

Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Technical Committee

April 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 AttendanceChair Trautman called the meeting to order at **1:05pm***In Attendance***TTC Members**Heather Trautman, *City of Airway Heights (Chair)*Brett Lucas, *City of Cheney*Inga Note, *City of Spokane*Colin Quinn-Hurst, *City of Spokane*Kevin Picanco, *City of Spokane*Adam Jackson, *City of Spokane Valley*Jeremy Clark, *City of Spokane Valley*Sonny Weathers, *Small Cities/Towns Rep*Brandi Colyar, *Spokane County*Barry Greene, *Spokane County (Vice Chair)*Jami Hayes, *Spokane County*April Westby, *Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency*Mike Tresidder, *Spokane Transit Authority*Glenn Wagemann, *WSDOT-ER*Mike Pea, *WSDOT-ER***Guests**Lance Mueller, *City of Liberty Lake*Jennifer Emerson-Martin, *Iteris, Inc***SRTC Staff**Lois Bollenback, *Executive Director*Eve McMenemy, *Deputy Executive Director*Mike Ulrich, *Principal Transportation Planner*Michael Redlinger, *Asso. Transportation Planner*Savannah Hayward, *Comm. & Public Rel. Coord.*David Fletcher, *Principal Transportation Planner*Benjamin Kloskey, *Asso. Transportation Planner*Ryan Stewart, *Principal Transportation Planner*Jason Lien, *Principal Transportation Planner*Angel Jackson, *Admin-Exec Coordinator***#2 Public Comments**

There were no Public Comments.

#3 TTC Member Comments

The members provided an update on the events happening within their organization.

#4 Chair Report on SRTC Board of Directors Meeting

Ms. Trautman shared highlights of the April's SRTC Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS**#5 Consent Agenda**

Mr. Weathers made a motion to correct the approval motions in item 6 in the March TTC meeting minutes to reflect **“Mr. Weathers motioned to approve the Transportation Performance Management (TPM): New Greenhouse Gas Rule and Targets as presented. Mr. Greene seconded. The motion passed unanimously.”**

Mr. Weathers moved to approve the March TTC meeting minutes as revised and the TIP Amendment as presented. Mr. Clark seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

#7 Special Transportation Planning Study Agreement: VMT Reduction

Mr. Stewart sought a recommendation from the TTC to the Board to approve execution of the Special Transportation Planning Study Agreement. The effort aims to strategically reduce per capita Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT).

This allocated funding will be used to develop a framework for setting a regional per capita VMT reduction target and strategies to achieve the target. There have been discussions at the Planning Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) to the Steering Committee of Elected Officials about the benefit of coordinating this at a regional scale.

Mr. Weathers motioned to recommend the Board approve the Special Transportation Planning Study Agreement: VMT Reduction. Mr. Picanco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#8 City of Airway Heights: Transportation Priorities

Ms. Trautman, the Planning Director at Airway Heights (AWH) provided an introduction to her role and background, outlining the current focus areas and project objectives. These include developing STA Multimodal Routes, easing traffic on Hwy 2, and establishing alternative routes for freight, emergency services, and pass through traffic at Fairchild AFB, with a focus on serving historically disadvantaged communities. She detailed the 18th/21st corridor as a freight alternative route, explaining its phased development and impact on different areas. Additionally, she highlighted the 6th/10/12 alternative route and it was funded in collaboration with the Spokane Tribe and the Kalispel Tribe of Indians. She emphasized its critical connections and potential for additional transit stops. She referred to the City of Airway Heights website to review the design, phases 1 & 2 of US 2 with target timelines and goals, addressed safety concerns, identified transit needs, and highlighted the partners who shared the responsibility for the Craig Road project.

#9 Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Funding for Cheney

Mr. Stewart recapped that the city of Cheney submitted a request for \$471,000 for the preservation call for projects in 2023 but was ultimately awarded \$184,000 under the urban small categories, a shortfall that hindered their project's full realization. SRTC staff worked with city staff to come up with a new project: a combination of the STBG funding and Carbon Reduction funding, proposed for the acquisition of seven electric vehicles for their maintenance fleet and the installation of a charging canopy.

The proposed award is \$237,559 (CRP) and \$113,126 (STBG) for a total of \$350,685, with a 13.5% local match of \$54,731 from Cheney.

#10 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Guiding Principles

Mr. Lien introduced a new recommended guiding principle and provided an explanation of what a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) entails. He highlighted Horizon 2045 and introduced Horizon 2050 as the upcoming focus. The guiding principles were expanded to include a draft equity guiding principle, reflecting discussions throughout 2022 involving SRTC committees and the board on enhancing equity in their work.

One key recommendation was to integrate equity into the guiding principles, which was demonstrated through a draft statement explaining its importance in addressing transportation disadvantages and

vulnerabilities among communities. Four draft policies were outlined, aiming to improve public information and feedback processes, implement tailored outreach programs, address access and multimodal connectivity gaps, and ensure positive impacts on communities.

The 2024 MTP timeline was detailed, breaking down work elements to be completed in each quarter of the year. Next steps involve discussing with the board, considering additional adjustments to the principles, and returning to committees for further review within a few months.

#11 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment

Ms. McMenemy discussed the process of creating amendments when there are new deliverables and/or changes in the UPWP budget. She reviewed the functions of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and the items included in it, highlighting collaborative planning efforts with Spokane Transit Authority and WSDOT-ER for completing studies and analyses. The amendments include the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) target & framework and associated budget information, a Regional Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) plan, clarifying activities that address safe and accessible transportation, and incorporating WSDOT-ER planning activities. Information regarding the next steps was also provided.

#12 Agency Update and Future Information Items

- Mr. Schmidt announced the WSTC will be holding their meeting in Cheney on June 26-27th.
- Mr. Ewers highlighted that he went to Washington, DC, last week, to review the freight issue and driver shortage. He explained there are 78,000 *fewer* drivers nationwide. We also discussed the energy environment for transitioning to non-carbon fuel without losing any additional drivers

#13 Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Trautman adjourned the meeting at 2:08pm.

Angel Jackson, Recording Secretary