Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Technical Committee

02.22.2023 | Meeting Minutes

Hybrid Meeting at SRTC, 421 W Riverside Ave Suite 504, Spokane WA 99201 and virtually on Zoom

1 Call to Order/Record of Attendance

Chair Char Kay called the meeting to order at 1:04pm and attendance was taken.

In Attendance

TTC Members

Char Kay, WSDOT-Eastern Region (Chair)

Heather Trautman, City of Airway Heights (Vice-Chair)

Brett Lucas, City of Cheney

Roger Krieger, City of Deer Park

David Williams, City of Liberty Lake

Inga Note, City of Spokane

Colin Quinn-Hurst, City of Spokane

Kevin Picanco, City of Spokane

Adam Jackson, City of Spokane Valley

Jerremy Clark, City of Spokane Valley

Brandi Colyar, Spokane County

Barry Greene, Spokane County

Jami Hayes, Spokane County

Samantha Hennessy, Spokane Regional Health District

Matt Kenney, Spokane Transit Authority

Glenn Wagemann, WSDOT-Eastern Region

Guests

Matt Zarecor, Spokane County

Luka Kury, Horrocks

Shauna Harshman, WSDOT-Eastern Region

LeAnn Yamamoto, CommuteSmartNW

SRTC Staff

Ryan Stewart, Principal Transportation Planner
Mike Ulrich, Principal Transportation Planner
Jason Lien, Principal Transportation Planner
David Fletcher, Principal Transportation Planner
Kylee Jones, Assoc. Transportation Planner III
Michael Redlinger, Assoc. Transportation Planner II

Lois Bollenback, Executive Director

Eve McMenamy, *Deputy Executive Director*Julie Meyers-Lehman, *Admin-Exec Coordinator*

TTC Alternate Members

Mike Tresidder, Spokane Transit Authority

2 Approval of January 2023 TTC Meeting minutes

Mr. Clark made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Note seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#3 Public Comments

There were no comments.

4 TTC Member Comments

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

5 Chair Report on SRTC Board of Directors Meeting

Chair Kay provided an overview of Board action and discussions at their 2/9/23 meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

6 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program March Amendment

Ms. Jones said the proposed amendment consists of the addition of the City of Spokane's Arterial Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons project. There were no questions or discussion.

Mr. Wagemann made a motion to recommend Board approval of the March amendment. Mr. Jackson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#7 Carbon Reduction Program (CRP): Urban Funding Allocations

Ms. Jones reported on the new 5-year federal formula funding program for projects that reduce vehicle emissions; it is divided into three suballocations for SRTC, Urban, Urban Small, and Rural. Based on the Board approved project contingency list, the 2023 TIP Guidebook contingency funding policies, and input from the TIP Working Group the list of proposed projects to receive the CRP Urban 2022-2026 allocations are (1) Fish Lake Trail-Phase 2 PE (2) Millwood Trail-Children of the Sun Trail to Fancher PE (3) Fish Lake Trail-Phase 1 CN.

Members discussed at length. Comments included:

- TIP Guidebook Policy 4.7 and Policy 6.8 do not specify that the contingency funding policy must apply available funding to the project list from the top down.
- Although the policies do not specify top-down funding, the contingency project list is ranked. The list was reviewed by the TTC and approved by the Board, so it makes sense to fund from the top down; otherwise, there is no purpose for ranking the projects.
- CRP allocations for 2022/2023 must be obligated by 6/1/23, so there is a sense of urgency. The proposed projects are able to obligate within that timeframe.
- Discussion about assigning the 2022-2026 urban allocations as soon as possible rather than waiting to assign the 2024-2026 in the future.
- Concern was expressed about applying regional equity considerations for some funding processes (such as the 2024-2026 Call for Projects and the Contingency Funding Process) but not for others.
- At their last meeting, the TIP Working Group members discussed the proposed set of projects for the CRP funding but a consensus was not reached.
- \$3.1M for CRP Urban over a five-year period isn't really a very large amount when compared to the total of the regional federal funds (STBG, CMAQ, TA, HIP, & HIP- CRRSSA) distributed by SRTC.

Ms. Note made a motion to recommend Board approval of the set of projects to receive Urban CRP allocations for 2022-2026 as shown. Mr. Picanco seconded. The motion passed with 9 votes in favor, 7 votes against, and 1 abstention.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

#8 Congestion Management (CMP) Introduction

Mr. Fletcher spoke about the recent launch of the process to update the CMP, which was approved in 2014. He outlined the eight-step update process, which is scheduled to conclude by the end of the year. A multi-jurisdictional CMP Working Group will be established to assist in setting regional objectives, performance metrics, network evaluation, etc. Multiple members said their agency/jurisdiction would participate. Information about the update will be shared with the TTC, TAC and Board throughout the year.

9 Transportation Performance Management: PM2 Infrastructure

Mr. Ulrich shared the requirements of the MPO to set performance targets in the metropolitan planning area for percentage of NHS bridges classified as in good condition and percentage of NHS bridges classified as in poor condition. He presented data about the 305 bridges within the planning area and how conditions have changed since 2013. Mr. Ulrich summarized the pavement condition performance measures.

Similar to the safety targets, MPOs are given the choice to agree to plan and program projects that support WSDOT's statewide targets or set region specific quantifiable targets. He emphasized that agreeing to plan and program projects that support the state targets does not mean the adoption of a quantifiable target. Targets must be selected and forwarded to WSDOT by 6/14/23. The Board will be asked to take action in April.

There was discussion about challenges in evaluating pavement condition on a regional basis because each jurisdiction has different methods of collection and rating.

10 Agency Update and Future Information Items

Mr. Stewart notified the group about WSDOT's Bridge Call for Projects, which has about \$150M of funding available. He spoke about upcoming congressional directive spending opportunities and offered assistance to any member agency needing help with applications or support. There will be slight changes to upcoming TTC agendas by adding a consent agenda for routine items, such as meeting minutes and TIP amendments. Mr. Stewart pointed out that any TTC member can request that a consent agenda item be considered separately.

Mr. Ulrich announced that that SRTC will be sending out data requests to member agencies for building permit information to be used in the land use update and demonstrated the online response tool.

11 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:38pm.

Julie Meyers-Lehman, Recording Secretary