

## MEETING MINUTES

### Spokane Regional Transportation Council 09/27/2021 Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Zoom Video Conference

**#1 Call to Order/Roll Call** – Chair Todd Coleman brought the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.

***Members Present:***

Todd Coleman, **Chair**  
Kennet Bertelsen  
Raychel Callary  
Mark Haberman  
Liz Hall  
Carlie Hoffman  
Dave Richardson  
Rhonda Young

***SRTC Staff Present:***

Kylee Jones, Associate Transportation Planner II  
Lois Bollenback, Executive Director  
Eve McMenemy, Deputy Executive Director  
Mike Ulrich, Principal Transportation Planner  
Ryan Stewart, Principal Transportation Planner  
David Fletcher, Associate Transportation Planner III  
Kylee Jones, Associate Transportation Planner II  
Julie Meyers-Lehman, Admin-Exec Coordinator

## ACTION ITEMS

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

***Ms. Hall made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Richardson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

## INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

**# 3 Chair Report on August and September 2021 Board of Directors Meeting**

Chair Coleman provided a summary of actions taken and discussions from the prior two Board meetings.

**# 4 US 195/Interstate 90 Study Update**

Mr. Stewart outlined the purpose of the study which was to study the transportation challenges in the region through a multimodal lens with a focus on safety. He showed a map of the study area, road segments and intersections with level of service and safety challenges. Mr. Stewart spoke about how a study advisory team guided the process; consultants helped with technical analysis and community engagement.

He stated that the draft final report will be released very shortly; it encompasses all the data and analysis compiled, safety, mobility, level of service issues. Other modal options in the area, including public transit and active transportation, were evaluated and taken into consideration.

The final report will be posted to study's website and a link sent to all committee members as soon as last round of public engagement is underway. He spoke about the groups the study team spoke with and he talked about project goals.

Mr. Stewart highlighted a few of the recommended strategies for improving the local network connectivity, including establishing bidirectional link to Cheney Spokane Rd, improving mobility for local residents, improving access to Fish Lake Trail and proposed new transit service. He covered key investment costs, a package of approximately \$91M, but this may change based on feedback

from the community and stakeholders. He spoke about upcoming engagement including a 30-day public comment period. He will come back to TAC and the Board in the next two months to share the feedback obtained from the public outreach.

The group discussed WSDOT acceptance of the study and the study's market-based land use assessment.

#### **# 5 Unified List of Regional Transportation Priorities**

Ms. McMenemy provided the background and workplan of this project. She presented the Board endorsed screening criteria, which was developed with TAC input and described a proposed pipeline/tiered approach to moving projects more effectively from inception to implementation; she emphasized that that staff is seeking TAC feedback on this proposed process.

Members discussed and comments included;

- FMSIB, TIGER, and other grant programs are always looking for shovel-ready projects
- Question about how prioritization be addressed for projects that aren't shovel-ready yet ranks quite high on need
- Prioritization scoring based upon responses by project sponsors
- There is always an issue about perspective depending on who is answering the questions
- Dividing projects into categories such as economic development or stewardship so that very different types of projects are not competing against each other

#### **# 6 Horizon 2045: Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update**

Mr. Ulrich reviewed highlights of the MTP update process, summarized the subject of each of the four chapters, and stressed that the plan is not just about vehicles and roadways. The MTP is a multi-modal review of the regional transportation system, including air, rail, transit, pedestrian, bicycle, etc. He spoke about upcoming and completed public outreach, including public survey that received over 600 responses. The final steps of the update include a public meeting on 10/14, a 30-day public comment period, and a request for Board adoption in December.

Member comments included support of SRTC's use of market analysis for land use considerations, managing safety targets, and approval of the MTP's holistic approach to examine current and future conditions.

#### **# 7 Draft 2021 Public Participation Plan**

Ms. Jones delivered a background and purpose of the plan update, shared a process timeline, and summarized the work done by the TAC workgroup in updating/adding the following plan components:

- Develop Goals and Objectives
- Equitable Public Participation Techniques
- Stakeholder Engagement Matrix
- Evaluation Matrix

She described new goals and strategies, explained the general outreach and tailored outreach and highlighted the differences between outputs and outcomes.

#### **# 8 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program Overview**

Ms. Jones supplied an overview of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). She noted that any project that receives federal funds or any project deemed to be regionally significant must be incorporated into the TIP. She outlined the TIP determination process and stated it is SRTC's job is

to ensure that projects are consistent with the MTP and the regional plans, to confirm compliance with state air quality plans and to demonstrate fiscal constraint.

The 2022-2025 TIP contains 85 projects totaling \$743M over the next four-year period and \$766M over the next six. She shared information about the percentage of projects by type and highlighted the new projects. The Board will be asked to approve the program in October.

### **# 9 Agency Update**

Ms. Jones reported on:

- An update of the US Dept. of Commerce Electrification Grant, which is a joint project with Avista.
- Ms. Bollenback said there have been discussions at the staff level about how the TAC can move forward in the most effective way possible. She said it is important that TAC members feel their time is well spent and providing valuable input to the Board. There will be discussion about this topic at the next few TAC meetings.

### **# 9 TAC Member Comments**

- Mr. Haberman feels the new ramp meters on I-90 are helping a great deal with east bound congestion during the evening commute.
- Ms. Hall spoke about struggles the freight industry is experiencing getting products into and out of ports.
- Ms. Hoffman reported that participating on the PPP update has been the most rewarding part of being on the TAC thus far.
- Ms. Callary said she likes the layout of the newly installed City Line bus stops.
- Chair Coleman stated that S3R3 plans to launch a study to generate and identify priorities in the West Plains, Airport, Cheney and Medical Lake areas.

### **# 10 Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm.

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Julie Meyers-Lehman, Recording Secretary