Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Technical Committee

06.28.2023 | 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 1:00pm. In attendance were:

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

Barry Greene, Spokane County

Jami Hayes, Spokane County

April Westby, Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency

Samantha Hennessy, Spokane Regional Health District

Karl Otterstrom, Spokane Transit Authority

Brian Jennings, Spokane Transit Authority

Mike Pea, WSDOT-Eastern Region

Guests

Jeremy Jewkes, WSDOT-Eastern Region

Brandon Blankenagel, KPFF

Mike Tresidder, Spokane Transit Authority Shauna Harshman, WSDOT-Eastern Region

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
Julie Meyers-Lehman, Admin-Exec Coordinator

TTC Alternate Members

n/a

#2 PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments.

3 TTC MEMBER COMMENTS

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

4 CHAIR REPORT ON SRTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Chair Kay provided an overview of actions and discussions at the June SRTC Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

5 CONSENT AGENDA: MAY TTC MEETING MINUTES & 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM JULY AMENDMENT

The consent agenda contained May TTC meeting minutes and a recommendation for Board approval of the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program July amendment. There were no questions or discussion.

Mr. Otterstrom made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included a recommendation for Board approval of the July TIP amendment. Mr. Picanco seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6 PRESERVATION CALL FOR PROJECTS: FUNDING RECOMMENDATION

Ms. Jones summarized the requested action and highlighting strategy contained in the supplemental information document, which read: (1) Request to utilize \$7.9M in STBG allocation from 2027 to fill the gap on an interim basis and (2) if annual allocations return to normal levels, the 2027 borrowed allocation will be returned for programming.

She stated that 18 project applications from 8 agencies were received, totaling \$19M in total requests. She reviewed project scores, draft award amounts, and outlined project funding eligibility. She discussed the funding caps per the SRTC Board's principles of investment.

She summarized the state and federal actions which led to a reduction in this year's obligation authority (OA) and shared information about historical OA amounts. She presented a map that showed the projects in relation to areas of potential disadvantage. There were no questions or discussion.

Ms. Trautman made a motion to recommend Board approval to fund projects as shown in the Attachment for the 2023 Call for Preservation Projects by using the strategy outlined in the Supplemental Information document. Ms. Note seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS: REGIONAL OBJECTIVES AND NETWORK

Mr. Fletcher summarized the congestion management process, the 6-step approach to updating the CMP. He reviewed the work done by the multi-jurisdictional CMP Working Group to evaluate updates to existing CMP objectives and the CMP network. He discussed the draft changes to the objectives, proposed CMP network designation criteria and draft additions to the network.

Mr. Krieger made a motion to recommend Board approval of the proposed regional objectives for congestion management and CMP network, as shown in the Attachment. Mr. Greene seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

8 WSDOT HIGHWAY SYSTEM PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Jewkes, WSDOT-Eastern Region, shared information about the development, public outreach, and upcoming tasks of the WSDOT Highway Systems Plan update. There were no questions or discussion.

9 SRTC/WSDOT SAFETY COLLABORATION PILOT PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Ulrich provided a background of the pilot project development and shared the project's objectives. He outlined pilot project team membership and the methodology/data analysis from which 10 safety projects aligned with regional and state safety objectives were identified. He emphasized that this project is meant to enhance the collaboration between MPOs and the state.

The pilot team will meet again to narrow the project list to 3-5 and the TTC will be asked to review and recommend Board approval at the August meeting.

10 WORKING GROUP UPDATE

Mr. Redlinger summarized the work done to define the role and scope of SRTC's existing and future working groups more clearly. He shared information about steps to implement the Equity Working Group and the group's draft charter. Further discussion about the Equity Working Group will be brought back to the TTC/TAC in a few months.

11 DRAFT 2024 UNIFIED LIST OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES

Mr. Fletcher reviewed the 2024 Unified List project application process, feedback from state and federal legislators last year, and shared the two options for the draft project list.

Members discussed and comments included:

- Comparison of the selection process and total number of projects from last year.
- Suggestion for next year's list development to include a project type category (for example: active transportation, safety, preservation)
- Several members were in support of keeping the list as short as possible. Others expressed support for a longer list, as it demonstrates greater need.

12 BICYCLE LEVEL OF TRAFFIC STRESS

Mr. Lien reported that the data collection and technical analysis is complete. LTS ratings on bike facilities are posted to an online map; members are asked to review and share feedback.

13 HIGHWAY URBAN BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS

Mr. Lien announced that the Spokane/Spokane Valley and Cheney urban boundaries are under review for adjustment, per the FHWA process following the decennial census. The update process will involve coordination with area jurisdictions.

11 AGENCY UPDATE

Mr. Stewart said there may not be a July TTC meeting; members will be notified.

12 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:33pm.

Julie Meyers-Lehman, Recording Secretary