

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council Transportation Advisory Committee
January 22, 2018
421 W Riverside Ave Suite 504, Spokane, Washington

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Kennet Bertelsen called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present

- Fred Beaulac
- Greg Francis
- Donald Moore
- Greg Szabo
- Kennet Bertelsen
- Pat Harper
- Rosemarie Schmidt
- Tom Trulove
- John Dietzman
- Yolanda Lovato
- Jim Simon
- Margaret Watson

Committee Members Not Present

- Robert Race Sr

Guests

Mike Tressider	Spokane Transit	Brandon Blankenagel	City of Spokane
Adam Jackson	City of Spokane Valley	Sean Messner	Spokane County
Paul Kropp	Citizen		

Staff

Mike Ulrich	Senior Transportation Planner	Anna Ragaza-Bourassa	Senior Transportation Planner
Sabrina Minshall	Executive Director	Julie Meyers-Lehman	Administrative Assistant

3. Public Comments

Mr. Kropp distributed a document regarding the City of Spokane Bike Share Study.

4. Approval of November 27, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Harper made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Ms. Watson seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Francis and Mr. Bertelsen abstaining.

5. Election of 2018 Chair and Vice-Chair

Mr. Ulrich outlined the duties and responsibilities of the TAC Chair and Vice-Chair.

Mr. Harper nominated Mr. Bertelsen for 2018 Chair, Mr. Dietzman seconded, and Mr. Bertelsen accepted the nomination. Mr. Ulrich called for additional nominations and there were none.

Mr. Dietzman nominated Mr. Francis for 2018 Vice-Chair, Ms. Watson seconded, and Mr. Francis accepted the nomination. Mr. Ulrich called for additional nominations and there were none.

Mr. Dietzman made a motion to recommend for Board approval Mr. Bertelsen as 2018 TAC Chair and Mr. Francis as 2018 TAC Vice-Chair. Ms. Watson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Welcome New Members/Introductions

Each member introduced themselves and described their areas of interest in transportation.

7. Call for Projects Update

Ms. Ragaza-Bourassa described the cyclical planning process; the long-term (20+ year) metropolitan transportation plan (Horizon 2040) leads into the shorter term (4 to 6 year) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the next step is project implementation, and then finally performance monitoring, which feeds back into the long-range plan.

She provided an overview of regional funding, highlighting the \$239 million, or 2% of all revenue for the region, for which SRTC is responsible. She provided an overview of the TIP and explained the three types of regional funds; Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) and STBG Set-Aside. She described what types of projects each funding source covers. She drew attention to the Call for Projects schedule and explained planned modifications to the public comment period.

Mr. Francis asked about TAC involvement in the project scoring process; Ms. Ragaza-Bourassa replied that TAC involvement in the scoring process is definitely under consideration, but details are still pending.

8. Central City Line

Mr. Tressider presented information about the development history of the Central City Line (CCL) and High Performance Transit (HPT) as part of Spokane Transit's *Moving Forward* Plan. He described potential new HPT routes in the future and the CCL alignment in downtown Spokane. Mr. Tressider spoke about the previous and ongoing community outreach and stakeholder input for this project. He outlined the ways in which the CCL would benefit Spokane and the region, including economic development and infrastructure renewal.

Mr. Tressider presented a project timeline, the on-line CCL interactive map available on the STA website, and spoke about plans for station identification elements.

9. Barker Rd. Grade Separation / Roundabout

Mr. Jackson discussed the Barker Road, BNSF at Trent Avenue grade separation project; it's location and the multi-jurisdictional coordinated planning efforts. He discussed historical estimated costs of the project, going back to 2001 and noted the six possible configurations studied in 2017. He reported that the preferred configuration is a three-leg roundabout at Trent Avenue with an estimated cost of \$19 million, much less than alternatives suggested in 2014-2016.

Mr. Jackson played a video which illustrated how traffic would flow after completion. He described the total secured and unsecured funds to date, spoke about the benefits to the project at local, regional, and national levels, and discussed the next steps.

10. Bigelow Gulch

Mr. Messner noted that the Bigelow Gulch corridor is very important for Spokane County and this project has been on the books for a very long time. He presented a graphic showing reported collisions along the Bigelow Gulch/Forker Road corridor from 1997 to 2017, explaining there have been five fatalities and 283 injury collisions in that time, illustrating the need for improvement from a roadway safety perspective.

He provided details about traffic volume, freight volume and roadway capacity. He said that to retain the rural feel of the road, the County is planning to build two lanes in each direction with a median or turn lane and wide gravel shoulders. He described how the large project has been divided into eight separate smaller projects; two are completed and two will begin this year; Project 4a Bigelow Gulch/Forker Rd Intersection and Project 5

Forker Rd to Progress Rd and some of the planned improvements. Mr. Messner explained how the project ties into each of the SRTC Guiding Principles.

11. Sprague Avenue Improvements

Mr. Blankenagel discussed the Sprague Avenue project completed in 2017, described the project's goals and objectives and he spoke about history of the Sprague project. He spoke about the recent shift to a much shorter time frame from planning phase to construction. He explained the considerations of space and budget when determining street improvements and described the public outreach completed.

He noted that utilities are considered users of a corridor as well and explained efforts to integrate them into the project process, and how some costs can be shared. He explained some of the methods used to complete the project as quickly as possible to minimize disruption to businesses along the corridor.

Mr. Blankenagel presented a video showing the second phase of the Sprague project conceptualization.

12. TAC Member Comments/Roundtable

Ms. Watson provided details about the Washington Bicycle Summit which will be held in Spokane on April 29 and 30; registration is open now through the Spokane Bicycle Club.

13. Staff Report

There was no staff report.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:42 pm.

Julie Meyers-Lehman
Recording Secretary