

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council
Transportation Technical Committee
September 19, 2007
SRTC Office - Intermodal Center - Third Floor
Spokane, Washington

1. Call to Order.

Steve Worley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:37 pm

2. Roll Call/Record of Attendance.

Bob Brueggeman	Spokane County
Ron Edgar	Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency
Mike Gribner (Vice Chair)	WSDOT
Bill Hemmings	Spokane County
Gordon Howell	STA
Roger Krieger	Small Town Representative
Don MacDonald	Small Town Representative
Katherine Miller	City of Spokane
Inga Note	City of Spokane Valley
Steve Worley (Chair)	City of Spokane Valley

Guests and Alternates.

Judy Lorenzo	WSDOT
Kathy Murray	WSDOT
Paul Kropp	

Staff.

Val Melvin	Traffic Engineer
Stacy Lehman	Pub. Info/Ed Coord.
Jeff Selle	Manager of Transportation Relations
Deborah Napier	Transportation Planner II
Judy Hazard	Administrative Assistant

3. Approval of August Meeting Minutes.

Ron Edgar made a motion to approve the August 15, 2007 meeting minutes. Bob Brueggeman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. Old Business.

a) Regional Transportation Concurrency Update

SRTC staff has just about completed presentations on regional concurrency to the elected officials. SRTC Board member, Micki Harnois is arranging a meeting of small town officials to receive the presentation/workshop. Once the presentations are complete, regional concurrency will be returned to the Growth Steering Committee for a recommendation. The next step will be to form a stakeholder group.

b) East Valley/West Rathdrum Prairie Transportation Study Update

SRTC has just completed the new model and the numbers are looking very good.

c) Comp Plan Amendment Checklist (Training Status)

Presentations have been made to the elected officials and jurisdictions. The next step is to present to the homebuilders, development community, etc. explaining to them the purpose, need and boundaries for the checklist.

d) STA Cooperative Street & Road Projects Update

Additional project applications have been received from Airway Heights, Cheney, Medical Lake, and WSDOT. These projects have been scored by the scoring committee, however, Gordon Howell, STA's committee member on the committee, could not be present at that time. He indicated he will get his scoring to SRTC next week. Mr. Howell stated that two of the projects on the list (Maple/Ash @ NW Blvd & Boone and Hastings Rd. left turn for park & ride) have been removed from the list. The Maple/Ash project request amount is included in the available funding amount but the Hastings project request amount is not.

Mr. Howell informed the TTC that STA will be asking their Board to fund \$6.5 million in projects from this Call for Projects for 2008. In STA's financial prediction model they have budgeted \$2.5 million per year up to 2012 in Cooperative projects. However, they cannot commit to any projects for future years as they have a sunset clause (sunsets at the end of 2008) on their funding from the tax increase. This funding will be coming before the voters (possibly in May 2008) . He indicated STA would return to TTC in October with the STA Board's decision.

Several of the jurisdictions indicated they need time to program their projects. For example, they are programming 2009 projects in 2007.

Mr. Howell suggested that the list should be prioritized with the projects that can be done in 2008 at the top of the list and then followed by the 2009-2011.

The prioritized list of projects minus Gordon Howell's input, was distributed to the members in order to give them time to review the list prior to the SRTC and/or STA Board meetings. The members recognize there is an issue of the "sunsetting" of the STA funding and if jurisdictions program projects there is the possibility that if the vote on STA's funding fails they will not get the promised funding.

Mr. Howell also indicated to the group that \$6 million in cooperative funding STA committed to several years has not been spent. There is still approximately \$4.5 to \$5 million sitting at STA waiting for the jurisdictions to spend it.

e) Regional Transportation Model Update 2015 and 2030

The 2005 model was sent back to PTV to correct some issues on the north side of Spokane (production and attraction problems – out of the control of SRTC). It was received back today and although there hasn't been time for a complete check of the numbers, the problem appears to be fixed. The 2015 and 2030 have been built which will be sent to PTV once the 2005 base is correct. They will then put the ingredient files in. It is anticipated it won't take long for this to be done. Once the 2015 and 2030 are received back they will be sent to all the jurisdictions for review for a short period of time.

The members indicated they want to be able to have enough time to convene the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) subcommittee and review the MTP as soon as possible. Staff said they would email the draft sections of the MTP available at this time to the jurisdictions for an early review.

5. Technical Member Comments.

Bob Brueggeman said the County is finishing up some projects and is starting some small rural ones. He was asked for an update on the Bigelow Gulch project. He said the County submitted a revised Environmental Assessment to FHWA legal office last April. They received comments back last week.

Inga Note said the Valley got the Appleway project out to bid. It will start in the Fall.

Roger Krieger indicated that the preservation project Deer Park was planning has been pushed ahead to next year. They will be having an open house tonight on the intersection of Crawford and Weber. They are looking into either a traffic circle or a traffic light.

Don MacDonald reported that Cheney finished their preservation project and has finalized design for their enhancement project. They are looking at improving the traffic islands at the intersection of SR 904 and Betz Road.

Katherine Miller said the City of Spokane is winding down their construction season. They have released RFQs for the design of Fish Lake Trail (Government Way to Sunset Highway) and Hatch Road.

Steve Worley said Spokane Valley is working on their Pines/Mansfield project. This will be the Valley's first roundabout project. Their Barker Road Bridge project will go out to bid later this year for construction in 2008.

6. New Business.

a) Judy Lorenzo – Transportation Symposium

Judy Lorenzo is with WSDOT in the Planning Office in Olympia. She came to Spokane to invite everyone to a no-host luncheon/meeting to be held on October 24, 2007 in Spokane at the Red Lion Hotel at the Park, Finch Room, Fourth Floor from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (lunch will be served at noon) – Cost \$15.00. This luncheon meeting is to hear the details about the upcoming 2007 Transportation Planning Symposium. Attendees will get information about speakers and training content in order to see who should attend. She indicated she needs to receive an RSVP by October 19th.

She gave an overview of the upcoming Transportation Planning Symposium. It will be held from November 13-16, 2007 in Spokane at the Red Lion Hotel at the Park. The registration cost is \$250 (\$350 after October 23rd). There are many speakers lined up as well as seven 4-hour technical workshops, six plenary sessions, and more than 40 individual sessions covering the most pressing issues facing transportation professionals today. She distributed flyers to the committee listing all the information about the event.

b) Call for Projects – Subcommittee Appointment

At the last TTC meeting, a request was made to conduct a review of the applications, criteria, and application process for the next federally funded Call for Projects. To respond to that request, a subcommittee was formed to start looking at those grant applications and see if there are any revisions that can be made to them. This would include the criteria, questions asked – are they appropriate, do they cover all the project types, etc. The committee members are as follows:

- Bill Hemmings – Spokane County
- Katherine Miller – City of Spokane
- Steve Worley – City of Spokane Valley
- Don MacDonald – Small Towns
- To be Decided – WSDOT
- To be Decided – STA

It was agreed that as there is no Call for Projects coming up soon, the subcommittee would not meet until after the MTP has been completed.

7. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm

Judy Hazard
Recording Secretary