

DIXIE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
August 6, 2014
Five County Association of Governments
Conference Room
St. George, UT

PRESENT

Cameron Cutler, St. George City, Public Works Director, Chair
Arthur LeBaron, Hurricane City Engineer, Vice-Chair
Monty Thurber, St. George City, Engineer Associate/Traffic Coordinator
Jay Sandberg, St. George City, Engineer
Dave Glenn, Ivins City, Public Works Director
Jack Taylor, Santa Clara City, Public Works Director
Mike Shaw, Washington City, Public Works Director
Darren Cottam, Toquerville City
Todd Edwards for Ron Whitehead, Washington County Public Works Director
Dana Meier, UDOT, Region Four
Kirk Thornock, UDOT, Region Four
Myron Lee, MPO Planning Manager, Five County AOG
Curt Hutchings, Transportation Manager, Five County AOG
Diane Lamoreaux, Five County AOG
Bronson Bundy, Washington City
Rick Snyder, Sunrise Engineering
Branden Anderson, UDOT
Tom Dansie, Springdale / Southern Utah Bicycle Association

ABSENT

Angela Rohr, Leeds Town
Derek Imlay, LaVerkin City
Fred Davies, St. George City Transit Manager
Kelly Lund, FHWA, Planning Engineer
Steve Call, FHWA, Planning Engineer
Elden Bingham, UDOT, Planning

Cameron Cutler, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. He noted that a quorum was present for conduct of business. Introductions were provided, and it was announced that Jay Sandberg, St. George City, has been selected to serve as the city's third voting member of the Dixie Transportation Advisory Committee.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE

- A. Minutes from May 7, 2014 Meeting:** Cameron Cutler, Chair, presented minutes from the June 4, 2014 Dixie Transportation Advisory Committee (DTAC) meeting for consideration.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MIKE SHAW, SECONDED BY ARTHUR LEBARON, TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2014 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

2. SHORT RANGE PLANNING

- A. **Bike / Pedestrian Plan - Consultant Selection:** Monty Thurber, St. George City, reported that five proposals were submitted and reviewed for consideration in writing a regional Bike / Pedestrian Plan. A selection committee of ten individuals, representing the majority of jurisdictions participating in the Dixie MPO, reviewed the proposals and participated in the interview process. A company based out of Salt Lake City, Alta Planning and Design, was selected as the consultant to perform this work. This particular company has a lot of expertise in writing bicycle plans and is a very well respected company. He indicated that two other proposals were very close in quality and competed very well. Monty thanked companies for their interest and submission of proposals. Staff is recommending approval of a contract with Alta Planning and Design in the amount of \$19,985 for this project.

MOTION WAS MADE BY DANA MEIER, SECONDED BY MIKE SHAW, TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND INITIATE A CONTRACT WITH ALTA TO COMPLETE THE BIKE / PEDESTRIAN PLAN FOR INCLUSION INTO THE DIXIE MPO LONG RANGE PLAN DOCUMENT. MOTION CARRIED.

Monty Thurber indicated that the kickoff meeting for this project is scheduled for August 11th. It is anticipated that the work associated with this contract will be completed by the end of January 2015.

3. LONG RANGE PLANNING

- A. **Brownsfield Planning Grants:** Mr. Myron Lee reported receipt of an e-mail from Steve Call, FHWA, announcing the availability of planning grants from the Environmental Protection Agency for Brownsfield Planning. Cities, counties and MPOs are eligible to submit application for this type of grants. Funding is available to identify specific issues and the development of plans that provide mitigation. Identification of issues prior to mandates for cleanup would be a proactive posture. Sites could include old gas station and other hazardous materials where issues have been created with contamination of soil or groundwater. A grant could work to identify specific areas on private or public land that need to be cleaned up. For example, the Zion Bank building on St. George Boulevard was built on the site of an old gas station. Old materials had to be removed from the site and new materials brought in prior to construction. This funding could also address an old dump site that needs to be cleaned up. The match funding for this and most other grants is typically 20%. Several committee members expressed concern about the MPO entering into this arena because this is not really a transportation issue. It was the consensus of the committee that information be forwarded to cities and counties for consideration, but not undertaken as an activity for MPO involvement.

4. SERVICES

- A. **Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Grant Application:** Mike Shaw reported that a presentation provided by Anne Ogden of UDOT Region Four to the MPO a few months ago resulted in Washington City's application to the HSIP for consideration. The application submitted will address safety issues on Telegraph

Street going up over the hill to install guard rail and rumble strips. There have been two fatalities in this particular area and the road met the safety program criteria. Kirk Thornock, UDOT, indicated that safety monies have not typically been utilized for local roads. However, under MAP 21 legislation all public roads are eligible for funding. The key will be for cities to submit requests through the STIP process that will be opening in the near future. It is recommended that a description of projects be provided to Anne Ogden or Robert Dowell for consideration. During the previous funding cycle, UDOT had extra funds available and was therefore able to fund this project. Myron Lee reported that this is an \$800,000 project that opened the door to locally funded projects under the safety improvement program. Timing was good to include this local project. Kirk Thornock indicated that crash data is a big part of the criteria for this particular program. Projects utilizing this funding source are required to provide a 6.77% local match. The state of Utah receives \$26 million dollars statewide under MAP 21 legislation for safety improvement projects. Jurisdictions are encouraged to provide project information to Anne or Robert early in the STIP process for consideration. Dana Meier indicated that projects are rated and ranked by UDOT. Arterial and collector roads would typically rank higher than a local road.

- B. Planning Grants FY 2015:** Myron Lee reported that funding in the amount of \$120,000 will be available in FY 2015 for planning projects. The projects must be a transportation planning effort (corridor study, plan update, project feasibility study, etc.) In the past, local planning efforts have been funded including the River Road/Mall Drive Underpass, Green Springs Drive Study, Washington and Santa Clara cities Transportation Plan updates, etc. He explained that if the MPO contribution is more than 50% of the study, the MPO must manage the contract. A call for proposals will be sent out to entities via e-mail. Projects must be completed by within the fiscal year (before June 30, 2015). Proposals will be accepted prior to the next DTAC meeting for consideration at the September 3, 2014 DTAC meeting. Funding has already been set aside for the bicycle/pedestrian planning effort. A balance of \$120,000 is available for allocation.

5. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

- A. TIP Public Comment Review:** Myron Lee reported that the Dixie MPO 2015 TIP has been available for a 30-day public comment period which ended August 2, 2014. No comments were received regarding the 2015 TIP. Staff has determined that the main reason for no public comments may be that residents attend the Transportation Expo where they ask questions about the various transportation projects. The draft TIP was posted on the MPO website with an explanation of the projects that were added this year. The two projects added to the TIP include: 1) The environmental study for Purgatory Road (\$500,000); and 2) River Road Widening (\$2.2 million). It was explained on the website that projects are chosen through a defined process utilizing concept reports and scoring. Staff is requesting two separate motions to accept the public comments on the FY 2015 TIP and to approve the FY 2015 TIP certification resolution, with a recommendation to the Dixie Transportation Executive Committee for formal adoption.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ARTHUR LEBARON, SECONDED BY DAVE GLENN, TO ACCEPT PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE FY 2015 DIXIE MPO TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP). MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MIKE SHAW, SECONDED BY TODD EDWARDS, TO APPROVE FORMAL RESOLUTION 2014-02 CERTIFYING THE URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS FOR THE ST. GEORGE URBANIZED AREA FY 2015 DIXIE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) TIP AND TO FORWARD THE RECOMMENDATION REQUESTING FORMAL APPROVAL TO THE DIXIE TRANSPORTATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (DTEC). MOTION CARRIED.

4. LOCAL PROJECTS STATUS UPDATE

- A. Hurricane City:** Arthur LeBaron reported that Hurricane City 600 North project is on schedule. It is anticipated that construction will commence by the end of August. Civil Science and Interstate Rock are the contractors selected for this project. Branden Anderson, UDOT, will be the project manager. It is hoped that the project will be completed by Memorial Day 2015. Myron Lee indicated that Hurricane City may want to consider submitting an application for planning funds to update their Transportation Master Plan.
- B. Ivins:** Dave Glenn indicated that the Center Street widening project has been paved and striped. It is anticipated that the road will be opened on Monday, August 11, 2014. The kickoff meeting for the Highway 91 project was held last week. This is a joint project with Santa Clara. Civil Science is the contractor for this project. It was noted that Ivins City may choose to submit an application to update their Transportation Master Plan. It was last updated in 2008.
- C. LaVerkin:** None.
- D. Leeds:** None.
- E. St. George:** Cameron Cutler reported that the Mall Drive Bridge project is moving along but the deadline has moved to the end of September. All of the roadway links will be completed before the bridge completion. The Little Valley Road will be paved before school starts next week. The 3000 East road project has been completed. He noted that a portion of Canyon View Drive will be realigned. Monty Thurber reported that work is progressing on fiber optics to get all of the signals in the MPO to communicate with the Traffic Control Center. Work is progressing with a fiber optic company to move forward with connection to Hurricane. Dana Meier indicated that a fiber optic link to UDOT needs to be included in the project out to Hurricane.
- F. Santa Clara City:** None.
- G. Toquerville:** Darren Cottam reported that Toquerville City is nearing completion of their water project.

- H. **Washington City:** Mike Shaw reported that the City is installing a signal at Washington Fields Road and 2000 South. The 3650 South street is being reconstructed from the St. George City boundary to at least the Washington Fields Road. This project will include a mill, right-of-way acquisition and some additional roadway width. Work will begin in October on the Washington Fields Road Phase IV project. The right-of-way acquisition for this project is presently in progress. He noted that very preliminary work is being accomplished for a new interchange on I-15 at milepost 11, Main Street or 300 East. The Green Springs Drive Study indicated that even with improvements at Green Springs, a new interchange will be required to serve the population growth in the area. This was included in the I-15 study but it would be further out. Kirk Thornock indicated that the next project in the long-range plan is to widen I-15 from milepost 22 to 28 to accommodate truck traffic. The next project after that would be passing lanes from milepost 16 to 20. The new interchange is included in Phase 3 of the I-15 EA from 2030 to 2040.
- I. **Washington County:** Todd Edwards reported that Washington County is doing a number of chip-seal projects as well as a bypass road between Gunlock and Motoqua. This will align the road back to its original alignment. This will likely be completed by the end of August. The project involves a lot of environmental and cultural resource issues. Paiute Tribal representatives are watching this project very closely because of archaeological concerns.
- J. **UDOT:** Dana Meier reported that a contract has finally been awarded for the Tortoise Exclusionary Fence on Segment 3B of the Southern Parkway. This should commence by the end of August and involves fencing only. UDOT is hoping to have another contract by November/December to actually work on Segment 3B earth work. Kirk Thornock is working hard to move funding ahead to pave this segment as well. Funds for paving of this phase are in place for 2018, but it is hoped that this can be moved ahead. Segment 4B will be reconstruction of the Sand Hollow Road to connect to SR-9. Segment 6 will upgrade SR-9 to an expressway with limited access to I-15 and full connection to the airport.

Kirk Thornock reported that the climbing lanes from milepost 22 to 28 are funded in 2017. A bridge preservation project on SR-9 and I-15 will be advertised and it could be accomplished during winter months. The Sunset Boulevard Interchange design is at 60% completion. The SR-9 Arch Bridge to LaVerkin (Zion Park intersection) project to reconstruct lanes and rehabilitate the road is scheduled to bid this fall. The SR-18 Boulevard to Sunset project is moving ahead with the contract for design. UDOT is also working on some chip/seal projects, one on Enterprise Main Street and one on SR-18 Diamond Valley to Veyo. A progress report will be aired tonight on Channel 2 at 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. where Branden Anderson will be outlining the Snow Canyon Parkway/Red Hills Parkway Interchange project.

5. **STATE AND FEDERAL UPDATE**

- A. **Program Development - UDOT:** None.
- B. **Federal Oversight:** None.

6. **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 3, 2014 at the Five County Association of Governments office.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MIKE SHAW AND SECONDED BY ARTHUR LEBARON.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

DRAFT