

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council Board
Thursday, October 13, 2005
SRTC Office - Intermodal Center – Third Floor
Spokane, Washington

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Spokane Regional Transportation Council was called to order by Vice-Chair, Mr. Gary Schimmels, at 1:37 pm.

2. Roll Call/Record of Attendance

Board Members in Attendance:

Dennis Hession, City of Spokane Council Member
Keith Metcalf, WSDOT - Eastern Region (Alternate)
Todd Mielke, Spokane County Commissioner
Mark Richard, Spokane County Commissioner
Brenda Redell, Spokane Transit Authority Representative
Gary Schimmels, City of Spokane Valley (Vice Chair)
Joe Shogan, City of Spokane Council Member
Dale Stedman, Washington State Transportation Commission

Board Members Absent:

Amy Jo Sooy, Small Towns Representative (Chair)
Bill Brannon, Private Sector Representative (Alternate)
Pat Dalton, Legal Counsel

Guests Present:

Bob Brueggeman, TTC
Ross Kelley, Spokane County
Don MacDonald, City of Cheney
Tom Arnold, City of Spokane
John Mercer, City of Spokane
Val Melvin, City of Spokane
Patrick Malone

Staff Present:

Glenn Miles, Transportation Manager
Eve Nelson, Sr. Transportation Planner
Jessica Hill, Transportation Planner
Tiffany Brooks, Pub. Info/Ed Coord.
Judy Hazard, Administrative Assistant

3. Approval of September Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Dennis Hession made a motion to approve the September 8, 2005 meeting minutes. Mr. Joe Shogan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. Committee Reports.

a) Transportation Technical Committee Report

Mr. Bob Brueggeman reported on the last TTC meeting. They received updates on the VISUM model and Bridging the Valley. The members made a motion to forward the RFP for Regional Concurrency and the Transportation Enhancement Program Priority List on to the Board.

5. Administrative Matters.

a) Approval of September Vouchers

Mr. Dennis Hession made a motion to approve the payment of the September, 2005 voucher list in the amount of \$136,623.38. Mr. Joe Shogan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

b) Approval to Release Regional Transportation Concurrency RFP

A Preliminary Draft of a Request for Proposals to conduct a study assessing the feasibility of the regional transportation concurrency system in Spokane was brought before the TTC at their September meeting. They made a motion to move the RFP forward to the SRTC Board for their approval.

The Board was advised that there are a lot of different parties having separate discussions regarding this same topic. They agreed that it was a good idea to have just one model for regional concurrency. Mr. Miles advised that in Part 3 of the Growth Management Act, SRTC is tasked with responsibility for regional concurrency. The TTC agreed that the SRTC and TTC would come forward with a regional concurrency process and framework which would then be taken back to the individual jurisdictions giving them a blueprint of a regional concurrency process that has been developed by all parties. Mr. Miles suggested that a stakeholder group be formed as a part of this so all the groups interested in this topic can be involved through their representative on the stakeholder group.

Mr. Mark Richard made a motion to approve the Request for Proposals to Conduct a Study Assessing the Feasibility of the Regional Transportation Concurrency System in Spokane County. Mr. Todd Mielke seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

6. SRTC Board Member Comments.

Mr. Joe Shogan asked when the next Call for Projects will be. He was informed it would probably be spring of 2006. Mr. Miles said our area can expect a 14% decrease in STP Urban funds for the next several years.

Mr. Mark Richard would like to see the region come together and speak with one voice to the State delegation regarding projects this area sees as being important for all. He would also like to see this region act together with the west side of the state to address Initiative 912. Mr. Miles indicated the Board can, with the help of the local jurisdictions and WSDOT, identify which projects would be removed from the Transportation Improvement Program in the event Initiative 912 passes. The Board and SRTC cannot editorialize but only state facts regarding any issue of this type. Mr. Stedman stated his organization, Spokane Area Good Roads Association, is putting together an outreach group whose purpose is to find a way to advance the region's impact on federal and state transportation budgets with a primary focus on the North Spokane Corridor.

Mr. Keith Metcalf gave an update on WSDOT's construction schedule for I-90 and the North Spokane Corridor.

Mr. Mark Richard was interested in learning more about Downtown Spokane Partnership's concerns regarding the proposed lane/on-ramp/off-ramp restrictions during the reconstruction of the viaduct. WSDOT will be working on the viaduct for approximately 6 months. The eastbound ramps at Monroe and Lincoln will be shut down in 2006 and the westbound ramps will be shut down at Monroe and Lincoln in 2007.

7. Transportation Manager's Report.

Mr. Miles reported the State Auditor completed SRTC's audit for 2004. There are no audit findings or corrective actions for the 13th year.

A traffic engineering position will be filled in the traffic management center who will be made available to all the jurisdictions for the development of traffic control plans and things that deal with traffic operations. SRTC/SRTMC has completed development of the traffic engineering position job description. This has gone before the SRTMC Board for their review and comments.

Intermountain Demographics are now under contract with SRTC and will be in Spokane next week to start interviews to obtain population and employment data. By the end of December they anticipate having some initial forecasts.

SRTC is scoping with PTV (software company providing VISUM modeling software) to bring the next generation travel demand model up to full steam. They can have the traditional 4-step model done by April and an activity based model by July. A scope and fee should be developed by next month's Board meeting. They did the same scope of work for the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization.

SRTC is coordinating with STA and the KMPO Board to discuss establishing a new transit service between Coeur d'Alene and Spokane Airport. STA is looking at submitting a mobility grant application. The state has \$20 million available for mobility grants, which are only eligible for highly congested corridors. The mobility grant can only be used for peak hour service. Kootenai County is looking at using FTA 5307 funds to provide the off-peak service.

8. Old Business.

a) Bridging the Valley

An Interlocal Agreement was signed between WSDOT, City of Spokane, and SRTC. WSDOT has assumed the lead agency for the final design and through right-of-way of the Havana Street Crossing. HDR will be receiving the Notice to Proceed next week. SRTC has met with several legislative staffers regarding the new provision in the SAFETEA-LU Bill dealing with the \$20 million per year per state available for railroad relocations. The 2006 Appropriations Bill will probably not address this funding but the 2007 Bill definitely will. The Governor's offices are supportive of the Bridging the Valley project being the project to utilize the \$20 million in the State of Washington and Idaho as there are not too many projects as far along as this one is to use the funding. This would provide \$40 million per year, which would mean completion of the project in seven years.

b) 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program

A public comment period was held from September 9 to October 11, 2005 with no comments received. A public meeting was held September 29th to receive public input on the TIP and Air Quality Conformity Review.

Mr. Dale Stedman made a motion to approve the 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Dennis Hession seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

9. New Business.

a) Enhancement Program Project Priority List

On July 29th 2005, SRTC released a \$2.4 million call for projects under the transportation enhancement process. SRTC received 16 applications requesting a total of \$3.9 million. SRTC staff scored projects using criteria and guidelines that were outlined in the application and workshop, which were then presented to the TTC. The TTC conferred and is recommending funding projects on the spreadsheet provided. Five remaining projects may be submitted to the statewide transportation enhancement competition where \$8.4 million is available. The SRTC Board was asked to approve the list of submitted projects below.

Applications Meeting SRTC Target Allocation

Chamber of Commerce & Spokane County	Ped. and Bicycle Education & Safety Program
City of Spokane	Hazel Creek Ped. Path & Bikeway w/Sidewalk
Spokane County	Ben Burr Pathway
City of Spokane	Perry Street Enhancements-Phase 2
Airway Heights & WSDOT	Highway 2 Pedestrian Crossing
City of Spokane	West Broadway Street Enhancements
Spokane County	Midway/Little Spokane Pathway
City of Cheney & WSDOT	SR 904 Street Enhancements
City of Fairfield & WSDOT	Main and Tickner Ped. Safety
City of Spokane Valley & WSDOT	44th Avenue Pathway
City of Spokane	Hillyard Transportation Museum

Applications for Submittal to Statewide Transportation Enhancement Competition

WSDOT	Harvard Pedestrian Bridge
Spokane County	Hatch Road Pathway (North Spokane)
WA State University & City of Spokane	Downtown Bike Parking
City of Spokane	Hazel Creek Wetland
City of Spokane	Hazel Creek Pond

Mr. Dale Stedman made a motion to approve the prioritized list of Transportation Enhancement projects. Mr. Todd Mielke seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

b) Performance Appraisal

The Board agreed to set up a sub-committee in order to carry out the annual performance appraisal for Transportation Manager, Glenn Miles.

Mr. Mark Richard made a motion to authorize the SRTC Chair, Ms. Amy Jo Sooy, to establish the sub-committee. Mr. Dale Stedman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

10. Public Comments.

No public comments were made at this time.

11. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the Spokane Regional Transportation Council Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

JUDY HAZARD
Recording Secretary