

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council
Transportation Technical Committee
September 17, 2008
SRTC Office - Intermodal Center - Third Floor
Spokane, Washington

1. Call to Order.

Mike Gribner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

2. Roll Call/Record of Attendance.

Bob Brueggeman	Spokane County
Chad Coles	Spokane County
Mike Frucci	WSDOT
Mike Gribner (Chair).....	WSDOT
Roger Krieger.....	Small Town Representative
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

Staff.

Glenn Miles	Transportation Manager
Debbie LaCombe	Sr. Transportation Planner
Stacy Lehman	Pub. Info./Education Coordinator
Val Melvin.....	Traffic Engineer
Jeff Selle	Manager of Transportation Relations
Judy Hazard	Administrative Secretary

Alternates and Guests.

Ryan Stewart.....	Spokane Transit Authority
Charlie Studer	Spokane Clean Air
Eldon Brown.....	City of Spokane
Keith Martin	WSDOT
Jim Huttenmaier	
Chaz Bates	
Joe Tortorelli	
Kevin Picanco	
Cindy Reddenkopp	
Lisa Leinberger	
Barb Chamberlain	

3. Approval of July Meeting Minutes.

Bob Brueggeman made a motion to approve the July 16, 2008 meeting minutes. Mike Frucci seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. Old Business.

a) West Plains Sub-area Transportation Modeling

The limits of the study have been defined: Medical Lake Interchange back to the US 2 / I-90 Interchange from east to west and just south of I-90 to Highway 2 (including those two state highways). There was a good attendance at the kickoff meeting. Teresa Eckard, with Spokane Airports is working on surveying warehouse operators at the airport to see what their trucking schedules are. Traffic counts are being collected. WSDOT should have their Route Development Plan (RDP) out some time in October for Highway 2. The next meeting will take place after the RDP comes out. It is noted there is a need to do traffic counts in the interchange areas of both Medical Lake and Geiger and WSDOT has indicated they do not have money available for these counts.

b) Unified Street Standards

The Street Standards Sub-committee met last week and will be meeting again in three weeks. They are looking at tackling the hardest issues first. They will try to narrow in on two items (cul-de-sacs and alleys). There is also an issue of street names which will not be addressed at this time.

c) Small Town Representative Election Results

Every three years we hold an election for the two small town representatives to the TTC. This year three people were nominated for the two positions (Roger Krieger, Deer Park, Don MacDonald, Cheney, and Bryan St Clair, Airway Heights). Don MacDonald has since resigned from the City of Cheney. He did have the second most votes with Roger Krieger getting the most. Mr. St Clair did receive votes in the election. Therefore, Mr. Krieger and Mr. St Clair are the representatives to the TTC for the next three years. They will be representing all the small cities/towns in Spokane County. If any small city/town has business they would like to have brought before the TTC they should contact either Mr. Krieger or Mr. St. Clair.

d) Regional Transportation Priority Project Review

After the Board Retreat in February a group convened to address transportation priorities and direction in the region. The legislators in the area have requested SRTC to put together a process that would produce a prioritized list of regional transportation projects to present to the legislature before the 2009 session starts.

It was understood this list was not needed until sometime in October or November. However, two weeks ago the group was advised the list was needed by the end of

September in order to be included in the Governor's budget. Therefore, the issue was brought before the SRTC Board last week. The Board approved the fast-tracking of this request. After the Board meeting, the jurisdictions were sent a request for priority projects based on a criteria (also provided).

Fifteen projects were received from the jurisdictions. The criteria was vetted through various sources (Greater Spokane Inc., Avista, Congresswoman McMorris-Rodgers office, etc.). Mr. Miles gave an overview of the criteria and the jurisdictions gave a synopsis of their submitted projects.

After discussion it was agreed that as the criteria was very objective not subjective the jurisdictions would score their own projects and then return them to SRTC. Once the scoring was completed, the scoring and projects would be given to a group comprised of community representatives and TTC members whose jurisdictions have not submitted projects.

Once the list has been scored and reviewed, it will be given as a presentation at the "Big Tent" meeting September 24th. The results will be given to the Board and TTC in October.

5. Technical Member Comments.

Mr. Miles brought up the following matters:

He reminded those present that Ms. Judy Hazard, SRTC Administrative Secretary and Secretary to the TTC has announced her retirement after 11 years with SRTC. Her last day will be October 3rd.

He announced that Ms. Val Melvin has submitted her resignation. She has been with SRTC for 2 years and will be returning to the City of Spokane as their Traffic Signals Operations Engineer.

During the "Big Tent" meeting on September 24th the group will be getting a presentation on the street utility as well as the transportation benefit district. The big question is not how much jurisdictions are spending on maintenance and operations but how much they should be spending.

A meeting took place September 2nd with the Rails to Trails people in Seattle for the western regional review of those projects. Mr. Miles gave an overview of what took place at that meeting.

The Board was advised that SRTC will be doing a review of the status of the 2008 projects. A letter will be sent to the jurisdictions with a list of their projects and where they are at this time.

Also, the Board has asked that SRTC with the assistance of the TTC develop a reallocation of funds policy. It has traditionally been on a first come-first served basis.

Harold White said a joint project with the City of Spokane Valley for an ITS trunk line completion will open next week. Additional devices will be arriving soon into the Transportation Management Center. This and other additions being made later will make the TMC more regionally focused and less WSDOT focused. This has been the long-term goal.

Katherine Miller said the focus of the City of Spokane is two major studies and planning in the downtown core.

John Mercer indicated the FMSIB Board will be here Friday. The City of Spokane hopes to get the Freya Street Bridge project under construction the first quarter of next year and the Havana Bridge next year some time.

Roger Krieger stated Deer Park has finished its preservation project. They are in the middle of their design of the next Crawford phase.

Eldon Brown gave an update of the City of Spokane's construction schedule.

Mike Frucci said the US 2 interchange project is out on ad. There will be an open house in early October. On September 25th there will be an open house for the North Spokane Corridor at Northwood Middle School.

Bob Brueggeman reported the Dennison-Chattaroy Road opened three weeks ago. It has been a huge improvement to that roadway. He also reported on several other projects that were underway or completed.

Inga Note indicated the City of Spokane Valley is replacing ITS controllers.

Steve Worley gave an update on the Valley's construction schedule.

Ryan Stewart said that STA had had the kickoff meeting of the Smart Bus project.

6. New Business.

a) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The draft of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is out for public comment. Copies were made available to the TTC members. A public meeting is scheduled for September 23rd and will be going to the SRTC Board for adoption in October.

7. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm.

Judy Hazard
Recording Secretary