

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council Transportation Advisory Committee
 June 25, 2018
 421 W Riverside Ave Suite 504, Spokane, Washington

1. Call to Order

Chair Kennet Bertelsen brought the meeting to order at 3:02pm.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| • Kennet Bertelsen | • Justin Botejue | • Rosemarie Schmidt |
| • Greg Francis | • John Dietzman | • Jim Simon |
| • Fred Beaulac | • Carlie Hoffman | • Greg Szabo |

Committee Members Not Present

- | | | | |
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| • Margaret Watson | • Donald Moore | • Robert Race Sr | • Tom Trulove |
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Guests

Paul Kropp

Staff

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Mike Ulrich | Senior Transportation Planner | Tristan De Alwis | Data Scientist |
| Anna Ragaza-Bourasssa | Senior Transportation Planner | Julie Meyers-Lehman | Administrative Assistant |

3. New Member Introductions

Ms. Hoffman and Mr. Botejue introduced themselves, talked about where they worked, the neighborhoods in which they live, and their transportation interest areas. Then existing members also introduced themselves and their transportation interest areas.

Mr. Ulrich introduced new SRTC Data Scientist, Tristan De Alwis. Mr. De Alwis spoke about the type of work he will be doing at SRTC.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. TAC Chair Report on SRTC Board of Directors Meeting

Chair Bertelsen commented on the great presentation by representatives from Fehr & Peers about the decoupling of Vehicle Miles Traveled from Gross National Products over the past 15 years. He noted the Board approved Mr. Botejue and Ms. Hoffman as new TAC Members, Eve Nelson provided an update on performance targets for transit, and the Board unanimously approved the 2019 Unified Planning Work Program.

6. Approval of April 23, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Simon made a motion to approve the April 23, 2018 minutes as presented and Mr. Francis seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Approval of May 23, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Francis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Szabo seconded.

Chair Bertelsen and Mr. Beaulac said they would abstain from the vote as they were not present at the May 23 meeting. This put the number of voting members for this item below quorum. Chair Bertelsen said approval of the May 23 minutes would be tabled indefinitely.

Ms. Schmidt joined the meeting at 3:14pm.

8. 2018 Call for Projects – Funding Recommendation Exercise

Mr. Ulrich said the purpose of the exercise is to have the TAC weight the Guiding Principles (GPs).

Mr. Ulrich asked each member to describe the last transportation related conversation they had with another person. He reminded the group that one of the core missions of the TAC is to provide guidance to the Board and SRTC on public perception and public perspective.

Mr. Ulrich provided regional information about regional trends in population and employment. He also described other transportation trends including commute times, percentage of trips by mode, factors in quality of life (GP), bicycle facility tracking, shared-use path use, transit ridership, crash history and countermeasures, bridge and pavement condition, and others.

Ms. Ragaza-Bourassa spoke about the correlation between GPs and project selection criteria on the Call for Projects application; she mentioned that staff made sure the application questions were as quantitative as possible. She brought attention to the schedule of upcoming dates in this process and described how projects in the long-range plan (Horizon 2040) feed into the short-range (four-to-six year) plan (the Transportation Improvement Program).

She outlined the factors that apply to each of the six GPs and how those integrated into the application questions. She provided an overview of regional funding for Spokane County, noting that SRTC handles approximately 2% of the regional transportation dollars. She reported that after the final allocations the following approximate amounts are available in the Call for Projects:

- Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program - \$6.9M/year
- Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality - \$3M/year
- STBG Set-Aside - \$530K/year

She reported that 50 project applications were received totaling \$98M and we have \$26M to distribute. She said SRTC is requesting the TAC to assist in the selection process by weighting the GP; they were intentionally weighted equally in the application.

Ms. Ragaza-Bourassa stated that the Board approved an allocation of 5% to small town projects and a set-aside of \$3M/year in 2022/2023 for capital maintenance projects. Additionally, \$3.15M was allocated to SRTC for planning, data acquisition and two studies as well as \$1.834M to the Spokane Regional Transportation Management Center (SRTMC).

Mr. Ulrich started the Guiding Principles weighting exercise, which consisted of each member being given a sheet with each GP and a corresponding scale of one to seven and stickers to apply onto the scale based on importance to each member based on their personal and public perspective.

Chair Bertelsen left at 4:00 due to a prior commitment; he turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Greg Francis.

The group worked on the exercise and then there was a short break while Mr. Ulrich compiled the results.

Mr. Ulrich presented the weighted GPs from aggregated each member's scoring sheet and asked each member to expand on why they scored the way they did and their reasons for determining what was important and what was not as important. The group discussed at length.

After the discussion, the group completed the second part of the exercise, which was assigning points to each GP on a single large page. Mr. Ulrich said that at list of projects weighted as indicated this exercise will be brought before the TAC at the July meeting.

9. TAC Member Comments

Ms. Schmidt talked about the very nice bus shelters in Port Townsend, WA.

Mr. Dietzman commented on the recent Roundabout Symposium hosted by SRTC.

Mr. Botejue said he appreciated today's collaborative process.

Mr. Francis spoke about the uneasiness created when traffic counting.

10. Staff Report

There was no staff report.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.

Julie Meyers-Lehman
Recording Secretary