



# WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL

## REGIONAL GROWTH COMMITTEE AGENDA

March 17, 2022

A meeting of the Regional Growth Committee will be held on **Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 9:30am via Zoom:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84304324802?pwd=VmNNcE1STjdNMHBjTnpDRmhoSmFFQT09>

Meeting ID: 843 0432 4802 Passcode: 305185

One tap mobile [+13462487799](tel:+13462487799),84304324802#

The agenda will be as follows:

1. **Introductions and Consent Agenda**  
**ACTION:** [Minutes](#) of the RGC Meeting held January 20, 2022
2. **Public Comment**
3. **[Legislative Session](#) outcomes and Wasatch Choice**
  - a. Transportation
  - b. Growth and Housing
4. **[ACTION:](#) Wasatch Choice and the 2023-2050 Regional Transportation Plan Update**
5. **[New Research:](#) How Utahns link growth, housing, and equity to their underlying values**
6. **[Transportation](#) and Land Use Connection 2022 Project Awards**
7. **Other Business / Adjournment**  
Next Meeting: May 19, 2022

### Upcoming Events:

- *WFRC Council Meeting, March 24*
- *Joint Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC), March 31*
- *WFRC Active Transportation Meeting, April 13*
- *WFRC Trans Com Meeting, April 14*
- *Utah Bike Summit, April 19*
- *RGC TAC / PlanTAC Meetings, April 20*
- *Golden Spoke Bike Ride, May 14*

Informational materials can be located on WFRC's website at [www.wfrc.org](http://www.wfrc.org).

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Wasatch Front Regional Council is choosing to continue holding all public meetings electronically, without an anchor location, until it is deemed safe enough to hold public meetings in person.

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Wasatch Front Regional Council ha elegido seguir manteniendo todas las juntas públicas electrónicamente, sin un lugar de anclaje, hasta que sea considerado lo suficientemente seguro para tener juntas públicas en persona

Jeff Silvestrini, Chair  
Mayor, Millcreek

Jeff Scott, Vice Chair  
Commissioner, Box Elder County

Mark Allen  
Mayor, Washington Terrace

Dirk Burton  
Mayor, West Jordan

Mike Caldwell  
Mayor, Ogden

Robert Dahle  
Mayor, Holladay

Jim Harvey  
Commissioner, Weber County

Scott Jenkins  
Commissioner, Weber County

Erin Mendenhall  
Mayor, Salt Lake City

Mike Newton  
Commissioner, Morgan County

Kristie Overson  
Mayor, Taylorsville

Joy Petro  
Mayor, Layton

John Pohlman  
Mayor, Fruit Heights

Mark Shepherd  
Mayor, Clearfield

Bob Stevenson  
Commissioner, Davis County

Troy Walker  
Mayor, Draper

Scott Wardle  
Councilmember, Tooele County

Jenny Wilson  
Mayor, Salt Lake County

Aimee Winder Newton  
Councilmember, Salt Lake County

Senator Wayne Harper  
Utah State Senate

Representative Mike Schultz  
Utah House of Representatives

Carlton Christensen  
Utah Transit Authority

Carlos Braceras  
Utah Department of Transportation

Dawn Ramsey  
Utah League of Cities & Towns

Lorene Kamalu  
Utah Association of Counties

Ari Bruening  
Envision Utah

Laura Hanson  
State Planning Coordinator

Andrew Gruber  
Executive Director



WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**Regional Growth Committee**  
 January 20, 2022

A meeting was held on Thursday, January 20, 2022, via Zoom connection, due to the safety restrictions put in place by the Utah Governor's Office, in response to continuing COVID-19 concerns. The following were present:

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT		OTHER APPOINTED MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES	
Dennis Bott, Member (Brigham City)	no	Natalie Gochmour, Member Utah Transportation Commission	no
Jeff Scott, Alternate (Box Elder County)	no	Kevin Van Tassell, Alternate Utah Transportation Commission	yes
John Pohlman, Member (Fruit Heights)	yes	Beth Holbrook, Member Utah Transit Authority Board of Trustees	yes
Kendalyn Harris, Alternate (Bountiful)	no	Carlton Christensen, Alternate Utah Transit Authority Board of Trustees	yes
Brian Horrocks, Member (North Salt Lake)	yes	Erin Mendenhall, Member Utah Air Quality Board	no
Brian Vincent, Alternate (West Point)	no	Ari Bruening, Member Envision Utah	no
Matt Wilson, Member (Morgan County)	no	Ryan Beck, Alternate Envision Utah	no
Mike Newton, Alternate (Morgan County)	yes	<b>NON-VOTING MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT</b>	
Jenny Wilson, Member (Salt Lake County)	yes	Ben Huot, Member Utah Department of Transportation	yes
Marcus Stevenson, Alternate (Midvale)	no	Andrea Olson, Alternate Utah Department of Transportation	yes
Dawn Ramsey, Member (South Jordan) <b>Chair</b>	yes	Russ Fox, Member Utah Transit Authority	yes
Richard Snelgrove, Member (Salt Lake County)	yes	Kerry Doane, Alternate Utah Transit Authority	no
Monica Zoltanski, Member (Sandy)	yes	Bryce Bird, Staff Representative Utah Air Quality Board	no
Lorin Palmer, Alternate (Herriman)	no	Ivan Marrero, Member FHWA-Utah Division	no
Dan Peay, Alternate (Magna)	no	Jennifer Elsen, Alternate FHWA-Utah Division	yes
Cherie Wood, Alternate (South Salt Lake)	no	tbd Utah League of Cities and Towns	-
Brett Hales, Alternate (Murray)	no	Dina Blaes Utah Association of Counties	no
Kendall Thomas, Member (Tooele County)	yes	Julie Fullmer, Vineyard Mayor Mountainland Association of Governments	no
Ed Hansen, Alternate (Tooele City)	no	<b>WFRC APPOINTMENTS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS</b>	
Jim Harvey, Member (Weber County)	yes	Robert Schmidt / Ibi Guevara, Utah Urban Lands Institute	no
Dale Fowers, Alternate (Hooper)	no	Laura Hanson, GOPB	no
Robert Dandoy, Member (Roy) <b>Vice Chair</b>	yes	Ginger Chinn, Utah Transportation Coalition	no
Gordan Cutler, Alternate (Uintah)	no	Reid Ewing, University of Utah	yes

<b>OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT, including WFRC Staff:</b>	
Kelly Lund, FHWA	WFRC Staff:
Steve Sheilds, Herriman	Jory Johner, Ted Knowlton, Andrea Pearson, Andrew Gruber,
Jake Young Salt Lake Co	Rosie Hernandez, Bert Granbert, Miranda Jones Cox,
Mary De Loretto, UTA	Megan Townsend, Mikala Jordan, Mike Sobczak, Nikki Navio,
Kim Bell, Sandy City	Bill Hereth, Hugh Van Wagenen, Christy Dahlbert,
Wilf Summerkorn	Julie Bjornstad, Lauren Victor, Matthew Silski

**1. Introductions and Consent Agenda [00:00:05]**

Mayor Dawn Ramsey, RGC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:31am. Introductions were made via roll call. **ACTION [00:03:52]** Mayor Ramsey entertained a motion to accept the minutes from October 21, 2021. A motion was made by Councilmember Kendall Thomas, and seconded by Commissioner Jim Harvey that the minutes be approved. Motion passed unanimously. **[00:26:34]** Mayor Ramsey welcomed the new and returning members of the Regional Growth Committee.

**2. Public Comment [00:04:50]**

Mayor Ramsey opened the meeting for public comments. There were none.

**3. Utah Legislative Session overview [00:05:15]**

WFRC Executive Director Andrew Gruber, and Government Affairs Manager Miranda Jones Cox provided an overview of the Legislative Session, which began Tuesday, January 18 and runs through Thursday, March 3. WFRC members can keep themselves apprised of notable legislation by subscribing to WFRC's [Government Affairs](#) emails which are frequently distributed during the session. Members may also reference WFRC's [bill tracker](#), found on WFRC's website, and/or provide input on these pieces of legislation by attending our weekly policy meetings on Thursday mornings at 8am at the Utah State Capitol building.

**4. 2023-2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update [00:27:16]**

WFRC Senior Transportation Planner Julie Bjornstad and Active Transportation Planner Hugh Van Wagenen provided an update on development of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the transportation element of the [Wasatch Choice Vision](#), by leading a discussion focused on two agenda items:

a. **Phasing criteria (prioritization of projects):** How and what criteria should be used in prioritizing roadway, transit, and active transportation projects within the 2023-2050 Regional Transportation Plan?

b. **Considering the local context for regional projects:** How should the local and adjacent context affect the design and function of regional transportation facilities?

WFRC Deputy Director Ted Knowlton stated that these conversations about phasing and context-based design will continue at future RGC meetings and meetings of the RGC Technical Advisory Committee, which is composed mainly of staff planners from local governments in the Region. City planners are encouraged to attend the TACs throughout the year, as WFRC relies heavily on their input at the meetings.

**5. ACTION: Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Amendment Process Update [001:04:14]**

WFRC Long Range Planning Director Jory Johner outlined proposed, recommended, modest technical modifications to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) amendment process. Changes to be considered represent a refinement to broader structural changes proposed, based on additional feedback from transportation partners.

Proposed process modification 1: Consultation with the Interagency Consultation Team (ICT)  
Proposed process modification 2: Align project types within each amendment level to the air quality conformity determination project lists

**ACTION [01:13:15]** Mayor Ramsey entertained a motion to recommend that the Wasatch Front Regional Council approve the modifications to the process for amending the Regional Transportation Plan. A motion was made by Commissioner Jim Harvey, and seconded by UTA Board Trustee Carlton Christensen. Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Other Business [01:13:15]**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2022. Mayor Ramsey mentioned upcoming WFRC meetings through February, as well as the New Member Orientation, set for February 24.

**7. Video: Overview of Utah Open and Public Meetings Act [01:15:38]**

With no further business, Mayor Ramsey stated that since Utah State law requires that elected officials serving on committees such as those of the Wasatch Front Regional Council receive training regarding the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act, an 8-minute video would now be shown in order to comply with this requirement. **ACTON: [01:36:51]** Mayor Ramsey asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting upon completion of the training video. UTA Board Trustee Carlton Christensen made a motion to adjourn upon the conclusion of the video, and Mayor John Pohlman seconded. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:58am

*A recording of this meeting, as well as meeting materials, may be found on the WFRC website at [www.wfrc.org](http://www.wfrc.org)*

**DATE:** March 17, 2022  
**AGENDA ITEM:** 3  
**SUBJECT:** Legislative Session outcomes and Wasatch Choice  
**PREPARED BY:** Miranda Jones Cox, Government Affairs Manager

At the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) Regional Growth Committee meeting, the committee will be briefed on and discuss the outcomes of the 2022 General Legislative Session, focusing on key transportation, housing, and growth items.

**BACKGROUND:**

Another 45-day marathon legislative session came to a close on Friday, March 5th when the legislature adjourned *sine die* just before midnight. It was another unprecedented year for the state fiscally, with a near \$26 billion dollar budget appropriated (see the legislature's Budget [Quick Facts](#) and [Summary](#)), and 513 passed bills. This was a significant session, both in terms of notable investments and substantive legislation, to address Utah's nation-leading growth and advance our region's shared [Wasatch Choice Vision](#).

Specifically, the legislature appropriated a \$1.2 billion multi-modal transportation infrastructure package with funding for roads, transit, and active transportation. We are thrilled that this package is consistent with the [shared principles for infrastructure investment](#) developed by WFRC and its partners. The legislature also put significant dollars into housing affordability and planning for growth with funding for technical planning assistance and a statewide conversation on growth.

These funding items complement the dozens of bills passed to help to accommodate Utah's growth, housing, and transportation needs, including HB462 which makes various changes to moderate income housing plan requirements and requires station area planning, as well as SB140, which provides a limited expansion of the HTRZ tool to TRAX and BRT. You can find our 2022 Legislative Session Wrap Up [HERE](#), and can refer to our full [WFRC 2022 Bill Tracker](#) that shows which bills passed and which did not.

At the meeting, we will discuss how this funding and legislation tie with the Wasatch Choice vision, and how we can incorporate these new requirements into our work moving forward.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for information only.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Miranda Jones Cox, 436-691-3043, [miranda@wfr.org](mailto:miranda@wfr.org)

**DATE:** March 8, 2022  
**AGENDA ITEM:** 4  
**SUBJECT:** Wasatch Choice and the 2023-2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update  
**PREPARED BY:** Julie Bjornstad, Senior Transportation Planner

At the March 17th Regional Growth Committee (RGC) meeting, WFRC staff will provide an update on development of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) — the transportation element of the [Wasatch Choice Vision](#). This will include:

- 1) **Phasing Criteria.** Continuing the conversation from January, staff will outline the criteria and weighting for use in prioritizing roadway, transit, and active transportation projects within the 2023-2050 Regional Transportation Plan based on input from multiple sources. In conjunction with this item a motion to endorse the criteria is requested from RGC.
- 2) **Finalized Preferred Scenario** - which represents the package of transportation projects and land development assumptions that will act as the basis for the next RTP. WFRC staff have reviewed comments on projects from Wasatch Choice Workshops and stakeholder outreach in collaboration with UDOT, UTA, and follow up with local communities.
- 3) **Considering the local context for regional projects.** Next steps on exploring the context sensitivity of regional projects.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The [Wasatch Choice Vision](#) is our shared framework to prepare our communities and Region to address the challenges of growth, prepare for uncertainties of the future, and preserve and enhance quality of life for generations to come. Through the Wasatch Choice Vision, WFRC coordinates regional transportation planning with local land use and economic development efforts. The regional transportation element of the Wasatch Choice Vision is the officially adopted RTP. The RTP is adopted every four years – the next RTP will be adopted in May 2023 and will address transportation needs through the year 2050.

##### **1) Phasing criteria**

A central part of the development of the RTP is prioritizing roadway, transit, and active transportation projects by *need* and then financially constraining projects by *anticipated available revenue*. A performance-based planning framework rooted in the [ten Wasatch Choice Vision goals](#) forms the basis of the RTP prioritization process.

Through the development of proposed phasing criteria, which are included with this memo, WFRC staff have been coordinating with our transportation partners and have worked to align state transportation funding evaluation criteria and WFRC federal transportation funding evaluation criteria to our long-range transportation planning efforts. Proposed phasing criteria was introduced at January RGC meeting and discussed at the February meetings of the RGC Technical Advisory Committee and the Active Transportation Committee. WFRC then refined the proposed phasing criteria based on feedback from transportation partners and committees.

##### **2) Finalized Preferred Scenario**

WFRC staff presented a draft Preferred Scenario at eight Fall Wasatch Choice Workshops in October and November with over 600 comments taken from local community elected officials and staff. Staff presented the draft Preferred Scenario to key stakeholders, such as private sector groups and major landowners, and held two additional workshops, one with community

organizations and one with federal, state, water, and school district agencies, over the following months. WFRC also sought public input through an online public comment map and received over 70 comments. Staff has worked closely with UDOT, UTA, and followed up with local community staff to address comments and now has a Final Preferred Scenario.

### **3) Considering the local context for regional projects**

As part of the RTP process, WFRC and its partners have been exploring policy approaches to complement traditional transportation projects. One approach is how roadway design might consider variation in local land use and economic development context, such as the difference between a community's downtown and an industrial area. At the January RGC, WFRC staff introduced this topic to seek initial guidance. Next steps will be discussed building on that initial guidance.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The WFRC staff requests that the Regional Growth Committee make a motion to endorse the phasing criteria.

Suggested motion language:

"I move that the Regional Growth Committee endorse the phasing criteria in substantially the form presented."

#### **ATTACHMENT:**

2023-2050 RTP Phasing Criteria

#### **CONTACT PERSON:**

Julie Bjornstad, 801-363-4250 ext. 1105, [julieb@wfr.org](mailto:julieb@wfr.org)

# Regional Transportation Plan Needs-Based Phasing Criteria

The WFRC in consultation with UDOT, UTA, and local communities, prioritizes transportation projects into 10-year periods, also known as “phases.” The three phases of the 2023-2050 RTP will be Phase 1: 2023 to 2032, Phase 2: 2033 to 2042, and Phase 3: 2043 to 2050.

Phasing is done both for when a project is anticipated to be needed (referred to as “need-based phasing”), as well as when a project is anticipated to be funded (referred to as “financially constrained phasing”). Phasing of the RTP projects is guided by the Wasatch Choice 2050 regional goals. This is done by translating the goals into specific criteria to help WFRC understand how a project advances these goals.

This document includes the working phasing criteria and weighting for active transportation, roads, and transit projects.



## Active Transportation Project Phasing Criteria

WASATCH CHOICE GOAL	CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Safe, user-friendly streets	Improves safety	Project reduces level of traffic stress for an active transportation user	15
	Addresses latent bicycle demand	Project is in an area of high existing and potential active transportation demand	15
Quality transportation choices	Improves network connectivity	Project connects to or crosses an existing active transportation facility	20
	Improves connections to transit	Project accesses existing or planned transit station/stop	10
	Improves connections to shared mobility services	Project is in a bike share or micro-mobility service area	5
Livable and healthy communities	Supports the Wasatch Choice for 2050 and revitalizes the economy	Project improves access to Wasatch Choice centers	10
	Improves health outcomes	Project is in an area with high or very high Utah Department of Health’s Health Improvement Index	5
Access to economic and educational opportunities	Improves access to opportunities	Project improves access to jobs and households that can be accessed in defined travel shed	10
	Improves access to opportunities in Equity Focus Areas	Project improves access to jobs and households that can be accessed in defined travel shed from Equity Focus Areas	5
	Improves access to and within Equity Focus Areas	Project improves access to Equity Focus Areas	5
			<b>100</b>







## Roadway Project Phasing Criteria

WASATCH CHOICE GOAL	CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING*		
			WITHIN COMMUNITY	COMMUNITY TO REGION	REGION TO REGION
Access to economic and educational opportunities	Improves access to opportunities	Project improves access to jobs and households that can be accessed in defined travel shed	15	15	15
	Improves access to opportunities in Equity Focus Areas	Project improves access to jobs and households that can be accessed in defined travel shed from Equity Focus Areas	5	5	0
	Supports affordable transportation costs	Project provides multi-modal options to Equity Focus Areas	10	5	0
	Enhances freight mobility	Project is located on a facility with a high truck volume percentage	5	10	15
Manageable and reliable traffic conditions	Reduces vehicle hours of delay	Project reduces vehicle hours per mile and delay (for existing roads) <b>OR</b>	10	15	20
		Project increases connectivity or provides redundancy in the network (for new roads)			
Safe, user-friendly streets	Improves safety	Project is on facility with low usRAP star rating and would reduce serious and/or fatal crashes	15	10	10
Fiscally efficient communities and infrastructure	Improves state of good repair	Project replaces or improves deficient bridge	5	5	5
		Project replaces or improves deficient pavement	5	5	5
	Advances previous investments	Project is included in a completed or underway environmental study	5	5	5
Livable and healthy communities	Supports the Wasatch Choice Vision centers	Project improves access to or within a Wasatch Choice Vision center	10	10	10
Quality transportation choices	Supports transportation choices	Project is compatible with an existing or planned transit route	5	5	5
		Project is compatible with an existing or planned active transportation facility	10	10	10
			<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

\*Projects will be categorized in three scales based on intent of the project: Within Community, Community to Region, Region to Region. All projects will be scored with the same criteria and methodology, but the weighing of criteria will change between the three scales. Examples of each scale are below.

- a. Within Community: These projects serve more localized needs or are within one or two communities such as 900 East in Salt Lake County or Country Hills Drive in Weber County.
- b. Community to Region: These projects tie communities to the region and serve both localized and regional needs such as Redwood Road or SR-193.
- c. Region to Region: These projects serve regional trips that traverse multiple communities such as Mountain View Corridor or US-89 in Davis County.





## Transit Project Phasing Criteria

WASATCH CHOICE GOAL	CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Quality transportation choices	Supports existing ridership	Project has high ridership per mile with base year socioeconomic data	15
	Supports projected ridership	Project has high ridership per mile with future year socioeconomic data + project meets ridership threshold	15
Access to economic and educational opportunities	Improves access to opportunities	Project improves access to jobs and households that can be accessed in defined travel shed	15
	Improves access to opportunities in Equity Focus Areas	Project improves access to jobs and households that can be accessed in defined travel shed from Equity Focus Areas	15
Livable and healthy communities	Improves access to activity-dense areas	Project is in an area with high jobs and residents per square mile within 1/4 mile of stations	15
	Improves access to existing amenities	Project is proximate to existing amenities (healthcare, schools, grocery stores, government offices, parks)	10
Manageable and reliable traffic conditions	Addresses areas of traffic congestion	Project is on or adjacent to corridor with high levels of vehicular delay	5
Safe, user-friendly streets	Improves access to transit	Project is in an area with high walk network connectivity	8
Fiscally efficient communities and infrastructure	Advances previous investments	Project is included in a completed environmental or corridor study and/or project right-of-way is preserved	2
			<b>100</b>



**DATE:** March 10, 2022  
**AGENDA ITEM:** 5  
**SUBJECT:** **New Research: How Utahns link growth, housing, and equity to their underlying values**  
**PREPARED BY:** Ted Knowlton, Deputy Director

At the March 17th meeting, the Regional Growth Committee (RGC) will discuss new research by Envision Utah that seeks to understand how Utahns link their experiences with growth and housing to their enduring underlying values. This type of research helps us better understand Utahns' various attitudes towards growth and has been used in the past to inform planning processes and related communications throughout Utah.

Ari Bruening, CEO of Envision Utah will introduce the findings for discussion.

**BACKGROUND:**

Envision Utah has used values research to guide regional visioning and strategic planning for over 20 years. The first study, "Charting a Course for Utah's Future" was completed in May 1997. The most recent update was conducted in 2014. Since that time the state has witnessed massive economic and population growth.

The priority of this new research is to quantitatively identify the values and priorities underlying the issues and attributes of growth. A scientific survey with samples representing the entire population as well as key subgroups has been central to meeting this goal.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for information only.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Ted Knowlton, 801-363-4250 ext. 1201, [ted@wfrfc.org](mailto:ted@wfrfc.org)

**DATE:** March 17, 2022  
**AGENDA ITEM:** 6  
**SUBJECT:** **Transportation and Land Use Connection Awards 2022**  
**PREPARED BY:** Megan Townsend, Community and Economic Development Director

At the Regional Growth Committee (RGC) meeting, the Transportation and Land Use Connection (TLC) program 2022 awards will be announced. This year, the program will fund 15 new projects for a total amount of about \$1.5 million.

**BACKGROUND:**

The [Transportation and Land Use Connection Program](#) (TLC) is a partnership between WFRC, Salt Lake County, UDOT, and UTA that supports local governments in implementing their [Wasatch Choice Regional Vision](#). The TLC program provides technical assistance to local communities to help them achieve their goals and plan for growth. The TLC goals consist of the following:

- Maximize the value of investment in public infrastructure.
- Enhance access to opportunities.
- Increase travel options to optimize mobility.
- Create communities with opportunities to live, work, and play.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for information only.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Megan Townsend, 801-404-8925, [mtownsend@wfrc.org](mailto:mtownsend@wfrc.org)