

## MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council  
Transportation Technical Committee  
October 17, 2007  
SRTC Office - Intermodal Center - Third Floor  
Spokane, Washington

### 1. Call to Order.

Steve Worley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

### 2. Roll Call/Record of Attendance.

Bob Brueggeman .....	Spokane County
Ron Edgar .....	Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency
Mike Frucci .....	WSDOT
Gordon Howell .....	STA
John Mercer .....	City of Spokane
Susan Meyer .....	STA
Inga Note.....	City of Spokane Valley
Harold White .....	WSDOT
Steve Worley (Chair) .....	City of Spokane Valley

### Guests and Alternates.

Louis Mueller .....	City of Spokane
Eldon Brown.....	City of Spokane
Paul Kropp	

### Staff.

Eve Nelson.....	Sr. Transportation Planner
Debbie LaCombe .....	Transportation Planner II
Jeff Selle .....	Manager of Transportation Relations
Stacy Lehman .....	Pub. Info/Ed Coord.
Bonnie Gow.....	Transportation Planner I
Jenny Wash .....	Administrative Assistant

### **3. Approval of September Meeting Minutes.**

**Ron Edgar made a motion to approve the September 19, 2007 meeting minutes. John Mercer seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

### **4. Old Business.**

#### **a) Regional Transportation Concurrency**

At their last meeting, the SRTC Board was given the draft Regional Concurrency Committee Charter, Statement of Endorsement and Timeline and are reviewing it at this time. It is anticipated the Board will be voting on it at their November meeting. The TTC members were given the same documents for their review and comment. They were asked to get comments, if any, back to SRTC as soon as possible in order to make them available to the Board.

#### **b) East Valley/West Rathdrum Prairie Transportation Study Update**

Deb Lacombe advised the members there has been a change in staff at SRTC and that she is now lead on the East Valley West Rathdrum Prairie Transportation Study. She indicated SRTC is going back through the model and has volumes on the model that was combined between part of Idaho and part of Washington. At this time she is making sure the land use that was put in the model as an assumption is documented well and is what was agreed on by everybody. Once the numbers are released, they will be sent in detail to everyone involved in the study. It becomes the basis of showing the community where the deficiencies lie according to the regional model. The community then gives back their perceptions of the problems in the area. This then comes back to the jurisdictions and they give their solutions to the problems. The solutions are brought back to the community along with the history of the problem and the steps to the solution.

Steve Worley asked questions regarding rumors he had heard about two separate studies underway on the same general area (Liberty Lake IJR Report study and EV/WRP Study). Ms. LaCombe responded there are not two studies going on and gave an explanation.

#### **c) STA Cooperative Street & Road Projects**

It was mentioned that Gordon Howell had sent an email to TTC members relative to a recommended list of projects on the STA Cooperative Street & Road Projects.

Susan Meyer explained STA's position on the Call for Projects. She reiterated that STA will invest \$12.5 million over the next four years in transportation projects starting with \$2.5 million in 2008. She said the criteria used when the jurisdictions submitted their project applications was for a Section 5307 grant. It is no longer a Section 5307 grant that will fund it, it is STA local funds. STA has looked at the project applications focusing on frontloading 2008. They wanted a balance with what they did with the City of Spokane, the Spokane Valley, and the County. She said that as it was scored Spokane Valley had a very high percentage of the funding. As WSDOT and small towns were able to participate once it was no longer Section 5307 funds STA wanted to give a fair evaluation to those. Therefore, they have made changes that allow them to frontload 2008 and balance where the money went.

Once STA explained their position, discussion took place with the jurisdictions.

Ms. Meyer suggested that there are two directions this could take. This Call for Projects could either proceed with the prioritization STA has presented today, or it can start from the beginning again.

A question was asked about the status of funding projects 2009-2011. Ms. Meyer replied that STA's reauthorization vote (the Sunset Clause) will be voted on in November 2008. Her recommendation is that the agreement between STA and the jurisdiction be signed in May so it can be done by November. Assuming the vote is favorable, then everything is funded. The caveat is that when STA signs an agreement with any jurisdiction it will say "if STA's funding is not renewed at the vote in November 2008 STA cannot fund anything beyond 2008".

Ms. Meyer said she wondered if STA should call 2009 an out-year because it might cause difficulty for the jurisdictions not knowing if they will have the funding in 2009 until November 2008. She said they would frontload 2008 and then pick it up again in 2010. She understands jurisdictions need to plan far in advance.

It was discussed and agreed to that any jurisdiction wishing to negotiate individual projects within the same percentage of funding within a funded fiscal year can negotiate with STA.

The ranking proposed by STA is as follows:

Jurisdiction	Project Title	STA Request
<b>2008 Funded Projects</b>		
City of Cheney	Presley Dr. Preservation Project	145,000
City of Spokane	Francis Ave. & Nevada St. Intersection	291,250
City of Spokane	Alberta St. to Cochran St. @ NW Blvd.	503,700
City of Spokane	Maple St. & Ash St. @ both NW Blvd and Boone Ave. - <i>(Project already funded with 2008 Cooperative Street funds)</i>	860,000
City of Spokane	Francis Ave. & Addison St. Intersection	304,600
City of Spokane	Wellesley Ave. & Wall Intersection	230,000
City of Spokane	Driscoll Blvd., Alberta to Assembly	2,043,200
City of Spokane Valley	Sprague & Bowdish Intersection	709,100
Spokane County	Wall St. Overlay, Country Homes Blvd. To Whitworth Dr.	605,864
Spokane County	Wall St. Overlay, Greta to Country Homes Blvd.	297,196
<b>2009 Funded Projects</b>		
City of Spokane Valley	Sprague & Pines Intersection	589,900
City of Spokane	Garland Ave. & Market St. Intersection	329,600
City of Spokane Valley	8th Ave. Reconstruction - Ph. 1 Carnahan to Havana	2,079,000
<b>2010 Funded Projects</b>		
City of Spokane Valley	Broadway & Sullivan Intersection	977,900
City of Spokane Valley	Sprague & mcDonald Intersection	849,800
City of Spokane	37th Ave., Grand to Regal	305,600
<b>2011 Funded Projects</b>		
WSDOT	US2/Hawthorne Rd. PCCP Intersection	1,509,308
<b>Projects Already Funded or Completed</b>		
Spokane County	Hastings Road Left Turn Lane for Park & Ride - <b>Already Funded</b>	65,446
City of Spokane	Southeast Blvd., Perry St. to 5th & Sherman - <b>Complete</b>	48,000

Mike Frucci made a motion to forward to the SRTC Board the ranking of projects of the STA Cooperative Street and Road Projects for funding provided by STA with the caveat that if any local jurisdiction wishes to negotiate individual projects within the same percentage of funding within a funded fiscal year they can negotiate that with STA. Bob Brueggeman seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

#### **d) Regional Transportation Model Update 2015 & 2030 Networks**

Deb LaCombe said SRTC would be giving a weekly update on Thursdays by email for all of the modeling projects going on. These updates would go out to the TTC members, the SRTC Board and the model users group to let them know where SRTC is on all the models.

#### **5. Technical Member Comments.**

Deb LaCombe introduced new SRTC staff member, Bonnie Gow, Transportation Planner to the members.

The TTC welcomed Eldon Brown as a new representative for the City of Spokane on the TTC.

John Mercer mentioned the consultants have been selected for the Hatch Road Engineering Study and for the Fish Lake Trail project.

Susan Meyer told the TTC members how much she has enjoyed working with them and appreciates their professionalism on the lengthy process of the STA Cooperative Call for Projects. Also, she said that Nelson Nygaard, STA's consultants on long-range planning will be in town the week of October 29<sup>th</sup> and will be evaluating in more detail cost estimates for enhancing the existing Plaza and the Intermodal Facility. What they contemplate does not involve the Intermodal Building only the parking lot. They will be taking the results to the STA Board in December. One other alternative is a grid system. Ms. Meyer indicated STA has three new 40' hybrid buses. These hybrid/electric buses will be here before the end of this year.

Bob Brueggeman said the County is still working on road projects. He gave an update on Bigelow Gulch.

Gordon Howell mentioned that STA had been in the news regarding arsenic levels which had been found in the groundwater. A consultant has been hired who is doing additional sample testing of the groundwater. The first test has come back below danger levels; they need three more testings and if all are clean this issue will be over. STA is still in the discussion stage with WSDOT on the Mission and Greene property to build a community transit center.

Harold White stated the Spokane Regional Transportation Management Center (SRTMC) website is in the process of being updated by a corporation from the Seattle area. It looks to be a very good site and very user friendly. The new website should be online by the end of 2007. Also, he remarked the Division Street fiber should be going to ad next week for construction in 2008. This will bring fiber all the way to Farwell on Highway 2.

Ron Edgar reported Spokane Clean Air will be applying for additional state funding for the school bus retrofit program. They are hoping to get District 81 buses into the program. Spokane Clean Air sent out a press release on the beginning of their wood stove season. Mr. Edgar asked the TTC about the issue of left turn lanes on Hamilton at Sharp and Mission. There are no left-turn lane signals there now but have been discussed over the years. The press is asking about the air quality aspects of them.

Steve Worley said the Valley has received a good bid on their Appleway Avenue reconstruction project. Construction will start Spring of 2008.

Eldon Brown gave an update on the City of Spokane's road projects. There was a grand opening on Southeast Boulevard today.

## **6. New Business.**

### **a) Congestion Management Process – Draft Discussion**

A copy of the draft Congestion Management Process was provided to the TTC members. This document has been updated by SRTC at this time and is in the 30 day public comment period at this time. Comments will be accepted up to November 15<sup>th</sup>. This document outlines what SRTC does for congestion management in the region and explains the Intelligent Transportation System, Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans and all congestion oriented processes that must be addressed in modeling.

A correction was pointed out in the Air Quality section and the Congestion Management Network Priorities section, and a revision was made to the Transit Section of the document. Staff took note of these.

It was explained that SRTC is required in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan to have procedures in place for congestion management and a document showing what the procedures are. It was agreed this document will be updated again in the future.

## **7. Adjournment.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm

---

Judy Hazard  
Recording Secretary