

## MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council  
Transportation Technical Committee  
December 16, 2009  
SRTC Office - Intermodal Center - Third Floor  
Spokane, Washington

### 1. Call to Order.

Gordon Howell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

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

Gordon Howell .....	Spokane Transit Authority
Ron Edgar (Vice-Chair) .....	Spokane Clear Air Agency
Harold White .....	WSDOT, Eastern Region
Mike Gribner.....	WSDOT, Eastern Region
Katherine Miller .....	City of Spokane
Mark Serbousek .....	City of Spokane
Inga Note.....	City of Spokane Valley
Steve Worley.....	City of Spokane Valley
Bob Brueggemann .....	Spokane County
Chad Coles .....	Spokane County
Teresa Eckard.....	Spokane International Airport
Roger Krieger.....	City of Deer Park
Bryan St. Clair .....	City of Airway Heights
Karl Otterstrom.....	Spokane Transit Authority

### Staff.

Anna Ragaza-Bourassa .....	Transportation Planning Supervisor
Jeff Selle .....	Transportation Relations Manager
Eve Nelson.....	Senior Transportation Planner
Staci Lehman .....	Public Info/Education Coordinator
Donna Lively .....	Administrative Secretary

### Alternates and Guests.

Kevin Picanco .....	David Evans & Associates
Mark Brower.....	CH2M Hill
Doug Smith .....	City of Liberty Lake
Andrew Staples .....	City of Liberty Lake
Eldon Brown.....	City of Spokane
Ross Kelley .....	HDR, Inc.
Paul Kropp .....	Neighborhood Alliance

### **3. Approval of November Meetings Minutes.**

**Bob Brueggemann made a motion to approve the November 18, 2009 meeting minutes. Mike Gribner seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

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

#### **a) Stimulus Package Update & Delivery Schedule**

Eldon Brown reported that the City of Spokane's 5 Mile project will be completed in the spring, their Fish Lake Trail project is primarily complete, and the Havana Street Bridge project still has right of way issues to resolve.

Mike Gribner reported that the Dowel Bar Retrofit project has been awarded but construction won't commence until next summer. WSDOT has also received stimulus funding for a Tier III paving project on US 195/Idaho State Line to Colton.

Gordon Howell reported that STA is receiving the 40 foot diesel buses this year and the hybrids are expected to arrive after the first of the year. Also, their security camera project is almost complete.

#### **b) WP-SIA Transportation Study Update – Anna Ragaza-Bourassa**

Anna Ragaza-Bourassa reported that the group did not meet this month since they are awaiting the release of the model, but are scheduled to meet on January 19.

#### **c) 2030 Model Development Update – Anna Ragaza-Bourassa**

Anna Ragaza-Bourassa reported that the draft 2030 model is complete. The Model User's Group will meet tomorrow, December 19, at 10 am. Copies of the model will be distributed to the jurisdictions for comments, which are due by January 8.

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

Eldon Brown reported that the City of Spokane has a signal project at the intersection of 44<sup>th</sup> and Regal. The City also has a few items left to complete on both their Market Street and 5 Mile projects.

Teresa Eckard reported that the Spokane Airport received a grant to extend the contract with Cascade Aerospace USA & Associated Painters. The airport acquired the property formerly held by the National Guard and is in the process of installing a 41,000 square foot hanger. She noted that there is increased traffic at the airport and that airlines are adding more flights to Spokane. Also, the convention season for Spokane looks good for the coming year.

Harold White reported that WSDOT has installed the new video switch in the SRTMC, which will enable more cameras to be picked up.

Mike Gribner reported that a \$75 billion Jobs Bill, \$37 billion of which would be for transportation related projects, may be forthcoming. It is anticipated that \$27 to \$28 billion would go to Federal Highways for distribution via a formula method similar to ARRA funding, and that SAFETEA-LU will be extended for another 60 to 90 days.

The Jobs Bill would be broken down as follows: \$27.5 billion to highways; \$8.4 billion to transit; \$800 million to Amtrak; \$500 million to the Airport Improvement Program; and \$100 million to ship construction subsidies. The House is expected to pass the bill before Christmas, while the Senate is expected to pass it in January. It was noted that these funds are derived from the remaining federal Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP) bank bailout funds.

Kathleen Davis, Director, WSDOT Highways & Local Programs, is coordinating a conference call this Friday with MPOs around the state to discuss how to administer the Jobs Bill and prioritize projects. Jeff Selle noted that the USDOT partnered with HUD and EPA to form the "Green" cabinet in order to push the livability concept. He stated that in order to be ahead of the game, jurisdictions should be prepared to present their transportation projects that would support this concept. He noted his intent is to host a livability workshop in January.

Bob Brueggeman reported that the County has a sidewalk project on Freya that will be completed next year. They have completed what they can on the Bigelow Gulch project until the legal issues are resolved.

## **6. New Business.**

### **a) High Performance Transit Network Interagency Technical Group – Karl Otterstrom**

Karl Otterstrom stated STA is working with David Evans & Associates to code the scenarios previously discussed several months ago. An ad hoc technical group will be formed to review the modeling results and discuss and develop recommendations on corridors that should be completed in the final high performance transit network. The results will be provided to STA's Board of Directors as well as to the public. The first meeting is scheduled for January 28 at the SRTC conference room and all jurisdictions are invited to send engineering, transportation, or planning representatives to attend.

### **b) Election of 2010 Officers**

Gordon Howell stated that the current year's vice chair typically moves into the chair role on the TTC. Based on a list of past officers, it appears that the City of Spokane is up for the vice chair position.

**Bob Brueggemann made a motion to approve Ron Edgar as the TTC Chair for 2010. Steve Worley seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.**

**Mark Serbousek made a motion to nominate Katherine Miller as the TTC Vice Chair for 2010. Harold White seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.**

### **c) 2010 TTC Meeting Dates**

The committee reviewed the list of meeting dates included in their meeting packet. Katherine asked whether there was a change to the SRTC Board meeting schedule. Anna noted that the January Board meeting was changed from January 14 to the 21<sup>st</sup> due to a conflicting meeting in Olympia.

Karl Otterstrom asked whether a draft work program is available which outlines grant and other funding processes. Anna stated that she would check and make one available.

The question was asked whether the TTC Chair will serve as an ex-officio member of the SRTC Board based on recent Board actions. It was noted that should the revisions to the interlocal agreement be approved by the participating jurisdictions, the TTC Chair will serve as an ex-officio SRTC Board member.

**Ron Edgar made a motion to approve the 2010 TTC meeting dates. Mike Gribner seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.**

## **7. Local Transportation Meetings and Discussions.**

Jeff Selle briefed the committee on the Regional Transportation (Big Tent) meetings stating that the transportation related issues that have been discussed include how to deal with maintenance and operation issues/funding as well as governance leadership and multi-jurisdictional coordination on regional projects.

Last month's meeting was the culmination of a 2 year discussion on transportation benefit districts, street utility laws, and addressing transportation governance in the region. The goal is to present their findings to regional legislators in hopes of establishing a distribution formula for maintenance/operation funding. The group is proceeding with plans to restructure the SRTC to allow more input into policy development by creating a Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). The TAC will report to the Board and applications for membership will be taken from those with intermodal transportation backgrounds/involvement.

The structure of the SRTC Board is also expected to change from a 9 member Board to a 15 member Board, 4 of which will be ex-officio, including the TTC Chair. The Chair of the TAC will also serve as a member of the Board.

Jeff reported that the regional project priority list has been approved by the Board. The list will be used to solicit grant or earmark funding. Jeff expressed his desire to host a workshop next month to review the earmark application process and how to best frame the applications in light of the current climate change discussions/legislation. He invited any jurisdiction who intends to apply for earmark funding to attend. Jeff provided a

handout of an excerpt from the December 11<sup>th</sup> Glenn Beck radio show, which quoted Congressman Jason Chaffetz on earmarks.

Jeff was asked to provide information regarding the Request for Proposal (RFP) that SRTC has advertised. Jeff noted that the RFP is on the SRTC website and that there have been 46 inquiries to date. The successful candidate chosen will be expected to develop a Unified Regional Transportation Vision that describes the desired attributes of a fully integrated, multimodal transportation system to be developed over the next 30-50 years. Interested parties will have until close of business December 18 to submit proposals for consideration.

Chad Coles was asked whether he had received nominations for the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) subcommittee as discussed at last month's TTC meeting. He responded that he recently received the TTC contact list and will be sending out the email to the TTC requesting the names of staff members they wish to nominate to address the PCI issue or staff a project verification team. He stated that they will probably meet in January and that he will update the committee on their progress.

## **8. Adjournment.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 pm.

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Donna Lively  
Recording Secretary