

Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Advisory Committee

5/22/2024 | 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 3:00 PM

Chair Vose informed that he would be delayed for the meeting. Ms. Zentz volunteered to be the Chair until Mr. Vose was available. She called the meeting to order at 3:03pm and attendance was taken. In Attendance:

Members

Michael Ankney
Raychel Callary
Charles Hansen
Carlie Hoffman
Katie Melby
Tom Sahlberg
Paul Vose
Bill White
Kim Zentz

Guests

Spencer Montgomery
Wende Wilber, *Kittleson & Assoc.*
Morgan Dean, *Kittleson & Assoc.*
Shauna Harshman, *WSDOT*
Tara Limon, *STA*

SRTC Staff

Lois Bollenback, *Executive Director*
Savannah Hayward, *Comm. & Public Rel. Coord.*
Angel Jackson, *Admin-Exec Coordinator*
David Fletcher, *Principal Transportation Planner*
Jason Lien, *Principal Transportation Planner*
Michael Redlinger, *Associate Transportation Planner 2*
Ryan Stewart, *Principal Transportation Planner*
Mike Ulrich, *Principal Transportation Planner*
Benjamin Kloskey, *Associate Transportation Planner*

2 Public Comments

No comments

3 TAC Member Comments

Each member was given the opportunity to highlight events/projects in their respective areas.

4 Chair Report on SRTC Board of Directors Meeting

Chair Vose reviewed action and discussions from the May SRTC Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

5 Consent Agenda

a) April minutes for TAC Meeting

Mr. Sahlberg made a motion to approve the April TAC Meeting Minutes. Ms. Zentz seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

6 Unified Planning Work program (UPWP) Amendment 1

Ms. Bollenback discussed the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), SRTC’s federally required two-year work program. She explained that the current work plan was developed in January 2023. Amendments are being made to include a couple of new items: the Commute Trip Reduction Program (CTRP), Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) targets, and clarifications on how safety funding is being spent, along with adding Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) planning items. Additionally, there is an adjustment from last month's presentation to allocate funding for the DATA project. Initially, it was forecasted that the project would be further along by this point. These amendments involve budgeting adjustments in order to revise the timeline of expenditures.

Mr. Sahlberg motioned to recommend the Board to approve the UPWP Amendment 1 as presented. Mr. Hansen seconded this motion. This action passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

7 Spokane Transportation Agency: Transit Development Plan

Ms. Limon, STA, reviewed the historical Transit Development Plan (TDP), highlighting expanded public outreach and collaboration with partner jurisdictions. The TDP, a state-mandated mid-range plan updated annually and spanning six years, outlines service capital improvements and financial projections, ensuring alignment with state and local priorities. It bridges the gap between shorter-range plans like the annual action plan and budget and longer-range plans such as STA Moving Forward and Connect 2035. Interactions with WSDOT were detailed, including updates on STA's developments, and planning a June meeting with WSDOT staff. The Service Improvement Program (SIP) outlines fixed-route service changes for the next three years, and the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) details six-year capital expenditures. Featured projects include Division Street BRT, Argonne Station, and I-90 Valley HPT. The FTA Program of Projects includes the use of federal formula funds for various initiatives. The TDP is fully funded through sales tax, fare revenue, and grants, assuming voter approval of a sales tax renewal. Expanded outreach activities are planned, including public open houses and opportunities for engagement. The draft TDP will be released on May 30th, followed by a public hearing on June 20th, and final board action on July 25th, with the plan distributed in August if adopted.

8 Regional Safety Action Plan (RSAP) Draft

Mr. Ulrich highlighted the data analysis and engagement plan from February, the inclusion of the High Injury Network, equity analysis, project identification, and strategies from March. He discussed ongoing refinements through meetings with member agencies. Ms. Wilber, Kittleson and Associates, presented the draft regional safety action plan, highlighting leadership commitment, goal setting, and transparency. The plan aims to reduce serious injuries on the High Injury Network by 50% by 2030 and all fatal and serious injury crashes by 2042, aligning with the City of Spokane's goal. It includes data, community input, and strategies, emphasizing equity and addressing safety in disadvantaged communities. Each jurisdiction has their own detailed crash data and high injury corridors pages included in the draft plan, which can be found on SRTC website. Future project prioritization will focus on high injury locations, effectiveness, and equity, with performance metrics for tracking progress. The plan will be introduced to the board in June with the goal to have it formally adopted by July.

9 DATA Project Update

Mr. Ulrich reviewed the project's history, starting from 2021, and discussed the timeline and current model feedback. Mr. Stewart gave an overview of the regional travel model's usage, required by federal guidelines, and its ability to forecast trip making. Enhancements include updated trip generation based on the 2022 household travel survey and a truck freight sub model. Other enhancements include the consistent application of delay and the methodology of connectors for zones. The scenario management feature was also updated to allow more flexibility in analyzing various scenarios, such as land use.

The NCHRP (National Cooperative Highway Research Program) has guidance for project-level analytical travel forecasting. Additional uses of the model include level of service analysis, transportation impact fees, and transportation network planning. Mr. Ulrich recapped the scope and budget for certain model enhancements, noting that member agency staff requested the model's release. He explained that the model could be applied at both regional and local levels, which would need to be detailed separately.

10 Smart Mobility & Resiliency Projects

Mr. Lien detailed the components contributing to the region's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update, including the Regional Safety Action Plan (RSAP), congestion management process, smart mobility plan, and system resiliency assessment. He also mentioned factors such as Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), Congestion Time Ratio (CTR), priority networks, and needs assessment summaries. Guiding principles and the broad scope of the Smart Mobility Plan were outlined, covering infrastructure aspects like Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), communication sensors, broadband, and mobility hubs, as well as autonomous vehicle considerations. The focus is on analyzing various strategies and exploring solutions from other regions' Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), such as micromobility, clean fuels, automation, broadband, funding programs, pilot projects, and workforce development. A stakeholder advisory group is set to convene multiple times in the coming months to discuss vision goals and asset risks. Mr. Lien highlighted the upcoming steps to be completed by the year's end as part of this comprehensive transportation planning process.

11 Agency Update and Future Information Items

- WSDOT Consolidated Grant Program issued a NOFO on 5/21. Applications are due by Sept 17th. STRC will facilitate a ranking process for applications submitted from the Spokane region this Fall, as required by the grant program.
- SRTC will be participating in many outreach opportunities in June throughout Spokane and invited members to stop by the booth to connect with staff.

12 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Angel Jackson, Recording Secretary