

## MEETING MINUTES

### Spokane Regional Transportation Council 06/28/2021 Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Zoom Video Conference

**#1 Call to Order/Roll Call** – Chair Todd Coleman brought the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

***Members Present:***

Todd Coleman, Chair  
Kennet Bertelsen  
Dave Richardson

Melanie Rose, Vice Chair  
Raychel Callary

***Guests Present:***

Kara Odegard, City of Spokane  
Gary Ballew, GSI  
Shauna Harshman, City of Spokane  
Ted McDermott

***SRTC Staff Present:***

Kylee Jones, Associate Transportation Planner II  
Eve McMenemy, Principal Transportation Planner  
Jason Lien, Principal Transportation Planner

Michael Redlinger, Associate Transportation Planner II  
Julie Meyers-Lehman, Admin-Exec Coordinator

## ACTION ITEMS

**# 2 Approval of May 2021 TAC Meeting Minutes**

***Ms. Rose made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Bertelsen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

## INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

**# 4 Chair Report on June 2021 Board of Directors Meeting**

Chair Coleman highlighted actions taken and discussions from the June SRTC Board meeting.

**# 5 City of Spokane Sustainability Action Plan**

Ms. Kara Odegard from City of Spokane gave an overview of the City's plan to create a framework to meet state and local requirements in terms of clean energy and climate change goals. She described the plan development to date, provided details about the goals and objectives, and highlighted the ways in which citizens can get involved and stay informed of the process. She emphasized that the plan is not finalized and the City is still actively seeking input from both residents and local agency staff.

**# 6 Regional Economic Development**

Mr. Gary Ballew, VP of Economic Development at Greater Spokane Incorporated, spoke about the update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), which is fundamentally a document required for communities which receive federal funding for economic development. He explained the CEDS is in the midst of being updated and the process is very important and will include a great deal of public participation. GSI wants to include communities that perhaps have not been involved in economic development discussions in the past.

He noted a dedicated CEDS website will be launched soon and he spoke about reaching out to geographic areas beyond Spokane County. The group discussed how CEDS interacts with regional transportation issues, linkages between housing/employment and transportation, and affordable housing as part of regional economic development.

### **# 7 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Call for Preservation Projects**

Mr. Jason Lien provided background information and a status update, including the information about the 18 projects for which applications were received. He reviewed the amount of funding available and asked the committee their thoughts about whether (1) the remaining rural dollars should be spent on current projects or (2) rolled into the 2022 call for preservation projects. He emphasized that policy specifies that the projects must deliver in 2022 or 2023.

The group discussed; comments included;

- Concerns about the required funding match and the difficulties for small towns to meet that
- To be considered for match funding from TIB, jurisdictions must apply on their own
- SRTC cannot provide 100% of funding for any project through this STBG grant program
- Federalizing projects sometimes makes it more expensive
- Increasing costs of materials and cost overruns
- Smaller funding awards can provide big impacts to smaller communities

TAC members agreed that allocating the funds as part of the 2021 call was the preferred option. This item will come before the TAC in July for a formal recommendation.

### **# 8 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Engagement**

Ms. Kylee Jones described the Horizon 2045 engagement goals, milestones, and timeline. She spoke about the transportation questionnaire under development and highlighted some community groups to which the questionnaire specifically will be distributed. She emphasized that the focus of community outreach will be on quality versus quantity, meaning that a special effort will be made to interact with hard to reach populations to obtain their input.

She provided details about the upcoming public meeting on June 30.

### **# 9 Agency Update**

Ms. Jones reported:

- It is expected that the new SRTC Executive Director will be named at the July 8 Board meeting
- The DATA (Data Application for Transportation Analysis) project is moving into Phase 2

### **# 10 TAC Member Comments**

There were no comments.

### **# 8 Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:29 pm.

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Julie Meyers-Lehman,  
Acting Recording Secretary