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Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Technical Committee

February 27, 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 1:02pm

In Attendance

TTC Members
Heather Trautman, City of Airway Heights (Chair) Brett Lucas, City of Cheney
Daniel Pratt, City of Deer Park
Lisa Key, City of Liberty Lake
Inga Note, City of Spokane
Colin Quinn-Hurst, City of Spokane
Kevin Picanco, City of Spokane
Tyler Kimbrell, City of Spokane
Adam Jackson, City of Spokane Valley
Erica Amsden, City of Spokane Valley
Daniel Baker, 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
Karl Otterstrom, Spokane Transit Authority
Char Kay, WSDOT-ER
Mike Pea, WSDOT-ER

Guests

K Merritt
Sean Messner
S Montgomery
Julie Wallace
LeAnn Yamamoto, Spokane County
Todd Trepanier, WSDOT-ER

SRTC Staff

Angel Jackson, Admin-Exec Coordinator
Lois Bollenback, Executive Director
Eve McMenamy, Deputy Executive Director
Ryan Stewart, Principal Transportation Planner
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

#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 February SRTC Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

#5 Consent Agenda

Mr. Jackson moved to approve the January TTC meeting minutes. Mr. Picanco seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Otterstrom moved to approve the TIP Amendment. Mr. Jackson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

#6 WA State department of Transportation – Eastern Region (WSDOT-ER) Presentation: Transportation Priorities

Mr. Trepanier reviewed the WSDOT-ER strategic plan, emphasizing Safety, DEI, resilience, and Workforce Development priorities. He highlighted significant initiatives such as the North Spokane Corridor (NSC) Phases and the Children of the Sun Trail, a non-motorized trail identified as a priority. Additionally, he advised the efficacy of implementing J turns on certain roadways, citing the example of US 195 and Thorpe Rd, where the addition of a J turn in 2019 alleviated hazards. Priority projects such as roundabouts on US2 and the 4 Lakes Interchange were highlighted, along with the recent \$72.8 million grant awarded for the PCC Railway. He expressed concerns about funding shifts affecting the projected investments needed for infrastructure repair and maintenance. He underscored the shortfall of approximately one billion dollars and the necessity of robust funding discussions to address pressing projects. Lastly, he highlighted the deteriorating condition of bridges and pavements statewide, emphasizing the urgency of maintenance. He reviewed the workload and staffing shortages, indicating a need for additional personnel, particularly in maintenance roles.

#7 2025 Unified List Development & Project Evaluation Criteria

Mr. Fletcher outlined key dates in the development schedule and discussed the seven categories for the project evaluation criteria. He highlighted proposed revisions made to the safety and equity criteria to incorporate recent SRTC planning efforts in these areas, including the Regional Safety Action Plan (RSAP) and Equity Planning Framework. He also discussed alignment challenges related to the 2025 Unified List and RSAP schedules and presented three potential safety criteria options to address these schedule alignment challenges.

A discussion ensued regarding the safety criteria options, with participants expressing preferences and concerns. Mr. Fletcher assured the group that the draft RSAP would adhere to established methodologies but acknowledged the possibility of changes between the draft and final versions of the plan. Additional concerns were raised about the timeline and using outputs from the draft RSAP to evaluate projects for the Unified List.

#8 Solicitation for Funding: Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB)

Mr. Fletcher informed the committee that the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB) is preparing to release a solicitation for project funding. The project submittal timeline has not yet been announced, however, it is expected to run from late March through early May.

#9 Transportation Performance Management (TPM): New Greenhouse Gas Rules and Targets

Mr. Redlinger presented information regarding target setting for the new Transportation Performance Management (TPM) performance measure, outlining the process as part of the current performance period from 2022 to 2025. He discussed the new greenhouse gas (GHG) rule and the due date for targets, as well as the performance period timeline extending from 2022 to 2031. He explained the metrics for CO2 emissions and reporting requirements, emphasizing the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) target and methodology utilizing fuels data.

Additionally, he highlighted the reference target and year-to-achievement requirements based on current trend lines, illustrating how reductions can be achieved. He identified and explained the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) requirements, emphasizing the turnaround time for analysis and considering the impact on MPOs. Mr. Redlinger reviewed the target deadlines and requested action items to propel the implementation process forward.

#10 Agency Update and Future Information Items

- Photo reminder to submit for the website poster;
- Reminder that as part of the Regional Safety Action Plan, SRTC is currently seeking feedback on safety concerns via an interactive survey and mapping tool linked on SRTC website;
- The Data Project is nearing completion, and a meeting/workshop is scheduled for discussion before the April SRTC Board meeting.

#11 Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Trautman moved to adjourn at 2:36pm.

Angel Jackson, Recording Secretary