

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council Transportation Technical Committee
October 23, 2019
421 W Riverside Ave Suite 504, Spokane, Washington

1. **Call to Order** - Chair Karl Otterstrom called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Committee Members Present

Mark Bergam	City of Airway Heights	April Westby	Spokane Regional Clean Air
Todd Ableman	City of Cheney	Heleen Dewey	Spokane Regional Health Dist
Roger Krieger	City of Deer Park	Gordon Howell	Spokane Transit Authority
Scott Bernhard	City of Liberty Lake	Karl Otterstrom	Spokane Transit Authority
Brandon Blankenagel	City of Spokane	Mike Tedesco	Spokane Tribe
Louis Meuler	City of Spokane	Larry Larson	WSDOT
Inga Note	City of Spokane	Glenn Wagemann	WSDOT
Brandi Colyar	Spokane County		

Committee Alternates Present

Barry Greene	Spokane County	Mike Basinger	City of Spokane Valley
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Guests

Becky Spangle	SRMTC	LeAnn Yamamoto	Commute Smart NW
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Staff

Eve Nelson	Senior Transportation Planner	Sabrina Minshall	Executive Director
Jason Lien	Senior Transportation Planner	Shauna Harshman	Assoc. Transportation Planner
David Fletcher	Assoc. Transportation Planner	Julie Meyers-Lehman	Administrative Asst.

3. **Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes** - *Mr. Bernhard made a motion to approve the September 25, 2019 minutes as presented. Ms. Dewey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

4. **Public Comments** - There were no public comments.

5. **Technical Member Comments** – Members spoke about current projects or programs in their jurisdiction or agency.

6. **Chair Report on SRTC Board of Directors Meeting** – Chair Otterstrom shared highlights from the October 10 Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

7. **Spokane Regional Transportation Management Center ITS Plan** - Ms. Spangle defined Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and explained that ITS Implementation helps to maximize the safety and mobility of people and goods; it also improves the performance of existing transportation facilities. She provided examples of technologies in the regional ITS architecture that increase operational efficiency and safety; she presented several examples of future ITS technologies. Ms. Spangle described regional ITS Architecture as a recipe book for designing and implementing ITS projects and outlined its relationship to regional transportation planning. She spoke about the Spokane Region ITS Project Implementation Plan, which is a 6-year investment plan containing the region’s top priority of operationally focused ITS projects and explained why involvement by SRTC in the ITS plan is required by federal requirements.

Mr. Tedesco made a motion to recommend Board acceptance of the SRTMC ITS Architecture. Ms. Note seconded the motion. All votes were in favor.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Regional Priority Strategy for Chambers of Commerce – Ms. Minshall provided a background of this topic, and she noted this is not a SRTC led effort, but a joint public/private discussion to create a package of regional transportation projects that the area Chambers of Commerce can present to the Washington State Legislature for future funding consideration. She said SRTC has provided technical assistance and data to the stakeholder group and will continue to assist by delivering a list of projects which maximize efficiency of the I-90 corridor. She explained that SRTC's involvement will help to ensure that the project package can be created with support from the all stakeholders and is consistent with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

Ms. Minshall said she and SRTC staff have presented at a series of joint chamber meetings and described the information that has been relayed to them including:

- What is SRTC, who is on the Board, what is an MPO & RTPO
- SRTC's mission, vision, core programs and functions
- Information about the MTP and its guiding principles
- Spokane County population and employment figures; forecasts for 2040
- Top transportation issues for the region
- Truck travel time reliability, road rail conflict points, pavement performance on and off the National Highway System

She stated that local agencies and jurisdictions have not fully expressed the extent of funding gaps, especially for preservation projects; they must now think about how to message the “need versus expected revenues” topic to elected officials. Ms. Minshall said the regional priority projects strategy will consist of projects in three categories: maintenance, capital projects, and opportunity areas. She explained that the stakeholder group wants to create a projects package and move away past practice of all jurisdictions/agencies having their own list of projects seeking funding. The group discussed. Some comments included:

- When creating a package that is “sell-able” it is important to recognize that “sell-ability” is in the eye of the beholder
- The disconnect between the types of projects that legislators or officials think are important and the things that are important to system users
- Importance of decisions based on data and facts and not reliance of assumptions or anecdotal evidence

9. Funding Opportunities for Contingency List Projects – Ms. Nelson reported that the HIP funds previously identified for use on the Henry Road project remain available and the TIP Working Group is looking at this source and other funding for contingency list projects. A recommendation from the group will be presented to the TTC next month.

10. Social Equity Mapping Tool – Ms. Harshman said in the past SRTC has developed and posted a transportation barriers map to be used by staff and agency partners for Title VI compliance, but staff is currently developing a much more robust social equity mapping tool using story maps which will improve analysis of Title VI, Environmental Justice & ADA programs in transportation planning. She presented draft maps for many different categories such as indicators of marginalized populations and various types of access barriers such as language, health, education, and transit access.

Ms. Harshman reported that the launch of the Division Street Corridor Study and US 195/I-90 Corridor Study were the catalysts for this project. She noted the suite of maps should be live and posted to the SRTC website in late November and the data tables will be available to all SRTC member agencies.

11. TIP Working Group Update – Covered in Agenda Item 9.

12. **Agency Update** – Ms. Nelson spoke about:
- US 195/I-90 Study kick off meeting
 - The DATA project consultant contract is in negotiation
 - The April 2020 Washington Bike Summit will be held in Spokane
 - SRTC had its four-year federal certification meeting yesterday with the Federal Highway Administration and WSDOT; result of the evaluation will be shared with this group
 - Elections for 2020 Chair and Vice Chair will be held at the next meeting
13. **Adjournment** - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Julie Meyers-Lehman
Recording Secretary