

**Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Technical Committee**

08.23.2023 | 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**

Vice Chair Heather Trautman called the meeting to order at 1:00pm. In attendance were:

**TTC Members**

Heather Trautman, *City of Airway Heights* (Vice Chair)  
Brett Lucas, *City of Cheney*  
Roger Krieger, *City of Deer Park*

Kevin Picanco, *City of Spokane*  
Adam Jackson, *City of Spokane Valley*  
Jeremy Clark, *City of Spokane Valley*  
Brandi Colyar, *Spokane County*  
Barry Greene, *Spokane County*  
April Westby, *Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency*  
Samantha Hennessy, *Spokane Regional Health District*  
Mike Pea, *WSDOT-Eastern Region*  
Glenn Wagemann, *WSDOT-Eastern Region*

**TTC Alternate Members**

Katherine Miller, *City of Spokane*  
Matt Zarecor, *Spokane County*  
Brian Jennings, *Spokane Transit Authority*  
Mike Tresidder, *Spokane Transit Authority*

**Guests**

Paul Kropp  
Kimberly Merritt, *CLS Right of Way*  
Glenn Blackwelder, *Horrocks Engineers*  
LeAnn Yamamoto, *CommuteSmartNW*  
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*  
Michael Redlinger, *Assoc. Transportation Planner II*  
Lois Bollenback, *Executive Director*  
Eve McMenemy, *Deputy Executive Director*  
Julie Meyers-Lehman, *Admin-Exec Coordinator*  
Savannah Hayward, *Communications & PR Coordinator*

**# 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**

Vice Chair Trautman provided an overview of actions and discussions from the June SRTC Board meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**# 5 CONSENT AGENDA: JULY TTC MEETING MINUTES & 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM JULY AND SEPTEMBER AMENDMENTS**

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

***Mr. Zarecor made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included a recommendation for Board approval of the July and September TIP amendments. Mr. Jackson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.***

## **# 6 REGIONAL BICYCLE LEVEL OF TRAFFIC STRESS**

Mr. Lien described the development of the Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) analysis, data collection, application of bike LTS methodology, and calculation of LTS values to indicate the level of stress a rider may experience while cycling along a particular route. There were no questions or discussion.

***Mr. Quinn-Hurst made a motion to recommend Board approval of the regional Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress analysis. Mr. Krieger seconded. Motion passed unanimously.***

## **# 7 2024 UNIFIED LIST OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES**

Mr. Fletcher recapped the Unified List purpose and update schedule. At the last TTC meeting, the group was presented with short and long versions of project list and feedback was primarily in support of the longer list because it provides a more accurate view of the region's needs and allows for greater flexibility to respond to different potential funding opportunities. The proposed list has 4 projects in the Implementation category, 13 in the development category and 5 in the initiation category. Since the last time this was presented to the TTC there have been several updates:

- The *Latah Bridge Rehabilitation* project was officially identified by City of Spokane has one of their legislative priorities.
- Two projects identified from the SRTC/WSDOT Safety Pilot collaboration were added: *Regal St & 44<sup>th</sup> Ave* and *Spotted Rd/Airport Dr.*
- The SRTC Board discussed the addition of Spokane County's *Craig Rd I-90 to US 2 & I-90/SR 904 Interchange Revisions* project.

He explained that the Craig Rd project was not on the Unified List because it scored below the scoring thresholds, but the Board felt it deserved consideration since the project recently secured \$7.5M of funding. The project's estimated total cost is ~\$50M and will improve access to I-90 for the West Plains area by realigning, rehabilitating deteriorated pavement and widening the roadway from the I-90/SR 904 interchange to US 2.

Mr. Fletcher outlined the two options for the requested action:

- Option A to recommend Board approval of the Unified List as shown; or
- Option B to recommend Board approval of the list with the addition of the Craig Rd project.

Members discussed and comments included:

- Because the Board discussed it previously, they will be presented with both options, however a TTC recommendation is requested.
- 5 projects were removed from the list due to their score. The cut-off score for projects in the Development category was 123. The cut-off score for Initiation projects was 131. The Craig Rd project, currently in the Initiation category, would be moved to development due to the funding secured since the application submission.
- It seems unusual to move a project into a different category without an adjustment in scoring.
- Securing funding does not impact project scoring.
- The state funding request funding column refers to the amount requested by project sponsors to the state.
- The TTC is an objective group that utilizes project scoring and ranking to make recommendations.

***Mr. Jackson made a motion for Option A, recommending Board approval of the 2024 Unified List of Regional Transportation Priorities as shown in the Attachment. Mr. Picanco seconded.***

Mr. Zarecor provided additional information about the funding received for the Craig Road project. He said since the project received \$7.5M so it can't really be considered in the development phase and would appreciate SRTC's support of inclusion on the Unified List. He noted it is not the intent of Spokane County to circumvent the Unified List scoring process, but only to add Craig Rd to the list as an acknowledgement of the dedicated funds and the project's regional importance.

***The motion carried with 12 votes in favor and 3 votes against.***

## INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

### # 8 CITY OF SPOKANE VALEY TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES

Mr. Jackson shared information about current and upcoming priority transportation projects in Spokane Valley.

Guest speakers from other member agencies and community partner organizations will be invited to present information to the TTC, TAC and Board in the upcoming months.

### # 9 RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES & NEIGHBORHOODS GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. Jackson spoke on behalf of the proposed LEIA (Liberty to Edgecliff Improvements to Accessibility) Program, which is a collaboration between City of Spokane Valley, City of Spokane, and Spokane Transit Authority seeking a federal grant for multi-modal improvements to transportation facilities in the East Central neighborhood and the 8<sup>th</sup> Ave to Park Rd corridor.

### # 10 DRAFT 2024-2027 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Stewart provided an overview of the draft TIP. The draft document will be available for review and comment on or before 9/1/23. He presented a list of projects by type with anticipated programmed funds and noted that the majority of funding is allocated to the North Spokane Corridor. SRTC will be undertaking a significant public engagement process on the draft TIP, including a 30-day public comment period and a public meeting on 9/21 to share information and obtain comments. There were no questions or discussion.

### # 11 HIGHWAY URBAN BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS

Mr. Lien summarized the Federal Highway Administration requirement to review and update Spokane/Spokane Valley and Cheney urban boundaries following the decennial census. The update process involves coordination with area jurisdictions. He presented a map showing boundaries, which are largely the same as the 2013 boundaries with several small additions.

Members discussed the impact of the boundary adjustment as it pertains to SRTC urban/rural funding allocations, the difference in timing between the boundary adjustments and update of Spokane County's comprehensive plan, and noted the adjustments are reactive to areas which have already been urbanized over the last 10 years.

### # 12 AGENCY UPDATE

Mr. Stewart announced that Roger Krieger is retiring next month; he has served on the TTC for almost 20 years. Sonny Weathers, City of Medical Lake City Administrator will be the new representative for small cities and towns on the TTC. Several members expressed their gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Krieger.

Mr. Stewart introduced a new SRTC Communications & Public Relations Coordinator, Savannah Hayward.

### # 13 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:24pm.

---

Julie Meyers-Lehman, Recording Secretary