

## Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Technical Committee

October 23, 2024 | Meeting Minutes

Hybrid Meeting at SRTC, 421 W Riverside Ave Suite 500, Spokane WA 99201 and virtually on Zoom

### #1 Call to Order/Record of Attendance

Chair Trautman called the meeting to order at **1:03 pm**

#### *In Attendance*

#### **TTC Members**

Heather Trautman, *City of Airway Heights (Chair)*  
 Brett Lucas, *City of Cheney*  
 Luke Michels, *City of Liberty Lake*  
 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*  
 Bob Turner, *City of Spokane Valley*  
 Sonny Weathers, *Small Cities/Towns Rep*  
 Brandi Colyer, *Spokane County*  
 Barry Green, *Spokane County*  
 Jami Hayes, *Spokane County*  
 Matt Zarecor, *Spokane County*  
 Margee Chambers, *Spokane Regional Clean Air*  
 Samantha Hennessy, *Spokane Regional Health District*  
 Karl Otterstrom, *STA*  
 Mike Pea, *WSDOT-ER*  
 Glenn Wagemann, *WSDOT-ER*

#### **Guests**

Sean Messner, *CivTech*  
 Paul Kropp  
 Wende Wilber, *Kittleson & Assoc.*  
 Jeff Frkonja, *RSG*  
 Steven Polunsky, *WA State Dept of Commerce*  
 Leann Yamamoto, *Spokane County*  
 Greg Figg, *WSDOT-ER*  
 Brian Brisendine, *City of Spokane*

#### **SRTC Staff**

Lois Bollenback, *Executive Director*  
 Eve McMenemy, *Deputy Executive Director*  
 Jason Lien, *Principal Transportation Planner*  
 Michael Redlinger, *Asso. Transportation Planner*  
 David Fletcher, *Principal Transportation Planner*  
 Benjamin Kloskey, *Asso. Transportation Planner*  
 Ryan Stewart, *Principal Transportation Planner*  
 Mike Ulrich, *Principal Transportation Planner*  
 Savannah Hayward, *Communications & PR Coord.*  
 Angel Jackson, *Admin-Exec Coord.*

### #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 SRTC Board meeting.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### #5 Consent Agenda

a) September Minutes for the TTC Meeting

*Mr. Weathers motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion. This motion was passed unanimously.*

## **#6 2025 Unified List of Regional Transportation Priorities (Federal Version)**

Mr. Fletcher explained that this is the second year of developing both state and federal versions of the project list, a practice initiated in response to legislative feedback on improving its utility. He clarified that the draft list included in the packet does not add or remove any projects from the state version, which received Board approval in September. However, it does feature updated funding requests tailored to a federal audience, drawing on information from the project submittal forms.

*Mr. Jackson motioned to recommend board approval of the 2025 Unified List of Regional Transportation Priorities (Federal Version). Mr. Greene seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

## **INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **#7 2025 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Guidebook - Draft**

Mr. Stewart explained the purpose of the guidebook, highlighting its role in defining policy, procedures, and critical timelines, all of which are updated annually. He reviewed updates for 2025 and provided an overview of SRTC-managed grant funding sources: Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), STBG-Set Aside, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP).

He outlined the timeline for the 2025 Call for Projects, which includes final approval by the board in July along with a contingency list. A proposed revision to shift from a two-year to a three-year schedule for the separate preservation and maintenance call was introduced, suggesting a one-year offset to avoid inconsistencies in funding amounts. Mr. Stewart also noted a minor revision to the definition of an administrative modification as changes to the total programmed amount of 30% or less. The updated meeting schedule reflects no TAC and TTC meetings in July and no board meeting in August, with the ability to process time-sensitive amendments as noted in policy 3.6.

Next steps include committees recommending Board approval of the 2025 guidebook in November, with final board approval in December.

### **#8 Smart Mobility Plan - Draft**

Mr. Lien introduced Wende Wilber, Sr. Principal Planner at Kittleson & Assoc., who provided an overview of the study's goals. She noted that five stakeholder meetings have been held, each with distinct objectives, emphasizing regional needs and the goal of integrating technology into transportation. Key objectives included advancing regional goals in transportation performance, creating a seamless mobility experience, using data to empower travelers, and developing strategies to attract, train, and retain talent. An assessment of technology evaluation criteria was posed with targeted questions.

Sean Messner, CivTech, then shared recommended strategies for near-term (1-5 years) projects, emphasizing improvements for broadband and traffic signal systems that would also support connected, automated vehicle capabilities and enhance corridor intelligence. He highlighted further implementation strategies such as land-use planning and monitoring initiatives by other agencies. On electric vehicle (EV) planning, he discussed regional zoning, building code updates, community education, and charging station installations. Mr. Messner also reviewed mid- to long-term (6-10 years) projects, including a curbside charging pilot, shared-use travel modes, and electric automated vehicles.

Ms. Wilber concluded with a focus on asset management and transportation demand management, aimed at reducing travel demand and supporting informed decision-making. She also reviewed planning for potential impacts and identified next steps.

#### **#9 Resiliency Plan - Draft**

Ms. Wilber, Sr. Principal Planner at Kittleson & Assoc., highlighted the Resiliency Plan goal, which aims to ensure the system can maintain essential services and recover swiftly to normal operations after disruptions. She reviewed various natural and human-made hazards that pose risks to the transportation system.

Jeff Frkonja, Market Leader at RSG Inc., discussed the methodology used to assess these risks, breaking it down into three steps: identifying, predicting, and analyzing potential hazards. He explained data inputs and how they inform the understanding of cause and effect in hazard events, specifically contrasting the impacts of earthquakes versus landslides and their effects on surrounding areas. He emphasized the importance of narrowing down specific areas for focused future actions, as some communities face more challenges in returning to normal operations after hazard events.

Ms. Wilber added that while most hazards are difficult to plan for, steps can be taken to improve resiliency, including asset management, strengthening critical facilities, revising design standards, enhancing mobility options, and adjusting maintenance practices to reduce hazard impacts. She then reviewed multiple strategies and actions and outlined next steps in advancing these resilience efforts.

#### **#10 SRTC Guiding Principle**

Mr. Lien reviewed the six Guiding Principles and their role in influencing SRTC project selection. He explained the updated format, noting that both the narrative descriptions and policy statements had been refined to add clarity and align more closely with state and federal policies. He highlighted the addition of a new equity guiding principle.

He stated that the updated guiding principles would be applied in the development of criteria for the Call for Projects (CFP), the unified list, and the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mr. Lien acknowledged feedback received from past committee meetings that contributed to these updates.

Next steps include seeking board consensus in November, implementing the principles in the 2025 CFP, and aiming for final adoption as part of Horizon 2050 in late 2025.

#### **#11 Agency Update and Future Information Items**

- Mr. Ulrich thanked members for attending the Transportation Summit
- Reminder of the updated meeting dates for November and December. Stated meeting invitations were sent via email and can also be found on the website.
- Mr. Ulrich informed the committee the Sandy Williams Connecting Communities Grant is currently accepting submissions. This grant program is meant to improve active transportation connectivity for people walking, biking, and rolling along and across current and former state and legacy highways. The deadline for submission is 10/31/24.

## **#12 Adjournment**

There being no further business, Mr. Jackson motioned the meeting adjournment, which was seconded by Mr. Weathers, to unanimous approval and adjournment at 2:15 p.m.

Signature on File

Angel Jackson, Recording Secretary