



Spokane Regional Transportation Council

TAC MEETING 09/23/2026
CONSENT AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM 3a

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 26, 2025- 3:00 pm

1 Call to Order/ Excused Absences

Mr. Ankney called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm, and attendance was taken.

Excused Absence: Jared Aranda, John Griffin, Derrick Braaten

In attendance were:

Committee Members:

Mike Ankney (Chair)
John Barber (Vice Chair)
Raychel Callary
David Eash
Anna Gyure Havlek
Monica Harwood Duncan
Charles Hansen
Carlie Hoffman
Katie Melby
Paul Vose
Ann Winkler
Kim Zentz

Guests:

Daniel Wells
STA
Don Skillingstad
STA
Alex Rempe
KPFF

Staff:

Lois Bollenabck
Executive Director
Bailee Petersen
Comms. & PR Coor.
Anadia Grier
Admin-Executive Coor.
Jason Lien
Transp. Planning Manager
David Fletcher
Principal Transp. Planner
Ryan Stewart
Principal Transp. Planner
Michael Redlinger
Associate Transp. Planner 3
Ben Kloskey
Associate Transp. Planner 2
Angela Paparazzo
Associate Transp. Planner 2

Absent Members:



2 Public Comments

Mr. Kloskey reported that SRTC received two written public comments regarding the September TIP amendment. Both comments expressed concerns about proposed changes to Spokane Falls Boulevard.

The first opposed narrowing Spokane Falls Boulevard or adding a concrete divider, citing its historic character and use for events such as parades and Hoopfest.

The second, submitted by nearby property owners, businesses, venues, and organizations, expressed concerns that the proposed changes could reduce roadway capacity, worsen congestion, and limit access to downtown destinations and events. The commenters requested further evaluation and greater consideration of stakeholder feedback before selecting a design.

No public comments were provided online or in person.

Ms. Zentz asked whether the written comments had been shared with the TTC and SRTC Board. Mr. Kloskey confirmed that they had been presented to the TTC and would be included in the Board's meeting materials.

Ms. Winkler agreed that the concerns raised were valid. Committee members also discussed the project's purpose and whether a final design had been selected. Mr. Kloskey explained that the City of Spokane was still considering design options and that the public input would help inform its decision. Based on information submitted for the TIP amendment, he understood that the project was primarily intended to improve safety and accommodate active transportation users.

Member Comments

There were no member comments.

Chair Report on SRTC Board Meeting

Mr. Ankney gave a brief overview of July's SRTC Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

3 Consent Agenda

- a. June TAC Meeting Minutes
- b. CY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment –
August & September 2026

Mr. Ankney asked whether the two consent agenda items should be considered separately, and committee members indicated agreement.

Mr. Kloskey clarified that a TIP amendment programs project funding but does not approve a project's design. Mr. Barber asked whether a specific project could be separated from the TIP amendment for individual consideration or whether the committee had to act on the entire package. Mr. Kloskey confirmed that the Spokane Falls Boulevard project could be removed and



considered separately.

Mr. Ankney asked whether additional public input would occur before the project was ready for construction. Mr. Kloskey explained that design is scheduled for 2027 and construction funding for 2028 and 2029. Ms. Winkler questioned whether there would be enough time for public input before design begins and suggested inviting City staff to present the project. Mr. Kloskey agreed to contact the City.

Chair Ankney made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Hansen seconded the motion. Ms. Zentz abstained from voting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barber made a motion to approve the CY 2026-2029 TIP Amendment – August & September 2026 as presented. Mr. Hansen seconded the motion. Ms. Winkler voted no. The motion passed 11-1.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

4 Guest Presentation: Division Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Mr. Dan Wells, STA Director of Capital Development, and Mr. Don Skillingstad, STA Senior Project Manager, presented an update on the Division Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. In response to a question from Mr. Ankney, Mr. Wells explained that BRT stands for Bus Rapid Transit.

Mr. Wells said the project resulted from the four-year Division Connects study and is intended to provide an affordable transportation option, improve access, and create a safer corridor. The preferred alternative would extend approximately 10 miles from downtown Spokane to Mead, use 60-foot zero-emission buses, and eventually provide service every 10 minutes or less.

Mr. Skillingstad reviewed the first phase, known as the Minimum Operable Segment. It would include 38 new stations, improvements at the STA Plaza and Hastings Park and Ride, transit signal priority, and business access and transit (BAT) lanes through the Division-Ruby couplet. Service would initially operate every 15 minutes, with approximately 1.4 million boardings projected during the first year.

The project is supported by local, state, and federal funding, including \$38.5 million committed by the STA Board, \$45 million in state funding, a \$1 million federal grant, and a requested \$82 million Federal Transit Administration Small Starts grant. Design is nearing 60 percent completion, construction is expected to begin in 2028, and passenger service is anticipated to begin in May 2031.

Future phases would extend BRT to a planned Mead Transit Center, add four stations, extend BAT lanes north of the couplet, construct a Ruby Street bicycle facility, and increase service frequency. STA has purchased property for the transit center and set aside \$10 million for the bicycle facility.



Ms. Harwood Duncan asked how the project is being coordinated with WSDOT's Complete Streets work and the planned bicycle improvements. Mr. Wells explained that bicycle access has been incorporated into the couplet design, including shared use of the southbound BAT lane and the future Ruby Street bicycle facility. Design details for the middle portion of the corridor are still being developed. Mr. Skillingstad added that STA has coordinated with WSDOT on the Wye to Wandermere project and is designing stations to accommodate bicycle lanes, including island stations where bicycle lanes would pass behind the platform and widened platforms where bicycles would travel through the station area.

5 CY 2027 Unified List: Projects for State & Federal Versions – Draft

Mr. Fletcher presented the draft list of project for the state and federal versions of the CY 2027 Unified List. He explained that the list communicates the region's transportation priorities to legislators and is updated annually. Projects are organized into initiation, development, and implementation categories based on their progress toward funding and construction.

The project evaluation criteria were updated to reflect Horizon 2050, with greater emphasis on operations, maintenance, and preservation and on safety and security. SRTC received 28 project submissions requesting approximately \$530 million in federal funding and \$370 million in state funding.

Staff recommended retaining all projects in the implementation and development categories. For the initiation category, Mr. Fletcher presented three possible cutoff options based on project scores and consistency with the previous year's list. One option would retain the higher-scoring projects, another would also include all projects appearing on last year's list, and a third would use the higher cutoff while retaining STA's Clean Energy Campus Acquisition project.

Ms. Winkler asked why some projects listed the same request amounts for state and federal funding and why those amounts did not equal the total project cost. Mr. Fletcher explained that each agency identifies the funding sources it intends to pursue, so requests vary by project and may cover only part of the total unfunded amount for some projects.

Ms. Gyure Havlek asked whether project scores are reevaluated annually. Mr. Fletcher confirmed that projects are rescored each year to reflect updated information and evaluation criteria. Ms. Gyure Havlek noted that recent wildfire evacuations and resulting traffic congestion could affect the score for Project 7. Mr. Fletcher agreed that such events could be considered during a future evaluation.

Mr. Fletcher will return in September with the final list for the committee's recommendation. Board adoption of the state list is planned for October, followed by the federal list in November.

6 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Draft



Mr. Kloskey presented the draft 2027–2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He explained that SRTC prepares the four-year TIP each fall to identify regional transportation projects receiving federal funding or considered regionally significant. The document is developed with local agencies and WSDOT, aligns with Horizon 2050, and includes project costs, schedules, funding sources, and performance targets.

The draft TIP includes 58 projects and programs, one of which is new, and approximately \$660 million in secured funding. Mr. Kloskey explained that the program is fiscally constrained, meaning sufficient funding is available for all included projects. The North Spokane Corridor accounts for approximately \$285 million, or 43 percent, of the program's roughly \$664 million total.

The draft TIP and interactive project map will be available for public comment from September 1 through October 1. The map will provide project details and allow comments to be submitted directly. SRTC will also hold an open house on September 24 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs event room at the Spokane Central Library. No questions followed the presentation.

INFORMATION (NO PRESENTATION)

7 Agency Update

Mr. Kloskey announced that WSDOT's Wheatland Express ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for August 28 was canceled due to recent wildfires. He also shared that the fourth annual Spokane Regional Transportation Summit will be held October 15, with tickets and early-bird pricing available through Greater Spokane Inc.

Mr. Kloskey confirmed that committee members were interested in a presentation on the Spokane Falls Boulevard project and agreed to contact the City of Spokane.

Mr. Barber asked whether SRTC's transportation resiliency study should be revisited following the recent wildfire. Mr. Lien said an update is not currently included in SRTC's work plan but could be considered during development of the next two-year work plan beginning in early 2027. He noted that the previous study considered wildfire risks and that Spokane Emergency Management is currently updating its plan. Mr. Barber added that feedback from those affected by the recent evacuation could provide valuable insight.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:09 PM.

Anadia Grier, Clerk of the Board