

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council
Transportation Technical Committee
April 18, 2007
SRTC Office - Intermodal Center - Third Floor
Spokane, Washington

1. Call to Order.

Tom Arnold, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

2. Roll Call/Record of Attendance.

Tom Arnold (Chair)	City of Spokane
Bob Brueggeman	Spokane County
Mike Frucci	WSDOT
Mike Gribner	WSDOT
Gordon Howell	Spokane Transit Authority
Roger Krieger	City of Deer Park
Don MacDonald	City of Cheney
John Mercer	City of Spokane
E. Susan Meyer	Spokane Transit Authority
Katherine Miller	City of Spokane
John Pederson	Spokane County
Harold White	WSDOT
Todd Woodard	Spokane International Airport
Steve Worley (Vice Chair)	City of Spokane Valley

Guests/Alternates.

Matt Zarecor	Spokane County
Ken Knutson	SRTMC
Scott Egger	City of Spokane
Louis Meuler	City of Spokane
Paul Kropp	Moran Prairie Neighborhood Assn.

Staff.

Glenn Miles	Transportation Manager
Stacy Lehman	Pub. Info/Ed Coord.
Debbie LaCombe	Transportation Planner
Judy Hazard	Administrative Assistant

3. Approval of March Meeting Minutes.

Steve Worley made a motion to approve the March 21, 2007 meeting minutes. Don MacDonald seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. Old Business.

a) Concurrency Update

A presentation of the findings from the Regional Concurrency Study will be given to the City of Spokane Planning Commission and GMA Steering Committee in May and arrangements are being made to meet with the Homebuilders and other groups in the near future. The City of Spokane Valley has asked the presentation be given to both their City Council and Planning Commission. The SRTC Board has indicated they would like to see a specific timeline in the presentations to the various groups to indicate the next steps in the process.

The next step would be to retain consultant services to put together a draft Interlocal Agreement that would create a regional concurrency system.

b) Street Standards

Matt Zarecor distributed a memorandum regarding preliminary recommendations and a request to suspend the subcommittee. He indicated the subcommittee has met several times, tasked with coming up with common road standards for the joint planning areas (JPA's) of Spokane County. This task was broken into two components, pavement design and road elements.

Pavement Design: The subcommittee unanimously agreed that it would not be practical to develop a minimum road section for all of the JPA's. It was agreed that arterials should always have a pavement design. Local access/private roads may require a pavement design depending upon the native subgrade material and drainage characteristics.

Road Elements: The subcommittee discussed the various road elements for arterial and local access/private roads. There was a consensus with regard to all of the road elements with the exception of road width and sidewalk separation for local access/private roads.

The City of Spokane Valley and the City of Airway Heights are in the process of developing new road standards. The subcommittee requests their meetings go into suspension until the cities have adopted their new road standards. They will then reconvene and work to develop common standards for the road elements in the JPA's.

Mr. Steve Worley made a motion to suspend the TTC street standards subcommittee until the City of Spokane Valley and the City of Airway Heights get closer to developing their new road standards. Mr. Mike Gribner seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

c) East Valley/West Rathdrum Prairie Transportation Study

An agency scoping meeting was held approximately two weeks ago regarding what they would like to see in the study. A public open house was held last week at Central Valley High School. About 30 people attended, many of those people being developers. The next step will be developing a scope of work that will be brought back to the TTC before being taken to the Board. The scope for this study has been included in the draft UPWP so work can begin on it once the work program is approved by both the Board and then by WSDOT. It is anticipated the study will last about 6-8 months.

5. Technical Member Comments.

Todd Woodard gave an update on the construction at the airport. He indicated there is approximately \$20 million of projects ongoing. The new tower will be going on-line August 27th.

Mike Gribner gave a legislative update on the funding situation of the North Spokane Corridor.

Harold White spoke about the bridge parts being moved through Spokane for Tacoma which has been a news item of late.

Susan Meyer stated STA will be having a public hearing at their Board meeting tomorrow night on their proposed service enhancements. This includes airport service and reworking of their service to Geiger and the Sunset Hill businesses, express service from the Hastings Park & Ride Lot to downtown on Monroe, expanded parking in Medical Lake and Liberty Lake, and earlier service on three routes to get to the plaza earlier. The STA Board will make a decision next month.

Bob Brueggeman gave an update on the County's upcoming construction season. Bids are high again this year. A news conference took place today wherein the County Commissioners notified the public they have presented the City of Spokane Valley with a counter-offer on the transfer of ownership of the former Milwaukee right-of-way.

Katherine Miller indicated TIB is doing a review of their applications. She thought perhaps SRTC would want to look at their applications also. Glenn Miles stated reviews are done by SRTC in 5-year cycles and the last one was in 2003 but they can be looked at whenever the group would like. This would be looking at them from the vantage point of the application questions and their relation to the funds being

made available. Looking at the applications outside of any call for projects allows all agencies to focus on the intent of the application without having to focus on the money aspect. Fiscal year 2008 (starting in July) would be a good time to review them. Ms. Miller asked if she should bring this up again for the July Agenda and Glenn indicated SRTC Staff would place it on the agenda. Ms. Miller also indicated she has learned about some potential changes in TIB's funding arrangements. Basically, TIB has refocused their applications to get away from funding projects that were developer/growth related. TIB instead is focusing on supporting economic development and corridors that connect economic areas.

Don MacDonald said Cheney has finally been able to award their Arterial Street Preservation project that was funded in the last STP Call for Projects. It was necessary to scale it back from the original project. Also, they are moving forward on their SR 904 enhancement project. A request was submitted to WSDOT earlier this year to extend the timeline for obligating their construction funding and are waiting to hear if they have received the extension. Mr. Miles indicated he believes Cheney's project is on the list to extend.

Roger Krieger indicated Deer Park is looking at getting their preservation project underway this summer. Deer Park's utility tax was doubled this year in order to generate revenue for priority preservation work within the City. They also have an analysis going out for a possible roundabout at Crawford Avenue and Weber. TIB has a Call for Preservation Projects (\$500,000 statewide) for small cities under 5,000 to do preservation work. The project must be in the city's budget already and a letter is due to TIB by May 1st.

Tom Arnold thanked Spokane County for the work they have done on getting the region wide Construction Map out. He said all of the City of Spokane's construction projects are also on their website at www.spokanestreets.org. Also, the City of Spokane is now providing a monthly update of the status of projects and plats, etc. on their website www.spokaneengineering.org.

Gordon Howell stated STA is having a public hearing tomorrow night regarding the Transit Development Plan (annual 6-year plan) with Board adoption in May. They will also be giving a presentation on bus rapid transit, which will be a general overview for their Board. This is just a refresher for their board members and is not for them to consider.

John Pederson reported that the area planning directors have been meeting weekly for the past couple of months regarding the Urban Growth Area.

Glenn Miles distributed a draft Comp Plan Amendment Checklist to the members. This documents shows the information to be provided by jurisdictions when submitting proposed Comp Plan amendments and requesting modeling be done. The TTC members were asked to review and comment on the form.

It has been established that most jurisdictions are upgrading to Synchro 7. This is the latest release of the software. Val Melvin, SRTC staff, has been in contact with the owner of Synchro and he is willing to do a training course in Spokane which will cost about \$450-\$500 per person. This is assuming the WSDOT training center can be used for this purpose. Mr. Miles asked the jurisdictions to advise SRTC if they are interested in signing up for this training and if so, how many from each jurisdiction would be attending. The first opportunity will be provided to local jurisdictions and if there is space it will be made available to consultants on a first come, first served basis.

Mr. Miles reviewed the area-wide maintenance agreement with PTV America on Visum training. He found that SRTC has the option of sending one person to the national users group meeting or having one day of free training in Spokane. It is SRTC's intent to take advantage of the one day of free training and add another day of training to it and have jurisdictions bring in their priority project and work with the trainer on it. No date has been set as yet.

6. New Business.

a) Presentation on ITS Architecture Plan

Mr. Harold White, WSDOT, gave a presentation on the Spokane Regional Transportation Management Center (SRTMC or TMC) Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Implementation Plan. The update started over a year ago and was just completed last month. The SRTMC members are the City of Spokane, Spokane County, SRTC, STA, the City of Spokane Valley, and WSDOT. An operating board gives direction and makes decisions for the TMC. The original ITS Implementation Plan was developed in 2000 with a brief update in 2004. This update provides an update to the existing Plan and identifies projects based on the region's needs and operational issues. The new Plan also documents what has been done to date and what its future goals and expectations are.

The TTC members were told that if they see any problems on the highways to call the TMC at 343-6401 and report it 24/7.

Mr. White gave an overview of the TMC's website at www.srtmc.org. This website has streaming video which is in real time. There is also construction updates for all the local agencies. A Request for Proposals went out for the updating/improving of the website. The consultant is being chosen at this time from the proposals received.

b) 2008-2009 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Every two years SRTC is required to provide a Unified Planning Work Program to WSDOT. This provides the basis for SRTC's scope of work for federal grant funds. The members were provided with a draft copy of the UPWP and have been asked for comments prior to sending it on to the Board for approval. The state/federal agency

review meeting took place a week or so ago.

There is an amendment Mr. Miles must make to the UPWP on page 9 that needs to be removed at this time. STA and SRTC are working on a new Memorandum of Understanding and would like to have that updated before the narrative is inserted into that section.

Mr. Miles gave an overview of the different sections of the UPWP for the members. He indicated visualizations are now required in both the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

c) Federal Functional Classification Request

SRTC received a request from Spokane County and the City of Deer Park requesting a Functional Classification Request for S. Colville Avenue – Dalton Road from US 395 north to Crawford Avenue. This road traverses both Spokane County and City of Deer Park and accommodates traffic commuting between north Spokane County (including the City of Deer Park) and the Spokane Urban Area. They asked SRTC to consider this classification request to a rural major collector.

Bob Brueggeman made a motion to submit the Functional Classification request from Spokane County and the City of Deer Park to change the classification of S. Colville Avenue – Dalton Road from US 395 north to Crawford Avenue to a rural major collector. Harold White seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

7. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:53 pm.

JUDY HAZARD
Recording Secretary