

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council Transportation Technical Committee
March 24, 2021 | Zoom Video Conference

1. Call to Order/Record of Attendance

Mr. Adam Jackson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

Committee Members Present

Adam Jackson - Chair	City of Spokane Valley	Mary Jensen - Vice Chair	WSDOT-Eastern Region
Todd Ableman	City of Cheney	Barry Greene	Spokane County
Inga Note	City of Spokane	April Westby	Spokane Regional Health Dist.
Kevin Picanco	City of Spokane	Karl Otterstrom	Spokane Transit Authority
Kara Frashefski	City of Spokane	Larry Larson	WSDOT-Eastern Region
Gloria Mantz	City of Spokane Valley	Glenn Wagemann	WSDOT-Eastern Region
Brandi Colyar	Spokane County	Roger Krieger	City of Deer Park

Committee Alternates Present

Maria Culloyah	Spokane Tribe of Indians
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Guests

Brandon Blankenagel	KPFF	Paul Kropp	
Keith Martin	WSDOT-Eastern Region	Jerremy Clark	City of Spokane Valley
Shauna Harshman	City of Spokane	Sean Messner	HDR

Staff

Eve McMenamy	Principal Transportation Planner
Mike Ulrich	Principal Transportation Planner
David Fletcher	Associate Transportation Planner III
Michael Redlinger	Associate Transportation Planner II
Kylee Jones	Associate Transportation Planner II
Kevin Wallace	Interim Executive Director
Julie Meyers-Lehman	Exec-Admin Coordinator

2 Approval of February 2021 TTC Meeting Minutes

Mr. Greene made a motion to approve the February 2021 minutes as presented. Mr. Ableman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3 Public Comments

There were no public comments.

4 Technical Member Comments

Members spoke about current projects or programs in their jurisdiction/agency.

5 Chair Report on SRTC Board of Directors Meeting

Chair Jackson shared highlights from the March 11 Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

6 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) April Amendment

Ms. Jones provided details about two projects in the proposed TIP amendment, City of Spokane Valley Pines Rd/BNSF ROW Early Acquisition Phase 2 and WSDOT I-90 Mullan Road Crossing Bridge Deck Repair. There were no questions or discussion.

Mr. Otterstrom made a motion to recommend Board approval of the 2021-2024 TIP April amendment. Mr. Larson seconded the motion. All votes were in favor.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

7 US 195/I-90 Draft Strategies

Mr. Stewart recapped the five project goals, provided an overview of the two project packages which will be presented to the community in upcoming engagement events seeking input, per recent approval for release by the SRTC Board. He described:

Project Package #1-Enhanced Expressway: He highlighted several key projects and clarified that the Lindeke St extension would not displace the Fish Lake Trail. This package includes a new bridge over 16th Ave and Inland Empire Way connection, a two-way connection to Cheney-Spokane interchange, which also will create the potential for transit service.

Project Package #2-Parallel Network: This contains many of the same projects in package #1, but with the addition of improved local parallel network/connectivity, including improvements to Marshall Rd and several other intersection level improvements.

Mr. Stewart presented data illustrating how each package was evaluated in terms of the five project goals and whether the package provided modest, solid or significant improvement towards the goals. He spoke about estimated total package costs and provided details about upcoming community engagement events, starting with a virtual open house.

The group discussed that the responsibility for any project implementation will fall to the jurisdictions. Mr. Stewart emphasized that a preferred project package has not yet been selected and there will be significant public outreach before any decisions are made.

8 DivisionConnects Update

Mr. Lien explained that this project is currently in the concluding section of Phase I, which is selection of a preferred configuration for bus rapid transit and active transportation facilities. Phase two will focus on land use analysis and further refinement of multimodal options .

He recapped the public engagement year to date regarding the final four alternatives and presented graphics describing the lane configurations and alignments along the different sections of the corridor. Based on technical team analysis, public feedback and Steering Committee support, Side-Running C has emerged as the preferred option. This alternative has a two-way separated active transportation facility along Ruby St, street parking on the Division couplet, and business access and transit lanes through the couplet and mainline of Division.

Mr. Lien outlined components of the Side-Running C, alignment through the different sections of the corridor, lane configurations and preliminary locations of transit stations. He spoke about traffic modeling of

the four alternatives and addressed next steps in the process, including the next round of public engagement and involvement.

The group discussed that STA primarily will be responsible for obtaining project funding and while some funds have been programmed for design work, there is still much to be done to secure funding, should the project be approved.

9 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update: Regional Bicycle Priority Network

Mr. Lien reported on the regional bike network update as part of the larger MTP update and presented a map of the existing bike network as related to trip generators and activity centers. He shared information which showed the amount of bike network mileage on shared roadways, multiuse paths, bike lanes and other facilities. Additional analysis will be done to compare shared roadway volumes and speeds and barriers/gaps in the network. Next steps are to distribute an AGOL priority network map for review by member agencies and further evaluation of the MTP policy for clarity.

9 SRTC Public Participation Plan (PPP) Update

Ms. Jones described the PPP and provided a background of the PPP document. This update will be done in conjunction with the MTP update and a subset of the Transportation Advisory Committee has participated in a series of workshops to develop a framework of goals and objectives for the PPP. She highlighted topics covered in the workshops and draft goals. The next workshop is April 13 and will focus on discussing strategies for successful outreach hard to reach populations; everyone is welcome to attend.

10 SRTC 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Redlinger reported on federal requirements for the development of a UPWP by MPOs, the eight tasks contained in the SRTC UPWP and a schedule of milestones. The draft document will be provided to the TTC for review and comment; a multi-jurisdictional coordination meeting will be held on April 27 with representatives from FHWA, FTA, WSDOT, STA and SRTC. He spoke about the Biden administration's new emphasis on climate change and social justice issues and asked the group where they see SRTC staff approaching work with that in mind.

It was suggested that SRTC could help by identifying census tracts that might be the most applicable to particular funding opportunities for projects.

11 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Julie Meyers-Lehman
Recording Secretary