

Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Technical Committee

January 24, 2024 | 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 Trautman called the meeting to order at 1:04pm

*In Attendance***TTC Members**Heather Trautman, *City of Airway Heights (Chair)*Brett Lucas, *City of Cheney*Lisa Key, *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*Sonny Weathers, *Small Cities/Towns Rep*Brandi Colyar, *Spokane County*Barry Greene, *Spokane County*Jami Hayes, *Spokane County*April Westby, *Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency*Samantha Hennessey, *Spokane Regional Health District*Tara Limon, *Spokane Transit Authority*Karl Otterstrom, *Spokane Transit Authority*Char Kay, *WSDOT-ER*Mike Pea, *WSDOT-ER*Glenn Wagemann, *WSDOT-ER***Guests**

Jane Wall

Wende Wilbur

Morgan Dean

SRTC StaffAngel Jackson, *Admin-Exec Coordinator*Eve McMenemy, *Deputy Executive Director*Jason Lien, *Principal Transportation Planner*Lois Bollenback, *Executive Director*Mike Ulrich, *Principal Transportation Planner*Michael Redlinger, *Asso. Transportation Planner*Savannah Hayward, *Comm. & Public Rel. Coord.*David Fletcher, *Principal Transportation Planner***#2 Public Comments**

There were no Public Comments

#3 TTC Member Comments

Ms. Kay provided updates on 1/16 Project was advertised and will close on 2/14 for Liberty Park. Additionally, the Health District is working on a three-part webinar series this spring focusing on soft skills for meeting engagement. Ms. Townson will presumably take over Ms. Green's responsibilities.

Mr. Weathers shared positive feedback about a recent meeting with the South Regional Transportation Commission (SRTC) Executive Director. Mr. Jackson made announcements regarding the National Highway Institute (NHI). Ms. Trautman will conduct a workshop on 2/5 at the Hive, addressing concerns related to design parameters.

#4 Chair Report on SRTC Board of Directors Meeting

Ms. Trautman shared highlights of the January SRTC Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

#5 Consent Agenda

Mr. Clark moved to approve the December TTC meeting minutes. Mr. Weathers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#6 Transportation Performance Management: PM1 Safety

Mr. Ulrich is seeking a recommendation to the SRTC Board to agree to plan and program projects that contribute to the accomplishment of WSDOT HSIP (Highway Safety Improvement Program) targets. He provided a recap of HSIP, emphasizing both funding and the statewide program allotment. Mr. Ulrich reviewed the selection process for awarded projects and discussed the five measures used to assess safety performance, detailing the statewide data calculation methods. Despite a slight improvement from the previous year, all performance categories were observed to be trending unfavorably. He also highlighted the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) Target Zero policy, which aims for zero fatalities and serious injuries statewide, and explained the calculation of targets based on trend lines. The deadline for the SRTC Board to adopt a target is 02/28/2024.

There were a few comments and questions:

- Measure 5 of the Safety Performance includes only pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Vulnerable Road User was also defined

A motion to approve the Transportation Performance Management:PM1 Safety was made by Mr. Sahlberg. Mr. Barber seconded the motion. This was passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

#7 WA State County Road Administration Board (CRAB) Presentation

Ms. Wall provided a comprehensive overview of the agency, focusing on various aspects of county road management and funding programs. She highlighted the extensive county road network, totaling 78,000 lane miles, and emphasized the creation of CRAB to oversee all 39 road agencies. She explained the fuel tax allocation and county oversight. She discussed the agency's support services to the community by highlighting the four funding programs were outlined: Rural Arterial Program (RAP), Emergency Loan Program (ELP), County Arterial Preservation Program (CAPP), and County Ferry Capital Improvement Program (CFCIP). Each of the programs were explained with specific allocations and purposes. She detailed ELP's role in disaster relief, addressing challenges such as disproportionate distribution of funds and insufficient allocations for rural arterial programs. Opportunities for improvement included investing in road preservation and maintenance, exploring new funding avenues, and addressing gaps in the county transportation system. She stressed ongoing efforts to conduct studies and audits to better serve rural communities, offering training and collaboration opportunities.

There were a few comments and questions:

- At the legislative level the secretary of state just verified several of the former budgeted items.

#8 Regional Safety Action Plan – Update

Mr. Ulrich conducted a review of the grant program called Safe Streets and Roads for All . In FY22 the program allocated \$813 million to 385 grants nationwide. The majority of funds are designated for developing action plans. To be eligible for funding to build projects an agency must have a qualifying action plan. Ms. Wilber, from Kittelson and Associates, explained how the focus of the actionable safety plan is on addressing fatal and serious injuries through a safe system approach involving various policies and strategies. The schedule is aggressive, encompassing data analysis and community engagement to amplify the voices of those affected by fatal and serious crashes.

Ms. Dean presented data on fatal and serious injury crashes from 2018 to 2022, indicating an increase in 2023 compared to 2022. Key statistics include the prevalence of younger individuals in bike crashes and a majority of pedestrian crashes occurring in dark areas. Mr. Ulrich emphasized the importance of setting targets, with a commitment to target zero fatalities and serious injuries. Three strategies were highlighted to achieve these targets, with a focus on eliminating fatal and serious injury crashes by 2042. The target would be evaluated every 4-5 years with periodic reassessments for continual improvement.

There were a few comments and questions:

- The rationale for the aggressive schedule was explained.
- Some of the community engagement planning includes the opportunity to interview transit users at the plaza and other public venues to allow those that may not attend the open house to have a voice.
- An update on the data release timeline was highlighted and the 107-page memo can be provided.
- Consideration of not just current but future safety issues based on population growth was highlighted.
- There was a request for photos or narratives depicting crashes.

#9 Agency Update and Future Information Items

- Committee members are encouraged to contribute to discussions on topics of interest. Please contact Mr. Ulrich and Ms. Trautman for information.
- TIB confirmed the Complete Streets total award amount will be closer \$50 million versus the \$35M reported last month.
- SRTC successfully conducted its first Equity Working Group session.
- Asset management funds totaling \$15.6 million were awarded to six projects (15% statewide allocation).
- GSI meeting was held in Olympia with Mr. Bollenback in attendance. The Climate Commitment Act was highlighted at that meeting.

#10 Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Trautman moved to adjourn at 2:25pm. Mr. Jackson motioned. Mr. Picanco seconded.

Angel Jackson, Recording Secretary