

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council Transportation Technical Committee
May 24, 2017
421 W Riverside Ave Suite 500, Spokane, Washington

1. Call to Order

Mr. Brandon Blankenagel, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present

Brandon Blankenagel	City of Spokane	Gloria Mantz	City of Spokane Valley
Mike Tedesco	Spokane Tribe of Indians	Brandi Colyar	Spokane County
Derrick Braaten	City of Airway Heights	Lisa Corcoran	Spokane International Airport
Todd Ableman	City of Cheney	Heleen Dewey	Spokane Regional Health Dist
Andrew Staples	City of Liberty Lake	Karl Otterstrom	Spokane Transit Authority
Louis Meuler	City of Spokane	Larry Larson	WSDOT-Eastern Region
Inga Note	City of Spokane		

Committee Alternates Present

Joe Southwell	Spokane Regional Clean Air	Keith Martin	WSDOT-Eastern Region
Barry Greene	Spokane County	Sean Messner	Spokane County

Guests

Boyd Foster	Spokane Regional Health Dist	Rich Burnett	Citizen
Michele Percussi	Hill International	Mark Bergam	City of Airway Heights
Betsy Pozzanghera	Special Mobility Services		

Staff

Anna Ragaza-Bourassa	Senior Transportation Planner	Julie Meyers-Lehman	Administrative Assistant
Amanda Mansfield	Assoc. Transportation Planner	Staci Lehman	Communications Coordinator

3. Approval of April 26, 2017 Minutes

Mr. Otterstrom noted a correction to the minutes; on page 2 paragraph 2; it should read that "STA would soon submit an application for evaluation under the Small Starts program for the Central City Line project."

Mr. Otterstrom made a motion to approve the April 26, 2017 minutes as amended. Mr. Greene seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments

5. Technical Member Comments

Mr. Martin stated NHS applications were due this Friday and also a Section 130 Rail Crossing Grant Program call for projects would open on Friday.

Mr. Staples reported that most of the pavement maintenance work was wrapping up and work on Liberty Lake Road would begin soon.

Mr. Larson said WSDOT painting and ADA projects were well underway and the work in Cheney was recently completed. He mentioned there was a lot of pavement repair work in progress to fix roads damaged by the severe winter weather.

Mr. Ableman stated that overlay projects in Cheney would start the second or third week of June and last most of the summer; the largest project being SR 904 all the way through Cheney.

Ms. Corcoran announced that Neighbor Day at Felts Field was Saturday, June 3.

Mr. Otterstrom distributed an updated organization chart of the Planning & Development departments at STA and discussed recent organization changes in regards to staffing. He noted the first bus service improvements as part of the Moving Forward plan were launched this week with later Saturday night service on many routes and a new route in Spokane Valley. He announced that bid opening for the West Plains Transit Center was last Friday and they hope to break ground in July.

Mr. Braaten arrived at 1:45

Ms. Dewey reported SRHD recently hired a new Health Officer, Dr. Bob Lutz. She stated that Walk Bike Bus Millwood was currently underway and enrollment has been higher than expected. She said the Walking School Bus program started back up in May and data has shown that students who participate in the program have increased rates of school attendance.

Mr. Tedesco asked if a new Executive Director for SRTC had been selected. Ms. Ragaza-Bourassa replied that the Board selected Ms. Sabrina Minshall, formerly of COMPASS in Boise, and she will start work at SRTC on June 1.

Chair Blankenagel noted a Millwood Trail Open House would be held at Felts Field Neighbor Day. He said the City has also injected additional funding into the maintenance program this year in response to roads damaged by the harsh winter and so there will be more street repair work this season.

Mr. Meuler stated the City of Spokane was working with WSDOT on the North Spokane Corridor public engagement process and the kick-off event would be held on June 21 at SCC from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. He said the purpose of the meeting was to discuss how the neighborhood and the public want to be engaged and communicated with about the project. He remarked that the public engagement process would be active throughout the rest of this year and next year.

6. State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Ms. Mansfield noted this agenda item was for action and requested a recommendation of Board approval. She described UPWP federal requirements and outlined the nine work task categories. She presented the development schedule and reported on the successful on-site coordination meeting between SRTC, STA, WSDOT-Eastern Region, Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration on April 19. Ms. Mansfield stated no significant feedback was received in terms of how to improve or change the UPWP document.

Ms. Mansfield reported that on May 22 the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) recommended Board approval of the 2018 UPWP. She noted that the TAC commented on the 12 year gap since the last regional household travel survey and recommended that the Board consider ways to contract such a study as soon as possible.

Mr. Otterstrom made a motion to recommend approval of the SFY 2018 UPWP by the SRTC Board. Mr. Staples seconded the motion.

Mr. Otterstrom remarked that the UPWP's for the past several years have all noted the need for a new travel survey and inquired why it had not progressed any further. Ms. Ragaza-Bourassa replied that Ryan Stewart

had done preliminary scoping and rough cost estimates for a survey and related costs are between \$500,000 and \$750,000, which was not in the SRTC budget. She explained that SRTC would likely need to request STP funds and this will be discussed with the new Executive Director. The group then discussed the need for and purpose of a current household travel survey, along with the benefits and uses of the data collected.

A vote was taken on the motion and it passed unanimously.

7. Quality of Life Report Presentation – Spokane Regional Health District

Mr. Boyd Foster, from Spokane Regional Health District, outlined the funding and founding partners in the recently released Quality of Life (QOL) report. He defined QOL, the factors which affect it and explained why it is measured. Mr. Foster spoke about the use of QOL measurements in Spokane County and provided examples of the ways other communities have used their social capital survey data.

Mr. Foster outlined the project's milestones and described the data collection methods. He noted the report was divided into individual sections:

- Social Capital
- Citizen Satisfaction-Spokane County
- Citizen Satisfaction-City of Spokane
- Public Safety
- Physical Health and Health Behaviors
- Mental Health

He presented maps of city neighborhoods and local geographic boundaries which show the reported QOL level. He explained the report's overall key findings, the concept of Social Capital, and how the social capital score is used. Mr. Foster defined Citizen Satisfaction and the different areas and factors that go into the calculation.

Mr. Foster then supplied information about the percentages of survey respondents reporting roads and transportation as an issue for the community and for their neighborhood; for example in the City of Spokane 33% of respondents were very satisfied with the conditions of roads and street while 46% were somewhat satisfied. He summarized the public safety findings and then discussed potential uses for QOL data.

Chair Blankenagel thanked Mr. Foster for the presentation.

8. TIP Working Group Update

Ms. Ragaza-Bourassa distributed copies of a report outlining Federal Fiscal Year 2017 Project Obligations to date. She stated that 69% of the target has been met and based on information from the TIP Working Group it appears the target will likely be reached by the end of June and a buffer of \$1.3 million remains

Chair Blankenagel called for questions and there were none.

9. Agency Update

Ms. Ragaza-Bourassa announced that SRTC will host a meeting on June 13 at 2:00 pm to discuss the 2020 Census Local Update of Census Addresses Operation. She said those with GIS, planning, land use, building permits or other duties related to addressing are welcome to attend.

She noted that in regards to national performance measures progress, on May 20 two of the frozen rules took effect. Freight movement, Interstate and Non-Interstate performance, Bridge and Pavement condition and Congestion and on-road mobile source emissions as it relates to CMAQ projects which will to add to the existing CMAQ reporting requirements. States and MPO's are required to create targets in these performance areas 180 days after the rule is final. SRTC is currently working closely with the state to get that work done.

10. Future Agenda Items

Chair Blankenagel stated several future items had been brought up at this meeting already; Mr. Meuler to talk about the USDOT Grant Assistance Program, and an update by staff on the household travel data collection process. Mr. Braaten said he could present an update on City of Airway Heights projects in the near future.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Julie Meyers-Lehman
Recording Secretary