

# DIXIE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

Washington County Administration Building

Training Room 301

111 E Tabernacle

St. George, UT

**Conducting: Chuck Gillette** – Mr. Gillette determined a quorum was present and called the DTAC meeting to order.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Jay Sandberg, CHAIR, St. George City
- Arthur LeBaron, Hurricane City
- Monty Thurber, St. George City, Engineer Associate/Traffic Coordinator
- Todd Edwards, Washington County
- Cameron Cutler, St. George City Public Works Director
- Chuck Gillette, Ivins City
- Paul Mogle, Representing Washington City
- Dustin Mouritsen, Santa Clara City Public Works Director
- Cameron Gay, UDOT
- Afton Moore, Toquerville City

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Kyle Gubler, LaVerkin City
- Leeds Representative

### OTHER ATTENDEES:

- Myron Lee, Dixie MPO
- Nicholas Gayer, Dixie MPO
- Lloyd Sutton, St. George City Active Transportation Coordinator
- Kayde Roberts, Mainline Engineering
- Aron Baker, Horrocks Engineering
- Bob Lamoreaux
- Other attendees were present but did not introduce themselves.

### 1. ADMINISTRATIVE:

- A. Consider Minutes from September 6, 2023.

Chuck Gillette, standing in for Chairman Jay Sandberg, noted that no additions or corrections were mentioned and called for a motion to approve the minutes.

**Arthur LeBaron made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Paul Mogle seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with all Committee members verbally voting in favor of the motion.**

**Chairman Jay Sandberg arrived 5 minutes late and continued to conduct the meeting.**

2. PLANNING:

- A. MPO Boundary and Functional Classification of roads – Myron Lee led a discussion on the boundary and classification process. He noted that we work with UDOT to define our urban boundaries, then identify our adjusted boundaries. Once this process is complete, we will then determine our planning area which we will then set as the MPO planning boundary. UDOT will then look to the cities to update their functional class roads classifications.

Myron used a power point using census data showing the 2010 adjusted area and the 2020 raw data. He stated that by federal regulation, our planning boundary has to include all of the urbanized areas along with any area that we anticipate will urbanize in the next 20 years.

The discussion included the question if we should expand our planning boundaries, and if yes, what would be the rationale for extending our planning boundary. The rationale would be if, in our opinion, the area would urbanize in the next 20 years (keeping in mind that we can look at it again in 10 years at the next census).

Also included in the discussion was the next step if the urbanized areas exceed 200,000 in population. It is anticipated that the urbanized areas would reach 200,000 by the 2030 census. When this happens, the MPO would transition into a TMA (Travel management area).

The discussion also included the expansion issue and how the Dixie MPO receives funding based on population and the fact that whatever population area we bring in, that funding would come with them which would benefit the MPO bottom line.

At the end of the process, we need to redraw our functional class roads and define whether they're principal arterial, minor arterial, collector, and distributor roads. We are supposed to have our MPO boundary issues resolved by no later than April of 2024.

Myron will send the committee members the web address for the map that was used in this discussion so they can look at what it is and contemplate what it should be and be prepared for the functional class discussion that will happen in the spring of next year.

- B. Discussion of Transportation Improvement Program funds available / criteria – Myron discussed MPO funds available using a spreadsheet that was handed out to all Committee members. Because we are at that time of year where we'll do a

call for concept reports, we need to be thinking about where we're going to spend over \$3 million in the coming year.

- C. Carbon Reduction Funds available / criteria – The discussion continued with the discussion on programming the 2024 and 2025 monies which included the carbon reduction funds. Mr. Lee indicated that because we're an attainment area, we don't measure carbon emissions. But we need to be able to justify whatever projects we put those monies to. We need to have a credible argument that those projects would reduce the carbon emissions in the area.
- D. Transportation Alternatives Program funds available / criteria – The TAP funds were discussed and the type of programs that they could be used for such as storm drain issues, decorative street lighting etc.

Myron also brought up the Utah Trail Network and mentioned that they are doing outreach and engagement right now. Their initiative is to finance the construction and maintenance of a trail network throughout the state. Mr. Lee added that one of their focus areas is getting our data up to date, i.e., not all our trail maps are current. Mr. Lee encouraged the committee members to review the map and provide comments so that it can be updated.

- E. 2023 Call for proposals – deadlines etc. – Myron Lee mentioned that he would like to pass out the concept reports in the November meeting for this body to rate and rank so that our December meeting could be used to compare the ratings and rankings and award the monies.

**In order to have those concept reports ready by the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, we would want to have them at the MPO offices no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of October.**

Myron said that he will send out an email today with the spreadsheets and other items that have been discussed. He will also send an email with the concept report form to fill out.

As for clarification, the planning grant funds discussion will be held in January or February. The concept reports to be sent in by October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, are the TIP applications, the CRP applications, and the TAP monies.

### 3. LOCAL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES

- A. Hurricane – No updates.
- B. Ivins – Highway 91 is almost done. The striping is complete, and they have been working on the collars. They are still working a lot on the trail which is substantially complete. Next up is to bid out the trail network project.
- C. LaVerkin – No updates.
- D. Leeds – No updates.

- E. St. George City – They are doing a lot of road rehab projects. The 3000 E project is getting close to bidding the next phase from 2000 S.
- F. Santa Clara City – Will be doing traffic signal maintenance and preparing to do crack seal.
- G. Toquerville – Still working on exit 27, Settlers Junction. Working on Highway 91 and on some turn lanes on SR17. The parkway is still going, and they've started the utility structures. Firelight is finally kicking off with their grading of their active adult 1 and 2 (their phases 1 and 2 in their community center).
- H. Washington City – The 3650 S interchange (3650 S under the Southern Parkway) started last week. They are working on the I-15 Main Street interchange. Also, the Washington Fields road is under construction which just keeps going south towards the airport. They are running sewer and water with that project. They are working on installing (3) traffic signals and also bus pullouts on Telegraph.
- I. Washington County – They are working on the trail up Highway 18 which should be ready by winter. Discussed a project with the Committee on a fiber optic project on Kolob and the methods of construction.
- J. UDOT – SR 18 project is on track and nearing completion. The 10-13 project is coming along well and should be completed around the first of November when they will switch traffic onto the new structures. They will then start the demo of the old. The 6-8 has been through their federal partner's review and we anticipate a decision on that in about two weeks. A couple of preservation projects, SR 9, Virgin to Rockville, SR7, Washington Dam Road to Sand Hollow Road and SR18 are in the design process right now and hope to advertise after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. Also discussed the problem on a passing lane on SR7 which is not in the works at the present time. The scope of the SR18 Snow Canyon Park project has been changed. Instead of adding acceleration lanes at the current White Rocks trailhead, we're actually closing that trailhead, and we will access it through the main north entrance turn lanes, and then it will be a frontage road and a new parking lot for a trailhead. SR318 Quail Creek turn lanes are still progressing. SR-7 Active Transportation project is progressing. We've got a study on SR18 (a wildlife collision reduction study). Also continuing work on a solutions development on SR9 with Hurricane City.

A discussion was held about transit. The design for the building and the site is almost complete. They just received news about a delay for the transformer (the order is out two years). Buses have been ordered – the potential problem is that the building itself will probably be complete before we get a transformer.

- 5. Upcoming Meetings / Deadlines:
  - A. October 17, 2023 – DTEC Meeting
  - B. November 1, 2023 – DTAC Meeting

ALL BUSINESS HAVING BEEN CONDUCTED, THE MEETING ADJOURNED.