

MEETING MINUTES

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

1. Call to Order.

Don MacDonald, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

2. Roll Call/Record of Attendance.

Bob Brueggeman	Spokane County
Ron Edgar	SCAPCA
Mike Frucci	WSDOT
Mike Gribner	WSDOT
Gordon Howell	Spokane Transit Authority
Roger Krieger	City of Deer Park
Don MacDonald (Chair)	City of Cheney
Inga Note	City of Spokane Valley
Katherine Miller	City of Spokane
Steve Worley	City of Spokane Valley

Guests/Alternates.

Bill Hemmings	Spokane County
Louis Meuler	City of Spokane
Bob Turner	City of Spokane
Mary Ann Ulik.....	Downtown Spokane Partnership
Mark Brower	W&H Pacific
Paul Kropp	
Dale Smith	

Staff.

Glenn Miles	Transportation Manager
Jeff Selle	Manager Transp. Relations
Val Melvin	SRTMC Traffic Engineer
Stacy Lehman	Pub. Info/Ed Coord.
Judy Hazard.....	Administrative Assistant

3. Approval of November Meeting Minutes.

Bob Brueggeman made a motion to approve the November 15, 2006 meeting minutes. Katherine Miller seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

4. New Business.

a) Election of Officers

Mike Frucci made a motion to appoint Tom Arnold chair of the Transportation Technical Committee for 2007. Roger Krieger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Bob Brueggeman made a motion to appoint Steve Worley vice-chair of the Transportation Technical Committee for 2007. Mike Frucci seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

b) Human Services Coordinated Transportation Service Plan

Having a Human Services Coordinated Transportation Service Plan is a new requirement under the Reauthorization Bill. SRTC has been working with Spokane Transit Authority to get one initiated. There is only one Section 5310/5311 recipient in this area (Special Mobility Services) that this plan can be coordinated with. They have submitted an application for operating and capital assistance to maintain the North Spokane County route. A representative of WSDOT has indicated that as long as this is in process and somebody will agree it is a priority to keep it going, they will let it go forward.

Roger Krieger made a motion to recommend to the SRTC Board Special Mobility Services' (SMS) application for funding for capital bus replacement in the sum of \$466,400 and for operating assistance in the sum of \$466,672 for the North Spokane County route through the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Service Plan. Mr. Bob Brueggeman seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

5. Old Business.

a) Call for Projects – Section 5307 Funding

The SRTC Board authorized the release of a Section 5307 funding program Call for Projects for 2008-2011. These are Federal Transit Administration funds that can be used for projects within the Spokane Urbanized Area. The projects can be used for anything that supports public transportation, capital assistance, preventative maintenance on the part of STA, fixing streets that have high density transit route service, to support pedestrian improvements, etc. It must have a rational nexus to public transportation.

There is approximately \$20 million in the overall Call for Projects. The criteria is the same as that used in the past. Representatives of agencies that are not potential grant recipients will be asked to participate in the scoring of the projects. Don MacDonald of Cheney and Roger Krieger of Deer Park have volunteered to assist in the scoring.

It is anticipated the prioritized list will be given to the SRTC Board at their April meeting.

b) Concurrency – Draft Final Report

The draft final report entitled Regional Transportation Concurrency System in Spokane County – A Feasibility Study was given to the TTC Members for their review. The report was given to the SRTC Board at their January meeting. Bucher, Willis & Ratliff (BWR) will be attending the February Board meeting and will give a presentation. It is hoped that the TTC and the Board will read the report prior to the presentation and direct any questions or comments to SRTC staff for delivery to BWR prior to the February Board meeting. Assuming the Board accepts the draft as a final report, an interlocal agreement will be drawn up as the next step in the process.

During the last legislative session a financial note was prepared by the Transportation Committee to study concurrency and its effect on the Growth Management Act (GMA). Therefore, during the year WSDOT has done a review of the GMA concurrency goals and the State Transportation System. Mr. Miles has a copy of this concurrency report prepared by WSDOT called GMA Concurrency Goal and the State Transportation System which looks at integrating the Highways of Statewide Significance into the Growth Management Act. SRTC was able to participate in this report as this area was working on its own concurrency study. He is attempting to get copies of this report for everyone.

6. Technical Member Comments.

Mike Frucci advised the west bound side of the viaduct will be closed starting in mid-May.

Katherine Miller said the City of Spokane is gearing up for construction.

Bob Brueggeman has been named the new County Engineer to replace Ross Kelley, who has retired. He indicated the County is in winter shutdown on all of their projects. Also, he indicated the County's Public Work's Information Officer will be contacting all the jurisdictions to get their construction information for the 2007 area wide construction map.

Gordon Howell stated STA is gearing up for the figure skating championships which will be in Spokane the week of January 22nd. Also, they are in the midst of their long range plan, Transit 2020.

Ron Edgar reported there was no exceedance of the air quality standards in 2006. Also, there has been a major changeover in SCAPCA's Board of Directors.

Steve Worley indicated the Valley just held their fourth public workshop for the Valley Corridor project. This was for the consultant to recommend what they should do with the Valley Couplet. Their recommendation is to extend Appleway and eventually convert the entire system to a two-way (including the existing couplet). This recommendation will be presented to the Valley City Council and Planning Commission on March 1st.

Glenn Miles said SRTC has signed a small contract with DKS to go over the capacity analysis of the model. Also, today, in the Federal Register the Federal Railroad Administration has finally come up with the notes of proposed rule making for the capital grants for rail lane relocation and improvement projects. The written comment period is out and the written comments must be received on or before March 5th. This authorizes, but Congress has not yet appropriated, up to \$350 million per year for this program and \$20 million per year can be allocated per state for rail line relocation and improvement projects. For the Bridging the Valley project, this would mean up to \$40 million per year.

Val Melvin reported on the SRTC Board's directions for the Street Standards study. The SRTC Board has directed the street standards sub-committee to resume meeting in order to pursue one set of minimum acceptable design standards for roads that would apply to Joint Planning Areas in Spokane County. If a jurisdiction chooses to go over the minimum that is okay.

7. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm.

JUDY HAZARD
Recording Secretary