

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council Transportation Technical Committee
May 26, 2021 | Zoom Video Conference

1. Call to Order/Record of Attendance

Mr. Adam Jackson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Committee Members Present

Adam Jackson, <i>Chair</i>	City of Spokane Valley	Barry Greene	Spokane County
Heather Trautman	City of Airway Heights	April Westby	Spokane Regional Clean Air
Todd Ableman	City of Cheney	Karl Otterstrom	Spokane Transit Authority
Lisa Key	City of Liberty Lake	Kristine Williams	Spokane Transit Authority
Inga Note	City of Spokane	Rachelle Bradley	Spokane Tribe of Indians
Kevin Picanco	City of Spokane	Glenn Wagemann	WSDOT-Eastern Region
Gloria Mantz	City of Spokane Valley	Larry Larson	WSDOT-Eastern Region
Roger Krieger	City of Deer Park		
Brandi Colyar	Spokane County		

Committee Alternates Present

Colin Quin Hurst	City of Spokane	Jami Hayes	Spokane County
Keith Martin	WSDOT-Eastern Region	Katherine Miller	City of Spokane

Guests

Paul Kropp		Brandon Blankenagel	KPFF
Anna Ragaza-Bourassa	WSDOT-Eastern Region	Shauna Harshman	City of Spokane
Brian Belsby	Belsby Engineering	Adam Miles	DOWL

Staff

Eve McMenamy	Principal Transportation Planner
Mike Ulrich	Principal Transportation Planner
Jason Lien	Principal Transportation Planner
Michael Redlinger	Associate Transportation Planner II
Kylee Jones	Associate Transportation Planner II
Julie Meyers-Lehman	Administrative-Executive Coordinator
Kevin Wallace	Interim Executive Director

2 Approval of April 2021 TTC Meeting Minutes

Mr. Otterstrom made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes; Mr. Ableman seconded. Motion passed with all votes in favor.

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 reported on the May 13 Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

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

Ms. Jones reported on the projects in the proposed TIP amendment. There were no comments or questions.

Mr. Larson made a motion to recommend Board approval of the 2021-2024 TIP May amendment and Ms. Note seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7 Election of TTC Vice Chair

Ms. McMenamy restated the reason for the Vice Chair vacancy. She described the duties and responsibilities of the position. There was discussion of the historical rotation of officer positions by agency and it was noted that committee bylaws do not prescribe an agency rotation. Ms. Miller said that City of Spokane is interested in chairing next year. Mr. Larson stated that WSDOT is fine with another agency taking the Vice Chair position after Mary Jensen's departure. Chair Jackson called for nominations.

Ms. Miller nominated Ms. Note as TTC Vice Chair for the remainder of 2021. Mr. Otterstrom seconded the nomination. The motion to elect Ms. Note as Vice Chair passed with all votes in favor.

8 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Redlinger spoke about the UPWP budget, highlights of the prior UPWP, anticipated milestones of the 2022-2023 UPWP, and spoke about the coordination/review meeting with STA, WSDOT TRIP, FHWA & FTA. There were no questions or discussion

Ms. Note made a motion to recommend Board approval of the 2022-2023 UPWP. Ms. Bradley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

9 Unified List of Regional Transportation Priorities

Mr. Ulrich explained the purpose and need for a regional priorities list, reviewed the 14 screening criteria questions, and relayed Board member comments regarding the criteria. He identified which of the questions address climate change and equity issues; he explained that the TTC is being asked to identify any missing technical considerations or any fatal flaws. The group discussed; some points/questions were:

- This won't be a traditional scoring process like a call for projects, due to the shortened timeline
- Priorities and projects in the MTP have changed since it was last updated in 2017 – many have been fully funded or completed; there should be an option to add new projects
- Lists of projects that were sent over to Congressional offices by local agencies earlier this year were the "low hanging fruit" because of the short notice given to agencies
- Recommendation to re-visit the equity element for clarity about definitions
- Suggestion that agencies get together and identify projects worked on collaboratively as legislators typically look favorably on those types of projects
- Several members commented that there has not been enough time to review the criteria fully and submit comments before going to the Board next month
- Importance of recognizing projects from the small cities and towns
- How to get from a smattering of project needs all across the county to a cohesive strategy to present to legislators
- Emphasis that this is the first attempt creating such a list and it should be done every year. Lessons will be learned from this year and there will be time for more in-depth regional strategizing next year.

10 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update

Mr. Ulrich explained MTPs must be updated every four years and while the TTC has received updates on separate elements, this will be a progress report of the update as a whole. This update is scheduled for adoption in December 2021 and is more of a refresh than an entirely new plan; upcoming implementation of the DATA project could make future updates to the MTP much more robust.

Mr. Ulrich reported that the Financial Assessment, Public Participation Plan and Regional Priorities Network (bicycle, transit & freight) are the significant elements being updated this time. He addressed methodology changes for the Financial Assessment and Land Use base and forecast year.

He spoke about total projected revenues for 2022-2025, outcomes of the regional freight study, tasks completed and those tasks still in progress. There were no questions or discussion.

11 MTP Needs Analysis Methodology

Mr. Fletcher explained that the Needs Analysis provides a “big picture” estimate of the cost to adequately operate and maintain the transportation system over the 20+ years addressed by the MTP. He noted that past practice of forecasting need looked at historical expenditures, but this does not factor in costs to address deferred maintenance.

He spoke about the different need categories (1) Operations, Maintenance & Preservation (2) Regionally Significant Capital (3) Programs are slightly different than in the prior MTP and described the methods to estimate need in each. Several assumptions are based on information from Transportation for America and the Joint Transportation Commission. Mr. Fletcher discussed the expenditure projection numbers from STA.

There was discussion that the cost of maintenance per lane mile from Transportation for America may not be accurate and suggested that staff reach out to City of Spokane, Spokane Valley, WSDOT & Spokane County to ask about their calculations. Concerns were raised about combining the operations into the same category as preservation and maintenance.

12 MTP Public Engagement

Due to lack of time, Chair Jackson announced that this item will be postponed and presented at the June meeting.

13 Agency Update

Ms. McMenemy reported on:

- 57% of the federal obligation target has been met as of today and it is expected to be reached by the July 1 deadline.
- SRTC Preservation Call for Projects is in process; there is \$6M of funding available and \$12M of requests have been received.

12 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:01 pm.

Julie Meyers-Lehman
Recording Secretary