

MEETING MINUTES

Agenda Item 5a

Spokane Regional Transportation Council Board
Thursday, July 13 2017
SRTC Office, 421 W Riverside Ave, Ste 504, Spokane WA

1. Call to Order

Chair Tom Trulove brought the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2. Roll Call/Record of Attendance – Excused Absences

Board Members Present:

Mayor Tom Trulove, City of Cheney	Larry Krauter, Spokane Airports
Mayor Steve Peterson, City of Liberty Lake	Josh Kerns, Spokane County Commissioner
Amber Waldref, Council Member, City of Spokane	Ben Wick, TAC Chair
Lori Kinnear, Council Member, City of Spokane	Brandon Blankenagel, TTC Chair
Matt Ewers, Freight Representative	Joe Tortorelli, Washington State Transportation Commission
Larry Stone, Major Employer Representative	Mike Gribner, WSDOT-Eastern Region

Board Members Not in Attendance, but Represented by an Alternate

E. Susan Meyer, Spokane Transit Authority – represented by Karl Otterstrom, Spokane Transit Authority
Aspen Monteleone, Council Member, City of Airway Heights – represented by Dave Malet, Council Member

Board Members Not in Attendance:

Al French, Spokane County Commissioner	Dee Cragun, Small Towns Representative
Ed Pace, Councilmember, City of Spokane Valley	

Guests Present:

Mark Nickerson, WSDOT	Richard Warren, WSDOT
Jason Beloso, WSDOT	Katherine Miller, City of Spokane
Kitty Klitzke, Futurewise	Paul Kropp, TAC
Kaitlin Larson, Office of Senator Maria Cantwell	Stanley Schwartz, Legal Counsel

SRTC Staff Present:

Sabrina Minshall, Executive Director	Anna Ragaza-Bourassa, Senior Transportation Planner
Eve Nelson, Senior Transportation Planner	Greg Griffin, Administrative Services Manager
Ryan Stewart, Senior Transportation Planner	Julie Meyers-Lehman, Administrative Assistant
Staci Lehman, Communications Coordinator	

Chair Trulove read the names of the following members who had requested an excused absence from this meeting: Mr. French, Ms. Cragun, and Mr. Pace

Mr. Tortorelli made a motion to excuse the absences. Mr. Gribner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Chair Trulove announced he had received a request to move Agenda Item 6c and 6d to follow Agenda Item 3 and stated he was looking for a motion to approve this change.

Mr. Tortorelli made a motion to move Agenda Item 6c and 6d before Agenda Item 4. Mr. Wick seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6c. 2017 Budget – Quarterly Budget Update (April, May, June)

Mr. Griffin reported that second quarter expenses were slightly lower than expected and revenues were as expected. Ms. Minshall added that a new column of data had been added to the quarterly report showing the percentage of budget met to date in each expense category. Mr. Griffin called for questions and there were none.

6d. 2018 Budget and Proposed Member Dues

Ms. Minshall spoke about proposed dues for 2018, stating there would be slight increases due to population increases, but there was no change in the per capita rate. Mr. Otterstrom remarked that SRTC member dues are relatively low compared to other MPOs, which typically have much a higher dues structure. Ms. Minshall agreed that SRTC dues are substantially less than other MPOs, and stated the Board may want to consider holding discussions regarding the dues structure after the Board strategic planning sessions this fall.

4. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Minshall reported on:

- Recent and upcoming public outreach events
- Final project obligation paperwork has been submitted and is being processed.
- Environmental Justice maps created by SRTC GIS Intern David Lang now available on the website
- Associate Planner Amanda Mansfield has left SRTC to take a position in Alexandria, VA. SRTC posted the job opening and 36 applications have been received with interviews to begin next week
- The annual audit of SRTC by the Washington State Auditor's Office will begin next week
- SRTC will be joining local Chambers of Commerce and the Downtown Spokane Partnership
- Reminded the group to reply to the email poll to select dates for the September and October Strategic Planning sessions

5. Consent Agenda – Minutes of the June 8, 2017 Board Meeting, June 2017 Vouchers, and 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) July Amendment

Chair Trulove announced that Mr. Wick had requested the minutes be amended to show that the person who seconded the motion to excuse absences was not Mr. Pace; the minutes should have indicated that Mr. French seconded the motion.

Mr. Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Otterstrom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Tortorelli made a motion to approve the June 2017 Vouchers and the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) July Amendment as presented. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6a. Horizon 2040 Chapter Three Update

Ms. Nelson stated Chapter Three of Horizon 2040 focuses on how forecasted changes in demographics and other conditions could impact the regional transportation system in the future. She presented data about:

- the expected changes in population and the resulting increases in vehicle, transit and non-motorized trips
- potential increases in travel times
- increases in inbound freight tonnage, trucking and air cargo

She provided details about the need for:

- sufficient funding for preservation and maintenance for roads, bridges and transit
- infrastructure and mobility improvements
- continued development of a network of mobility options
- peak hour congestion management and improved regional coordination of congestion solutions
- monitoring technological advances in transportation
- equity in planning
- increased need for education and enforcement of existing regulations
- new solutions to reduce serious injuries and fatalities

Ms. Nelson discussed the Target Zero program and summarized five “big ideas” that emerged from the recent Scenario Planning Workshop.

6b. Washington Transportation Plan Update & Washington State Freight Mobility Plan Update

Mr. Warren discussed the statewide vision of the Washington Transportation Plan (WTP), described Phase 1 and Phase 2, and compared the WSDOT and MPO/RTPO plans. He outlined Phase 1 key findings, Phase 2 focus areas, scenario planning and described eleven action items. He said the draft plan will be released for public comment later this month.

Mr. Beloso spoke about the 2017 Freight Plan Update, explaining its purpose, objectives, key components and key federal requirements. He described freight trends and issues in economic vitality, facility preservation, safety, mobility, environmental factors and stewardship. He presented information that described how freight demand is projected to grow over the next 20 years and showed the outreach and document development schedule.

Chair Trulove commented that the key requirements slide appears very similar to the work done by the Freight Advisory Committee and the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB), which also created a list of freight priority projects; he asked for Mr. Beloso’s comment on how the WSDOT Freight Plan Update relates or feeds into the FMSIB. Mr. Beloso said the freight priority project list was created with input from the Freight Advisory Committee. The group discussed the definition of congestion.

Mr. Beloso called for questions. Ms. Minshall asked if the WSDOT freight project list would be open to public comment as part of the Freight Plan Update. Mr. Beloso said the project list as submitted to the state legislature 2016 is not a constrained list; he said WSDOT would validate the project list and review project freight benefits. Ms. Minshall questioned how consistency would to be reached between WSDOT’s freight plan and project list and the SRTC long range plan, which contains the FMSIB freight priority project list, because the projects cannot move to funding until they have consistency. Mr. Beloso replied the list of projects came from information provided by MPOs and RTPOs in 2016 when the WSDOT freight list was being developed so it was presumed the projects were also in the MPO/RTPO long range plans.

Mr. Gribner asked if the project list that came from the MPO/RTPOs could potentially be changed and Mr. Beloso agreed. Mr. Gribner said the question is how would WSDOT and MPO/RTPO freight plans align if the list of projects needed to be changed. Mr. Beloso replied there are no plans to change it as of now and did not believe there was a requirement to change it. He said the project list contains about 180 projects totaling about \$6.6 billion and believes the list should already contain those projects in regional transportation plans. Mr. Beloso provided additional details about the validation process.

Chair Trulove stated his concerns that a WSDOT validation process would mean agencies and jurisdictions would be asked to provide presentations on projects when they've already done so for the Freight Advisory Committee ranking process and this would delay project implementation by a year to 18 months. He noted there are some people who feel that WSDOT should accept the freight project list which has already been created by the Freight Advisory Committee and not duplicate efforts.

Ms. Minshall asked that WSDOT provide to SRTC status on the freight project validation process so that additional discussions can be held by the Board and Mr. Beloso said that he would.

Chair Trulove thanked Mr. Warren and Mr. Beloso for their presentations.

10. SRTC Board Comments

Mayor Peterson announced an upcoming ice cream social in Liberty Lake.

Mr. Krauter announced non-stop air service to Sacramento will begin this summer.

Multiple board members thanked Mr. Stone for his sponsorship of the bridge safety presentation and street opening event at the Playfair Commerce Park on July 11 and thanked him for his efforts.

Mr. Tortorelli spoke about the road user charge pilot study.

Ms. Waldref said the East Sprague renovation project was entering the paving stage.

Mr. Otterstrom invited everyone to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the West Plains Transit Center on July 19.

Mr. Gribner reminded attendees that the WSDOT is holding a placemaking conversation on the 25th.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:33 pm.

Julie Meyers-Lehman
Recording Secretary