

**DIXIE TRANSPORTATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (DTEC)
MINUTES
February 18, 2009**

PRESENT

Suzanne Allen, Chair, City Council Member, St. George City
Jerry Amundsen, Vice Chair, City Council Member, Santa Clara City
Nathan Lee, Director, UDOT, Region 4
Jerry Blair, City Council, Ivins City
Jerry Lewis, Commissioner, UDOT
James Eardley, County Commissioner, Washington County
Roger Bundy, City Council, Washington City
Dan McArthur, Mayor, St. George City
Bryan Thiriot, Congressional Liaison, Senator Bennett
Maureen Casper, Congressional Liaison, Senator Hatch
Lowell Elmer, Director, Dixie MPO
Curt Hutchings, Planning Mgr., Five Co. AOG
Larry Bulloch, Public Works Director, St. George City
Dave Demas, City Engineer, St. George City
Cameron Cutler, Assistant City Engineer, St. George City
Miriam Palma, Administrative Professional, St. George City

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. She asked for the review of the January 21, 2009 meeting minutes.

MINUTES

Minutes of the January 21, 2009 meeting were presented for approval.

Motion: Jerry Blair made a motion to accept the January 21, 2009 Dixie Transportation Executive Council regular meeting minutes as written.
Second: Roger Bundy seconded
Vote: All voted "aye" and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Stimulus 2009/TIP Modification

Lowell Elmer distributed three handouts detailing the most current information regarding the stimulus package funds. The Dixie MPO will receive funds through UDOT because it is the only entity in the State approved by FHWA for funding distribution.

Tier 1 - Stimulus Funds via Formula Distribution. The two projects recommended for consideration are Hilton Drive realignment and the Valley View Bridge. Modification to the DTIP would include:

1. Move \$1.2 million of the \$1.444 million previously programmed dollars from Hilton Drive/Black Ridge Drive Project to the Valley View Bridge
2. Add \$2.4 million stimulus fund to the Hilton Drive/Black Ridge Drive project.

The funding package for the Valley View Bridge Project would include \$1.2 million from the Dixie MPO, \$1.2 million from St. George City, and \$3.8 Million from UDOT for a total of \$6.2 million.

Tier 2 - Redistribution of Unused Funding from Other States

The project recommended for consideration in this tier of funding is the Virgin River Bridge/ 300 East to Telegraph Road. Modification to the DTIP would be:

1. \$6.3 million prior SAFETY-LU ear mark.
2. \$1.6 million - Washington City.

Engineer's estimate is \$10.9 million and total acquired funding is \$7.9 million for a \$3 million shortfall.

Tier 3 - Discretionary Grants

Projects under this tier of funding are estimated to be from \$20 million to \$500 million in value.

Project recommended in this tier is the Mall Drive Bridge, with a request for \$20 million in stimulus funds.

Following a detailed discussion, Chairman Allen called for a motion.

Motion: Dan McArthur made a motion to approve the DTIP modifications as outlined by Lowell Elmer to reallocate funding from Hilton Drive Realignment to Valley View Bridge in anticipation of stimulus funds.

Second: Jerry Lewis seconded.

Vote: All voted "aye" and the motion passed unanimously.

Jim Eardley left the meeting at this point.

When questioned, Nathan Lee told the group that the exact totals for each project will not be received from FHWA until next week. It is anticipated that it will be the same as approved in the STIP last year. Lowell said he would e-mail the information to DTEC members as soon as it was available.

Larry Bulloch expressed appreciation to Jerry Lewis and Dave Demas for fighting for the Valley View Bridge project.

Dan McArthur asked if the MP4 project is on hold. Nathan Lee said it is on track to be bid but he did not know the timing, as the project is being funded from Critical Needs Funds rather than the stimulus package.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Development Updates

Lowell Elmer reported that all cities in the region have approved the Southern Corridor Preservation agreement. It will be signed and packets distributed to each city. Prior to leaving

the meeting, Jim Eardley told Chairman Allen that the County has developed a Council of Governments in order to take advantage of Corridor Preservation Funding.

2009 Dixie Regional Transportation Expo

Miriam Palma reported that approximately 450 participants attended the Expo. Curt Hutchings noted that although participants had lots of questions regarding the Replacement Airport, the questions seemed to reflect a well-round interest in all projects. He said there was a lot of interest in having more transit options.

Larry Bulloch told the group that a proposal has been developed for bus service to Washington City. Chairman Allen asked if there is stimulus funding available for new bus service. Larry said the City has applied for fund to build an Administration Building. Information on those funds will come through the UTA.

Study Development

Lowell Elmer told the group that the MPO has a scope of work for a ITS Communications Plan. This project would be administered by the UDOT Traffic Operations Center Staff.

The DTAC is in the process of reviewing a scope of work for a rapid transit corridor preservation study. Following the DTAC review, the scope will be presented to the DTEC for approval.

UDOT/FHWA UPDATES

Nathan Lee announced that a UDOT Commission meeting will be held in St. George on March 18 at 8:30 a.m. with a project tour being conducted on March 17. He said the Commission will take comments and information at beginning of the meeting. Dan McArthur and Suzanne Allen indicated they would be in Washington D.C. and expressed their regret to Commissioner Lewis at being unable to attend.

Construction on I-15 MP 10-19 will start soon. Northbound climbing lanes will be built and other safety measures installed.

Lochner Engineers has been hired to study pedestrian issues at MP8. Dan McArthur asked if the study could include a way to install a connector trail under the freeway at Middleton Wash.

OTHER BUSINESS

National MPO Award - Chairman Allen showed the group an award given by the National Association of MPO's to the Utah MPO's for Outstanding Collaboration in Transportation Planning. She asked that Lowell Elmer attend the St. George City Council on February 19, and discuss the award and its meaning. Larry Bulloch said that we need to ensure that people understand how well the regional entities work together supported by UDOT staff.

Telegraph Road Widening - This project is on hold at this time.

Atkinville Interchange - Dan McArthur asked when the Interchange would be ready for installation of the City seal. Nathan Lee said the project from MP2 to River Road should be complete and open by June 2009.

MP 6 Landscaping - Mayor McArthur asked why the rock had been replaced with bark around the trail. Nathan Lee said generally the cities sign agreements that they will maintain the landscaping, and, therefore, the choice of materials would have been made by the City of St. George, but he would check on the status of this interchange.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Allen called for any further discussion items. Hearing none she adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

March 18, 2009