

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council
Transportation Technical Committee
June 21, 2006
SRTC Office - Intermodal Center - Third Floor
Spokane, Washington

1. Call to Order.

Don MacDonald, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

2. Roll Call/Record of Attendance.

Tom Arnold	City of Spokane
Bob Brueggeman	Spokane County
Ron Edgar	SCAPCA
Mike Gribner	WSDOT
Ross Kelley	Spokane County
Don MacDonald (Chair)	City of Cheney
John Mercer	City of Spokane
Katherine Miller	City of Spokane
Inga Note	City of Spokane Valley
Harold White	WSDOT
Steve Worley.....	City of Spokane Valley

Guests/Alternates.

Mark Rohwer.....	WSDOT
Latisha Hill.....	Avista

Staff.

Ed Hayes	Sr. Transportation Planner
Jessica Hill	Transportation Planner
Anna Ragaza-Bourassa	Air Quality Transportation Planner
Jeff Selle	Manager Transportation Relations
Judy Hazard.....	Administrative Assistant

3. Approval of May Meeting Minutes.

Ross Kelley made a motion to approve the June 21, 2006 meeting minutes. Mike Gribner seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. Technical Member Comments.

Ross Kelley said the bids Spokane County has been receiving for all their projects have been very high. The Geiger Spur is at 30% design and the County has sent a preliminary package to the Surface Transportation Board in Washington DC for their approval.

Inga Note reported the Valley City Council voted four to three for changing Broadway (Pines to Sullivan) from four lanes to three. This project started yesterday.

Steve Worley said the Argonne Road project (I-90 to Montgomery) has gone to bid this week; the work will be done at night.

Bob Brueggeman indicated the County's carryover projects are wrapping up and the new big projects are going out to bid.

Katherine Miller reported on the status of the Fish Lake Trail project.

Tom Arnold gave an update on the City of Spokane's summer projects and the Park Place annexation. He thanked all who have helped with the Kendall Yards project. They hope to go to hearing on that project by July 27th.

Mike Gribner said WSDOT has readvertised the third North Spokane Corridor project, which should open in about two weeks. They have two or three Agreements in process with the City of Spokane and Spokane County. They appreciate their help with getting certain things done.

Harold White reported the viaduct project is going well. The traffic flow is better than expected.

Ron Edgar stated SCAPCA has a new Director, Bill Dameworth, who started work yesterday. There has been concern about the CO numbers on Third Avenue due to the viaduct project. He indicated that so far the readings are all okay.

Don MacDonald said the TIP will be presented to the Cheney City Council next week. Cheney is also experiencing a large impact from the high asphalt cost.

Ed Hayes said Glenn Miles received a memo from Community Trade and Economic Development regarding capital facilities planning. They indicated training is available for communities to help them develop their capital facility plans. This email and its attachment will be forwarded to all the TTC members and the region's small towns for their input on whether they are interested in this training being brought to this area.

5. Old Business.

a) Bridging the Valley

The Idaho State Historic Preservation office signed off on the cultural resource inventory. That and the categorical exclusion will now be sent to Federal Highway Administration for signature. This will put the Bridging the Valley project in a position to begin right-of-way acquisition. As of the last legislative update no federal money that has been set aside for this project is on there yet. Tom Arnold asked for an update on the Havana Street portion of the Bridging the Valley project as it impacts when the City of Spokane will do the Freya Street project. He will bring this question back to the July TTC meeting.

b) Regional Concurrency Update

The Regional Concurrency workshop was held last week. The presentations given by Bucher, Willis & Ratliffe (BWR) are now posted on SRTC's website. Ed Hayes asked the jurisdictions for their questions and/or comments on the presentations or the workshop. At this time, BWR is putting together their findings on the public involvement. The next phase is the political and socio/economic climate. If anyone has pressing issues they would like to bring up (anonymously or otherwise) on this next phase also they can contact SRTC or BWR.

c) Travel Demand Model Progress Report

Mr. Ed Hayes reported they are just finishing up with the Travel Demand Model putting the final details in it. Edits have been made which have been sent to SRTC by the jurisdictions. Completion of the base model is still anticipated by the end of June.

6. New Business.

a) Global Gateway Concept Presentation

Ms. Latisha Hill of Avista Corporation has been working on the concept of a global gateway for the Inland Northwest and has given a presentation regarding this subject to a number of groups. The presentation was given to the SRTC Board at this month's meeting and TTC requested they give the presentation at this meeting.

Their presentation was on a new conceptual plan that is designed to enhance the region's transportation infrastructure in a fashion that will promote economic development in eastern Washington and northern Idaho. The Global Gateway presentation takes a hard look at the region's existing infrastructure and the international air cargo market. The presentation begs the question as to whether this region could, in fact, develop an inland port to increase the amount of international air cargo that we are already beginning to see at Spokane International Airport. At the request of Senator Patty Murray's office, the SRTC has

submitted a federal request for \$500,000 to do a full-scale feasibility study to determine if an international Global Gateway is a good fit for Spokane.

b) Future Agenda Item re Funding

Harold White requested a future agenda item be the discussion of timelines for projects already approved for CMAQ funding.

Ross Kelly also asked for an agenda item relative to federal project funding.

7. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

JUDY HAZARD
Recording Secretary