

Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Advisory Committee

01/24/2024 | 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 3:00 PM

Chair Vose called the meeting to order at 3:04pm and attendance was taken. In Attendance:

TCC Members

Michael Ankney	Katie Melby
John Barber	Tom Sahlberg
Raychel Callary	Paul Vose
Carlie Hoffman	Rhonda Young
Charles Hansen	Kim Zentz
Mark Johnson	

SRTC Staff

Lois Bollenback, *Executive Director*
 David Fletcher, *Principal Transportation Planner*
 Savannah Hayward, *Communications*
 Angel Jackson, *Admin-Exec Coordinator*
 Jason Lien, *Principal Transportation Planner*
 Eve McMenemy, *Deputy Executive Director*
 Michael Redlinger, *Associate Transportation Planner 2*
 Mike Ulrich, *Principal Transportation Planner*

2 Public Comments

No comments

3 TAC Member Comments

During roll call, each member, including the five newest additions, introduced themselves and provided rationale for joining the TAC committee.

4 Chair Report on SRTC Board of Directors Meeting

There was no meeting held for the SRTC Board in December 2023.

ACTION ITEMS

5 Consent Agenda

December TAC Minutes

There were no questions or discussion.

Mr. White made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Zentz seconded. Mr. Hansen and the new members of the committee abstained from voting on this motion. A motion to approve the consent passed.

6 Transportation Performance Management: PM1 Safety

Mr. Ulrich is seeking a recommendation to the SRTC Board 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 target setting methodology. Despite a slight improvement from the previous year specific to fatal crashes, 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. Moreover, it was noted that the SRTC should consider its own target or commit to a quantifiable target by the upcoming deadline of 02/28/2024.

There was a comment:

Appreciation of SRTC with the work around safety action plans to include the local and regional context.

A motion to approve the Transportation Performance Management:PM1 Safety was made by Mr. Green. Mr. Weathers 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 County 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 administered by CRAB: Rural Arterial Program (RAP), County Arterial Preservation Program (CAPP), County Ferry Capital Improvement Program (CFCIP), and the Emergency Loan Program (ELP). Each of the programs were explained with specific allocations and purposes. She then detailed the motor vehicle fuel tax and the challenges counties are facing. 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:

- Every county contributes to the Ferry Fuel tax even though it only benefits four counties directly.
- Kansas and Nebraska currently have the best practice in their utilization of the sales tax toward their transportation budget.

#9 Regional Safety Action Plan - Update

Mr. Ulrich provided background on the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program, a discretionary grant with substantial funding. He outlined eight components of the action plan and discussed the local match, which included contributions from member agencies. Ms. Wilber, representing a consultant firm, elaborated on the actionable safety plan's purpose, adopting a safe system approach to address various safety concerns collaboratively. Community engagement and data analysis were highlighted as initial steps, aiming to develop strategies by mid-February. Concerns such as low seatbelt usage and lighting deficiencies were discussed, along with crash trends and demographics. Ms. Dean also explained the increasing crash rates and behavioral factors contributing to such crashes. Mr. Ulrich emphasized the need for target zero action planning and outlined strategies to achieve this goal, aligning with regional objectives for reducing fatalities and serious injuries (FSI) within a specified timeframe.

There were a few comments and questions:

- Other forms of micro mobility should be considered.
- The DOT language for "vulnerable road user" was defined

10 TAC Member Orientation

Mr. Lien provided an overview of the roles of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Spokane Regional Transportation Council (SRTC), highlighting SRTC's status as a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Transportation Management Area (TMA), and Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO), all based on population metrics within Spokane County's boundary. He presented a map delineating the MPOs in Washington state and explained the historical development of MPOs since the 1960s, emphasizing their role in local and regional planning. Mr. Lien detailed the member agencies across the region and outlined the organizational structure:

- SRTC Board with 20 seats,
- Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) with 22 seats,
- TAC with 14 seats, and
- SRTC staff.

The standing meeting schedule was reviewed, with sessions lasting approximately 90 minutes. Core programs such as the long-range plan (Horizon 2045), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) were discussed, along with their impacts on regional projects. He also provided various resources available to TAC members and where they could be accessed.

11 Agency Update and Future Information Items

- Mr. Fletcher will be the new TAC liaison for SRTC starting in February 2024.
- Mr. Lien explained the rationale behind adding guest speakers as a part of the agenda and information session.
- Ms. Bollenback's attendance at the GIS Summit in Olympia, WA was discussed and highlighted the future of the Climate Commitment Act.

No additional comments

12 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:33pm.

Angel Jackson, Recording Secretary