

**MEETING MINUTES**

Spokane Regional Transportation Council  
Transportation Technical Committee  
January 21, 2009  
SRTC Office - Intermodal Center - Third Floor  
Spokane, Washington

**1. Call to Order.**

Gordon Howell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:29 pm.

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

Bob Brueggeman .....	Spokane County
Chad Coles .....	Spokane County
Mike Gribner.....	WSDOT
Mike Frucci.....	WSDOT
Harold White .....	WSDOT
Gordon Howell (Chair).....	Spokane Transit Authority
Ron Edgar .....	Spokane Clear Air Agency
Katherine Miller .....	City of Spokane
Steve Worley.....	City of Spokane Valley
Teresa Eckard.....	Spokane International Airport
Roger Krieger.....	City of Deer Park

**Staff.**

Glenn Miles .....	Transportation Manager
Stacy Lehman .....	Public Info/Education Coordinator
Anna Ragaza-Bouassa .....	Transportation/Air Quality Planner
Donna Lively .....	Administrative Secretary

**Alternates and Guests.**

Neil Kersten.....	Spokane County
Paul Jensen .....	Spokane County
Andrew Staples .....	City of Liberty Lake
Keith Martin .....	WSDOT Local Programs
Kevin Picanco .....	David Evans & Associates
Paul Kropp .....	Neighborhood Alliance
Harry Bright .....	Riverside Neighborhood Alliance

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

A correction was noted under "Alternates and Guests." Chad Coles was listed as an alternate committee member for Spokane County and should be listed as a committee member under "Roll Call/Record of Attendance."

**Bob Brueggeman made a motion to approve the December 17, 2008 meeting minutes as corrected. Harold White seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

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

#### **a) Vice Chair Election**

Gordon Howell noted that a Spokane International Airport representative has not served as Vice Chair and that a Spokane Clear Air Agency representative has not served as vice chair in five years. Ron Edgar volunteered to serve as Vice Chair.

**Mike Frucci made a motion to elect Ron Edgar as the 2009 Transportation Technical Committee Vice Chair. Steve Worley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.**

#### **b) West Plains Sub-area Transportation Modeling Update**

Anna Ragaza-Bouassa reported that the subcommittee met yesterday to discuss goals, objectives and timelines for the study. The study was expanded to include Fairchild AFB. Comments to revise the 2007 network for the subarea have been received. Land use projections for the 2020 – 2035 model and future transportation projects to be included in the network will be discussed at the next meeting scheduled for March 3, 2009.

Teresa Eckard arrived at 1:33 pm.

Harold White asked whether the proposed annex changes between the City of Airway Heights and the City of Spokane were discussed. Ms. Ragaza-Bouassa stated that the subject came up but that the City did not want to expound on the matter at this time.

#### **c) TIP Project Selection Criteria Revisions & Non-motorized and Transit Project Criteria Update**

Only one comment/response regarding TIP Project Selection Criteria Revisions & Non-motorized and Transit Project Criteria Update has been received to date. Gordon Howell asked for volunteers to staff the subcommittee. Katherine Miller, Chad Coles, Steve Worley and Gordon Howell volunteered. Glenn Miles stated that Anna Ragaza-Bouassa will staff the committee. Subcommittee recommendations/revisions will be forwarded to the Board at a future Board meeting.

#### **d) TIP/STP Funding Reallocation Guiding Policy Update**

Bob Brueggeman noted that the subcommittee met prior to the TTC meeting and no major changes to current funding reallocation procedures were proposed. The subcommittee recommended, however, that excess project funds be moved to a contingency fund whereby all jurisdictions would have access to additional project funding based on need and request for consideration. Jurisdictions approved for additional funding would be required to provide a 50% funding match. Projects that have a shortfall due to unforeseen circumstances would be dealt with separately and would most likely remain at the standard participation for federal funding.

The subcommittee reconfirmed that projects are to stay within the 18-month progress timeline once funds are obligated. Projects will be monitored to ensure they are meeting the expected time frames that the jurisdiction indicated when the project was approved. Jurisdictions will have the opportunity to solidify project timeframes after the call for projects has been made. Also, jurisdictions are required to provide justification for any delays. If delays are extensive, construction funds may be reallocated to other TIP/STP projects, but can be brought back at a later call for projects. These guidelines will ensure projects move in a timely manner. In addition, projects and timelines will be listed on the SRTC website. These policies will be refined and formalized by the TTC and presented to the Board for approval at a future Board meeting.

#### **e) TIP/STP Policy to Address Changes to Project Scope, Design and/or Cost Update**

Bob Brueggeman reported that the subcommittee addressing project scope, design and/or cost scope changes concluded that no major changes were needed. The TTC is to be briefed on any such changes, and recommendations for Board action will be made with regard to changes greater than a 10% increase in the overall project cost. Mr. Miles cautioned that significant scope, design and/or cost changes alter what became part of the binding contract per the completed federal aid forms and auditors will scrutinize any such changes. Consequently, it is important for TTC and Board members to be apprised of and concur with any significant project scope, design and/or cost scope changes.

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

Ron Edgar reported that an Air Stagnation Advisory was issued by the National Weather Service for the Spokane region from Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the numbers were highest in Liberty Lake, although not high enough to call for a wood stove use ban. Also, the State Department of Ecology will be holding a workshop on January 28, 2009 regarding greenhouse gas emission reporting requirements for businesses that have large service fleets, such as cable and phone companies, rental car companies, freight delivery, etc. Details can be obtained from their website at [www.spokanecleanair.org](http://www.spokanecleanair.org).

Teresa Eckard reported the Cascade project is wrapping up and their first plane will arrive in early February. As a result of the cooperative efforts from the City of Spokane, Spokane County and the Airport, other airport related industries are interested in moving to the Spokane Airport.

Steve Worley reported Spokane Valley is gearing up for next year's construction projects. Starting in February, 10 foot diameter shafts will be drilled at the bottom of the river as part of the Barker Road Bridge project. Also, a RFQ is due Friday for economic stimulus projects engineering support.

Katherine Miller noted that the Five Mile Road and Freya Street Bridge projects are in the right of way stage. A RFQ for stimulus engineering support is also out.

Bob Brueggeman reported that they are looking for contractor interest on a little project on Freya north of Francis.

Mike Frucci reported that there will be a meeting this Thursday to review a consultant's work on a new interchange in a new development in Liberty Lake. Also, the next major portion of the NSC project will commence in May. When completed, Wandermere east of US2 south to Francis will be open to through traffic.

Mike Gribner added that there are several local projects on the Governor's Stimulus List, including four paver projects, the Dower retrofit and an additional \$15M NSC project.

Gordon Howell reported that all bus routes are back on schedule and are now equipped with chains.

## **6. New Business.**

### **a) Stimulus Project List Review for PS&E and Right of Way Funding Needs**

Glenn Miles noted that the stimulus project list was sent to Olympia on time. The projects were also put into the TIP/STP format and have been issued project numbers (reflecting stimulus funding), which will be forwarded to the jurisdictions.

On Tuesday, FTA requested a list of FTA related stimulus projects by end of business Wednesday. Fortunately, due to earlier efforts to compile the list, SRTC was prepared to meet the request and did so accordingly.

Mr. Miles reported that at the January 8, 2009 SRTC Board meeting, there was Board consensus to pursue the suggestion of using existing 2012 federal STP funds to secure PS&Es and/or right of ways for second wave bridge, reconstruction, or reconstruction widening stimulus transportation projects. It was noted that should these projects fail to receive stimulus funds, they are better positioned to move forward and receive additional funding when it becomes available. Mr. Miles asked 1) whether the committee agreed with the suggestion, 2) which jurisdictions might be interested in

utilizing the funds to prepare second wave big ticket projects, and 3) which projects might they consider. Mr. Miles clarified that the issue affected future funding, not committed funds.

**Bob Brueggeman made a motion to pursue the concept of using STP funds towards preparing second wave bridge, reconstruction, or reconstruction widening projects for stimulus construction funds. Steve Worley seconded the motion which was unanimously carried.**

Mr. Miles noted that jurisdictions interested in utilizing STP funds for this purpose could either meet or otherwise be notified to provide the committee with a list of qualifying project(s) and the associated cost to get each project to ad ready status. This information would then be forwarded to the Board for Board action at a future date. The meeting concluded with a brief, general discussion of the forthcoming stimulus package.

## **7. Adjournment.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

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Donna Lively  
Recording Secretary