramsey, Member (Salt Lake County) <i>Chair</i>	Excused
Aimee Winder Newton, Member (Salt Lake County)	Excused
Kendall Thomas, Alternate (Salt Lake County)	Yes
Debbie Winn, Member (Tooele County)	Excused
Mark Allen, Member (Weber County)	Excused
Norm Searle, Alternate (Weber County)	Yes
Robert Dandoy, Member (Weber County)	Excused
Jim Harvey, Alternate (Weber County)	Yes
OTHER APPOINTED MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES	
Meghan Holbrook, Member, Utah Transportation Commission	No
Kevin Van Tassell, Alternate, Utah Transportation Commission	Excused
Beth Holbrook, Member, Utah Transit Authority Board	Yes
Carlton Christensen, Alternate, Utah Transit Authority Board	No
Erin Mendenhall, Member, Utah Air Quality Board	Excused
Robert Grow, Member, Envision Utah	No
Ari Bruening, Alternate, Envision Utah	Excused
Ryan Beck, Envision Utah	Yes
NON-VOTING MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES	
Ben Huot, Member, UDOT	Yes
Natalie Gochnour, Utah Transportation Commission, UDOT	Yes
Laura Hanson, UTA	Yes
Bryce Bird, Air Quality Board	No
Ivan Marrero, FHWA-Utah Division	Yes
Steve Call, Alternate, FHWA-Utah Division	Yes
Gary Uresk, Utah League of Cities and Townes	No
Jenny Rees, Mayor, Mountainland Association of Governments	Yes
WFRC APPOINTMENTS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS	
Ibi Guevara, Utah Urban Lands Institute	No
Evan Curtis, GOMB	Yes
Abby Osborne, Utah Transportation Coalition	No
Reid Ewing, University of Utah	Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT (in alphabetical order):
Michael Barido, Roger Borgenicht, Chris Chesnut, Kate Davies, MSD; Evelyn Everton, Sandy City; Russ Fox, Draper City; Ryan Perry, S.L. Co.; Russell Weeks, SLC Council staff; WFRC Staff: Christy Dahlberg, LaNiece Davenport, Katie Gerard, Bert Granberg, Andrew Gruber, Ned Hacker, Jory Johner, Kayla Kinkead, Ted Knowlton, Nikki Navio, Mary Pratt, Alex Roy, Megan Townsend, and Hugh Van Wagenen

- 1. Introductions and Consent Agenda [Recording 00:05].** Mayor Dawn Ramsey was excused from today's meeting. Vice-Chair Tina Cannon conducted the meeting that was called to order at 9:52 a.m. Roundtable introductions were made. Natalie Gochnour from the Utah Transportation Committee was welcomed as a new member with RGC.

a. Action Item: Approve Minutes from the last meeting [Recording 00:04:15]. With no discussion or changes, Vice Chair Cannon entertained a motion to accept the minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jim Harvey, and seconded by Beth Holbrook that the Minutes of October 10, 2019 be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Informational: Utah Roadmap. Natalie Gochmour, Associate Dean and Director of the Eccles School of Business, shared a brief summary of The Utah Roadmap with a handout from the Kem Gardner Policy Institute. A Technical Advisory Committee is comprised of nearly 40 participants, including Andrew Gruber and Kip Billings from WFRC. Serious health effects of air emissions and pollutants were described, including concentration of carbon dioxide—which reached a historical high peak in November 2019 in the past 800,000 years. Recommendations for creating better air were outlined with seven mileposts. There was a legislative policy statement on climate change and quality growth.

Mayor Wilson and others expressed interest in becoming more engaging, as air quality solutions is a large issue. By not taking action, progress and efforts made so far will flatten, as rural committees are also experiencing similar growth issues.

Also, it is substantially cost effective to use solar-generated electricity. A motto with the spirit of the Utah Roadmap is: “Utah can lead.”

2. **Public Comment [Recording 0:26:40].** Vice-Chair Cannon opened the meeting for public comments. There were none.
3. **Informational: Introduce the new Utah’s Unified Transportation Plan 2019 to 2050 [Recording 0:26:50].** The Unified Plan was created with WFRC and all statewide and regional transportation agencies. This Plan is unique in the country and has received national recognition as state-of-the-practice. It was finalized in late 2019; and at today’s meeting, Andrew Gruber and key staff from UDOT and UTA provided an overview of its content. New challenges in transportation for Utah, as the nation’s fastest growing state, were discussed. A new version is posted at www.wfrc.org, which replaced the Unified Transportation Plan 2015-2040. The Plan is also presented through www.unifiedplan.org which includes all project details, financial information, projected outcomes, and an interactive map.

Comments were made by Councilmember Tina Cannon and Mayor Jenny Wilson that there is a strong need to educate and share with the public in order to make the Plan effective. And with the change of new Committee members, it is crucial to be proactive to make the efforts worth it. It was suggested that this item be placed on the agenda at the RGC meeting in March for further discussion.

4. **Informational: Discuss long range planning objectives and initiatives for WFRC [Recording 0:47.30].** Ted Knowlton outlined a planning strategy discussion. WFRC staff receives guidance from RGC for its long-range planning with the Wasatch Choice 2050 Vision and the 2019-2050 Regional Transportation Plan. Therefore, at today’s meeting, the Committee was asked to discuss key initiatives and objectives to cover over the next few years. As WFRC works with member local governments and organizations, staff previously received feedback on the following items that need to be focused on: (1) Implementation of the Wasatch Choice 2050 Vision; and (2) address new and emerging technologies, external focuses, and the uncertainty of the future in its plans. The Regional Growth Committee was asked if there are additional ways to work together to achieve desired local outcomes. Also, how to better prepare for new technologies and changing economy.

Committee members are not only asked to give feedback and continued guidance, but to bring work-scope with them to the RGC meeting in March 2020. Mr. Knowlton said one goal is to begin

work to further understand external forces (such as technologies, markets, and demographics). Vice-Chair Cannon summarized that the Plan will be adjusted as needed.

- 5. Informational: Consider modifications to Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Amendment Process [Recording 01:11:30].** Jory Johner and WFRC staff provided information for the Committee to review, and is asking for feedback. The RTP, adopted every four years, is a component of the Unified Plan and Wasatch Choice 2050. It was last adopted by WFRC in March 2016, with a new adoption cycle in 2020.

Possible changes to the current RTP Amendment Process were discussed, including periodic adjustments between adoption cycles. At the next meeting in March 2020, staff will bring proposed changes to the Regional Growth Committee for technical considerations and approval for the next adoption.

- 6. Legislative Preview [Recording 01:26:55:].** LaNiece Davenport briefly provided local election results for the region. With legislation commencing on January 27, Ms. Davenport outlined what WFRC will be tracking, including Senate Bill 39 (affordable housing). Senate Bill 2001 (Tax Reform) will be voted on, which might affect transportation and local government. More information will be presented at the next RGC meeting. During the 2020 Legislation, RGC members and key partners will receive a weekly Email on updates; and beginning January 30, 2020 will be invited to attend a meeting every Thursday at 8:00 a.m. in the Senate Building.

- 7. Other Business.** The next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2020. For upcoming events, please refer to Agenda.

- 8. Video: Overview of Utah Open and Public Meetings Act [Recording 01:31:40].**

ACTION: Due to lack of time, this was tabled. Because it is required by law to be shown at the beginning of the year,

A motion was made by Natalie Gochnour, and seconded by Jeff Scott that the overview of the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act be viewed at the next RGC Meeting on March 19, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9. Adjournment.**

ACTION: Vice-Chair Cannon entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion was made by Jim Harvey, and seconded by Norm Searle, that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

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A recording of this meeting, agenda, and presentations may be found at: www.wfrc.org under Committees, Regional Growth Committee, 2020 meetings.