

**MEETING MINUTES**

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

**1. Call to Order.**

Steve Worley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

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

Bob Brueggeman .....	Spokane County
Ron Edgar .....	Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency
Scott Egger .....	City of Spokane
Mike Gribner (Vice Chair) .....	WSDOT
Roger Krieger .....	Small Town Representative
Don MacDonald.....	Small Town Representative
John Mercer .....	City of Spokane
Steve Worley (Chair) .....	City of Spokane Valley

**Guests/Alternates.**

Mark Rohwer.....	WSDOT
Ryan Stewart.....	Spokane Transit Authority
Keith Martin .....	WSDOT
Tim Smith .....	WSDOT – Olympia
Cliff Hall.....	WSDOT – Olympia
Paul Kropp	
Dale Smith	

**Staff.**

Glenn Miles .....	Transportation Manager
Debbie LaCombe .....	Transportation Planner II
Deborah Napier .....	Transportation Planner II
Jeff Selle .....	Manager Transportation Relations
Judy Hazard .....	Administrative Assistant

**3. Approval of June Meeting Minutes.**

**Ron Edgar made a motion to approve the June 20, 2007 meeting minutes. Bob Brueggeman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

**4. Old Business.**

**a) Regional Transportation Concurrency Update**

A presentation was given to the Spokane Valley City Council and one will be given to the City of Spokane City Council next week.

Glenn Miles gave an explanation of how concurrency would work so far as the nexus and the proportionality between jurisdictions. He said that the approach he explained could be done for the different travelshed areas throughout the metropolitan area because the methodology, process, and procedures would remain the same but how the percentages split out in the different geographic areas is based on how much growth and development is occurring in the different jurisdictions.

One of the next steps is to set up a subcommittee with various entities (i.e. homebuilders, BOMA, stakeholder groups, developers, and the planning, development, and capital programs departments of various jurisdictions).

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

SRTC has been meeting with jurisdictions and developers to get new numbers for the project study for what is projected for growth for the East Valley/West Rathdrum Prairie area. These numbers should be in the model very shortly. It is anticipated all land use data will be received by early next week.

**c) Comp Plan Amendment Checklist**

Deb LaCombe reported there have been four workshops to date regarding the Comp Plan Amendment Checklist. The main comment received is that this workshop should be presented to the level above the planners. She indicated most people are extremely positive about the idea and concept behind the checklist but have questions regarding political support.

The SRTC Board unanimously approved the checklist upon recommendation by the TTC. Some elected officials will be invited to a briefing regarding the purpose and concept of the checklist requesting that they support their local staff. The checklist is asking for a specificity not requested in the past as a part of their getting comp plan amendment approval.

#### **d) Regional Transportation Model**

Mr. Miles gave an update on the status of the regional transportation model. It has been distributed to the various jurisdictions for their review. The new model will be used for the East Valley/West Rathdrum Prairie Analysis as it has the new employment, new capacities, and new node delay functions. He talked about both the base model and the 2030 model. He said the 2030 forecast being used is what the SRTC Board adopted last year as Intermountain Demographics 2030 forecast which mirrors the Avista and OFM forecast.

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

Ron Edgar said the wildfires in the area are having an impact on the region's air quality. There is a general burning ban in Spokane County. He indicated his agency will be looking at the wood stove rule in preparation for winter. Spokane Clean Air now has the authority to run a two year trial on setting their own trigger for woodstoves. They will go out for public comment the beginning of August. The budget has been passed for the expansion of their monitoring network and will be going out to bid for the purchase of monitoring equipment for Liberty Lake, Spokane Valley, Deer Park, and Airway Heights.

Mark Rohwer indicated WSDOT has held three listening posts for the US 2 Route Development Plan. They have received public input and are reviewing several development proposals. They are also working on the Highway Systems Plan.

Several jurisdictions gave updates on their summer road projects.

Scott Egger indicated he is leaving the City of Spokane this month and moving to Lacey, Washington. He reported on the signal preempt policy. They are looking for consistency from agency to agency in the policy and must not be abused by any agency or their rights in that regard will be terminated. He also said he has spoken to Jerry Lenzi, WSDOT regarding issues they are having with Burlington Northern and the Freya project. Mr. Egger asked that anyone having similar issues with Burlington Northern please call the City of Spokane and let them know.

Mike Gribner reported the viaduct project is going very well. It is possible it may even finish earlier than planned.

Steve Worley indicated the City of Spokane Valley requested CMAQ funding from the SRTC Board in the amount of \$262,520 to cover construction escalation costs, unanticipated cost increases as a result of design changes and preliminary engineering over-run charges on a project at Pines Road and Mansfield Avenue. The Board approved their request at their July Board meeting.

Glenn Miles stated the SRTC Board approved SRTC becoming a member of Coalition for America's Gateways and Corridors. This is a national organization that focuses on educating elected officials about the importance of freight and goods movement through

communities. It is hoped by participating in this coalition this region can raise the level of discussion regarding this area and its importance as a freight hub for the Inland Northwest. As information is received it will be distributed to the TTC members as well as to the elected officials.

## **6. New Business.**

### **a) Enhancement Funding Discussion**

Mr. Miles reported that in the limited Call for Projects for Enhancements the region can submit three projects to the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Committee. As some funds were turned back it was hoped they could be used in this area but they cannot. There were two projects that were relatively small change orders and some that were relatively large. This region typically gets between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000. The SRTC Board was asked for direction regarding these projects. The Board approved the recommendation to fund WSDOT's Harvard Pedestrian Bridge for \$25,000 and City of Spokane's West Broadway Street Enhancements for \$50,000 using STP Urban contingency funds and submit Airway Heights/WSDOT Highway 2 Pedestrian Crossing project for \$229,332, Spokane Valley/WSDOT 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue Pathway project for \$354,712, and Spokane County's Ben Burr Pathway project for \$427,786 for the enhancement funding.

### **b) Local Funding Options**

Jeff Selle gave a PowerPoint presentation on the local funding options available in the State of Washington and described each of them. He indicated which options were available in our region and which were not.

### **c) WSDOT Highway System Plan**

Tim Smith, Systems Analysis and Program Development Manager at WSDOT in Olympia gave an overview of the Washington State Highway System Plan. This is an element of the Washington Transportation Plan that addresses current and forecasted highway needs.

He asked that MPO/RTPO's review the proposed solutions presented and comment on the proposed approaches. They want to know what data the MPO/RTPO might have that WSDOT might not have that is relevant to the Highway System Plan or where are the errors or omissions in the information presented.

**7. Adjournment.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

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Judy Hazard  
Recording Secretary