

Spokane Regional Transportation Council – Transportation Advisory Committee

11/18/2024 | 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 3:00 PM

In Attendance:

Members

Michael Ankney
Raychel Callary
David Eash
Charles Hansen
Carlie Hoffman
Mark Johnson
Katie Melby
Tom Sahlberg
Kim Zentz

Guests

Ken Knutson, SRTMC
Sean Messner, CivTech
Wende Wilber, Kittleson & Assoc.

SRTC Staff

Lois Bollenback, Executive Director
Ryan Stewart, Principal Transportation Planner
David Fletcher, Principal Transportation Planner
Jason Lien, Principal Transportation Planner
Michael Redlinger, Associate Transportation Planner 3
Benjamin Kloskey, Associate Transportation Planner
Savannah Creasey, Communications & PR Coord.
Angel Jackson, Executive Admin Coord.

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 previous SRTC Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

5 Consent Agenda

- a) October minutes for TAC Meeting

Mr. Sahlberg made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Zentz seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Fletcher explained that this is the second year of creating distinct state and federal versions of the project list, a practice started in response to legislative feedback aimed at enhancing its effectiveness. He noted that the draft list provided in the packet retains all projects from the state version, approved by the Board in September, without any additions or removals. However, it includes updated funding requests specifically tailored for a federal audience, based on information from the project submittal forms.

Ms. Zentz motioned to approval of the 2025 Unified List of Regional Transportation Priorities (Federal Version). Mr. Barber seconded this motion. This action passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

#7 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Recommendation

Mr. Stewart outlined the purpose of the guidebook, emphasizing its role in defining policies, procedures, and key timelines, all of which are updated annually. He reviewed the 2025 updates 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 discussed the timeline for the 2025 Call for Projects, which includes final board approval in July, along with a contingency list. A proposed change was introduced to shift from a two-year to a three-year schedule for the separate preservation and maintenance call, with a one-year offset recommended to smooth funding consistency. Additionally, Mr. Stewart noted a minor revision to the definition of an administrative modification, specifying them as changes to the total programmed amount of 30% or less. The revised meeting schedule reflects no TAC or TTC meetings in July and no board meeting in August, with the ability to process time-sensitive amendments as reflected in policy 3.6.

The next steps include committee recommendations for Board approval of the 2025 guidebook in November, with final approval slated for December.

8 Smart Mobility Plan - Draft

Mr. Lien introduced Wende Wilber, Senior Principal Planner at Kittleson & Associates, who provided an overview of the study's goals. She highlighted that five stakeholder meetings have been held, each focused on distinct objectives, underscoring regional needs and the aim of integrating technology into transportation. Key goals included advancing regional transportation performance, creating a seamless mobility experience, using data to empower travelers, and formulating strategies to attract, train, and retain talent. The assessment included evaluating potential technology solutions with targeted criteria.

Sean Messner from CivTech recommended strategies for projects 1-5 years, focusing on enhancing broadband and traffic signal systems that would also support connected, automated vehicle capabilities to improve corridor intelligence. He also discussed additional initiatives like land-use planning and monitoring by other agencies. For electric vehicle (EV) planning, he addressed regional zoning updates, building code adjustments, community education, and EV charging station installations. Mr. Messner then outlined 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 to help reduce travel demand and support informed decision-making. She also reviewed planning for potential impacts and outlined next steps.

9 Resiliency Plan - Draft

Ms. Wende Wilber, Senior Principal Planner at Kittleson & Associates, outlined the Resiliency Plan goal. This goal focuses on ensuring the transportation system can maintain essential services and swiftly return to normal operations after disruptions. She reviewed a range of natural and human-made hazards that present risks to the system. She highlighted the need to pinpoint specific areas for targeted actions, as some communities face more significant challenges in resuming normal operations after such events.

Ms. Wilber explained there were many hazards that are challenging to plan for, though steps can be taken to enhance resilience, such as asset management, strengthening critical facilities, revising design standards, expanding mobility options, and adjusting maintenance practices to mitigate hazard impacts. She then reviewed several strategies and actions and outlined next steps for the project.

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 SRTC 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. Fletcher gave a few agency updates:

- Thanked the members for attending the annual Transportation Summit and noted that a survey has been emailed and encouraged members to complete it.
- 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.

12 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:08 pm.

Signature on File

Angel Jackson, Recording Secretary