

MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Regional Transportation Council - Transportation Technical Committee
February 23, 2022 | Zoom Video Conference

1 Call to Order/Record of Attendance

Ms. Inga Note, TTC Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

IN ATTENDANCE

TTC Members:

Inga Note, *City of Spokane* (Chair)
Char Kay, *WSDOT* (Vice-Chair)
Heather Trautman, *City of Airway Heights*
Todd Ableman, *City of Cheney*
David Williams, *City of Liberty Lake*
Roger Krieger, *City of Deer Park, Small Towns Rep.*
Kevin Picanco, *City of Spokane*
Colin Quin-Hurst, *City of Spokane*
Gloria Mantz, *City of Spokane Valley*
Adam Jackson, *City of Spokane Valley*

Barry Greene, *Spokane County*
Jami Hayes, *Spokane County*
Cindy Green, *Spokane Regional Health District*
Maria Cullooyah, *Spokane Tribe of Indians*
Karl Otterstrom, *Spokane Transit Authority*
Chad Simonson, *WSDOT-East. Region*

Alternate TTC Members:

Keith Martin, *WSDOT-East. Region*

Guests:

Jason Lefler, *WSDOT-Eastern Region*
Paul Kropp
Jake Saxon, *Spokane County*
Matt Zarecor, *Spokane County*
Mike Bjorgdahl, *WSDOT-Eastern Region*
Jeremy Clark, *City of Spokane Valley*
Nina Stocker, *WSDOT*
Katherine Miller, *City of Spokane*
Adam Miles, *DOWL*
Shauna Harshman, *City of Spokane*
Mark Burrus, *Jacobs*

SRTC Staff:

Lois Bollenback, *Executive Director*
Mike Ulrich, *Principal Transportation Planner*
David Fletcher, *Principal Transportation Planner*
Jason Lien, *Principal Transportation Planner*
Kylee Jones, *Assoc. Transportation Planner III*
Michael Redlinger, *Assoc. Transportation Planner II*
Julie Meyers-Lehman, *Admin.-Exec. Coordinator*

2 Approval of January 2022 TTC Meeting Minutes

***Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Ableman seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.***

3 Public Comments

There were no public comments.

4 Technical Member Comments

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

5 Chair Report on SRTC Board of Directors Meeting

Chair Note provided an overview of the February 12 Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

6 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) March Amendment

Ms. Jones listed the seven projects from the four agencies requesting an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP. There were no questions or discussion.

Ms. Kay made a motion to recommend Board approval of the March TIP Amendment; Ms. Trautman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7 Critical Urban & Rural Freight Corridors

Mr. Fletcher recapped the FFY 2022–2025 National Highway Freight Program (NHFP) call for projects process and shared list of proposed regional priority freight projects, which SRTC will submit to WSDOT for potential NHFP funding. He explained that the list was limited to the top 5 based on direction from the SRTC Board. He reviewed the project list development process and competitiveness criteria and shared a map of the project locations.

During discussion, the following points were raised:

- Due to rising construction costs, the dollar amounts for the *Pines Rd/BNSF Grade Separation* and the *Wellesley Ave: Freya to Havana* projects will be higher than reflected on the list.
- Members agreed that the *Argonne Rd & Upriver Dr Intersection* project should be included on the funding consideration list because it has a much lower dollar amount in comparison to the other five projects. It was acknowledged the addition of a sixth project dilutes the list to some extent and members recognized that the Board is seeking to narrow focus, however the lower price point could potentially make this project easier to fund in the NHFP program. Additionally, STA plans to launch bus service in that area next year.

Mr. Ottrestrom made a motion to recommend Board approval of the top six (6) projects on the proposed list of regional priority freight projects for National Highway Freight Program funding consideration; Mr. Jackson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8 Transportation Performance Measures: Safety Targets

Mr. Ulrich shared information about the formation of transportation performance management (TPM) as part of the Highway Safety Improvement Program in 2005 and the federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act. He stated that TPM for safety focuses on the following 5 performance measures:

1. Fatalities
2. Fatalities per 100M of vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
3. Serious injuries
4. Serious injuries per 100M of VMT
5. Non-motorist fatalities and serious injuries

WSDOT's Target Zero plan aims to reduce the number of traffic deaths and serious injuries in Washington to zero by 2030. Per the federal TPM regulations, Metropolitan Planning Organizations have the choice to either support state DOT targets or set their own. In 2019 the SRTC Board approved a resolution agreeing to support WSDOT targets. Mr. Ulrich explained that this choice must be made again and the response due to WSDOT by 3/11/22.

During discussion, the following points were raised:

- Monitoring and reporting performance are the primary requirements to SRTC if the Board agrees to support WSDOT targets. There is no requirement to measure regional statistics against the state's targets.
- Reducing VMTs the most effective way to reduce fatalities.

- WSDOT is currently implementing a statewide effort to contact local agencies to share safety targets information and strategies to reduce VMT.
- Spokane County also has a Target Zero committee.
- SRTC may want to set some internal benchmark goals so there is something to measure progress in safety improvements.
- The group agreed that there should be more discussions about implementation of effective safety measures.

Mr. Quinn-Hurst made a motion to recommend that the SRTC Board agree to plan and program projects that contribute to the accomplishment of WSDOT Highway safety Improvement Program targets; Ms. Mantz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

9 WSDOT Ramp Meter Presentation

WSDOT Transportation Engineer Mr. Jason Lefler shared about the performance of the I-90 corridor both pre- and post- ramp meter installation in 2020 and 2021. A copy of the presentation will be distributed to TTC members.

10 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP) Update

Mr. Lien provided an overview of the CPT-HSTP plan, designed to serve people with special transportation needs. The plan also identifies available transportation services and where there are gaps in service. The current CPT-HSTP was approved in 2018 and must be updated every four years. The 2022 update will be led by SRTC and Spokane Transit. He explained plan requirements for federal funding and summarized next steps in the update process. He provided a [project page](#) link for more information and to access a survey.

11 Transportation Discussion Series: Quality of Life

Mr. Lien recapped the purpose of this discussion series, addressed the definition of Quality of Life (QoL) in terms of transportation, and shared use data for the regional trail network and STA ridership. He spoke about trackable QoL indicators, such as miles of facility type, network density, level of traffic stress, proximity to a bus stop, etc. Members provided suggestions about how to measure success in planning for QoL and what other QoL metrics staff should consider. The following suggestions were made:

- Understanding where people are traveling to and from, making note of special locations such as medical care facilities, parks, grocery stores
- Facility maintenance
- % of population within a ¼-mile of a shared-use path and within ¼-mile of a HPT stop
- Safety and setting criteria for safety
- Equity and access
- Intermodal connections
- Types of users going to specific destinations, such as children and older adults traveling to parks

12 Agency Update and Future Information Items

Ms. Jones reminded the group that pre-eligibility forms for the SRTC 2024-2026 Call for Projects is due on 03/07/22. She said a Board subcommittee will be evaluating a resolution outlining the TTC's purpose/responsibilities and will update the bylaws, as was done for the Transportation Advisory Committee recently.

13 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.

Julie Meyers-Lehman, Recording Secretary