

DIXIE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2026 – 1:00 p.m.

Five County AOG Conference Room

St. George, UT

Conducting: Kyle Gubler – Mr. Gubler determined a quorum was present and called the DTAC meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Jay Sandberg, St. George City
- Monty Thurber, Vice Chair, St. George City, Engineer Associate/Traffic Coordinator
- Todd Edwards, Washington County
- Tom Jorgensen, Ivins City
- Paul Mogle, Washington City
- Dustin Mouritsen, Santa Clara City Public Works Director
- Cameron Gay, UDOT
- Cameron Cutler, St. George City Public Works Director
- Wayne Peterson, Leeds
- Arthur LeBaron, Hurricane City
- Kyle Gubler, Chair, representing LaVerkin City

MEMBERS ABSENT or EXCUSED:

- Nick Lehman, Town of Virgin
- Darrin LeFevre, Toquerville

OTHER ATTENDEES:

- Myron Lee, Dixie MPO
- Thomas Nguyen, Dixie MPO
- Lloyd Sutton, St. George City Active Transportation Coordinator
- Susan Crook
- Aron Baker, Horrocks
- Rochelle Gardner, citizen from Leeds
- Susan Savage, citizen from Leeds
- Spencer Montgomery, JUB Engineers
- Travis Marden, JUB Engineers
- Nick Gayer, Avenue Consultants

1. ADMINISTRATIVE:

A. Consider Minutes from December 3, 2025.

Dustin Mouritsen made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2025 meeting as presented. Cameron Cutler seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved with a verbal vote on the motion.

2. PLANNING:

A. Nomination and election of Chair and Vice Chair (2-year term)

Tom Jorgensen was nominated as chairman. Nomination failed due to a lack of a second.

Cameron Cutler nominated Monte Thurber as chairman, motion seconded by Kyle Gubler after-which nominations were closed.

The motion was approved with a verbal vote.

Tom Jorgenson nominated Arthur LeBaron as chairman, motion seconded by Monty Thurber after-which nominations were closed.

The motion was approved with a verbal vote.

B. Review of MPO functions and duties

Myron Lee narrated a presentation on the creation and functions of the Dixie MPO and asked for input on potential improvements to the presentation.

Briefly, MPO deliverables include the Regional Long Range Transportation Plan, the Travel Demand Model, a TIP report, a Transit Plan, an Active Transportation Plan, and a Safety Plan. MPO functions are overseen and regulated by the Federal Highway Administration, which also provides several funding sources to accomplish required tasks and programs.

The MPO Planning Boundary includes the cities of Ivins, Santa Clara, St. George, Washington, Hurricane, La Verkin, Toquerville, Leeds and Virgin. Each of these cities, the county and state have a seat on both the MPO Executive Council and the Advisory Committee.

Some improvements to the presentation were recommended by members of the committee including an explanation of funding sources, governing bodies, advisory committees, and sub-committees. Brief explanations of MPO guidelines and regulations, and the STIP Process were also recommended.

C. Corridor Preservation Fund requests

Todd Edwards noted that the Council of Governments (COG) is due to update their project priority list for corridor preservation funds. Washington County collects revenue from a \$10 per-vehicle per-year fee that is then distributed by the COG. The COG can only distribute funds to projects on their priority list. Therefore, it is important, once a year, to review and update the list to include road corridors of regional significance.

The COG will update their list in a meeting following the February 18, 2026 DTEC meeting.

D. 2026 MPO Meeting Schedule

The DTAC will typically meet the first Wednesday of each month except in July.

3. LOCAL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES

- A. **Hurricane** – No updates at this time.
- B. **Ivins** – No updates at this time.

- C. **LaVerkin** – Kyle Gubler noted that La Verkin has begun a crack seal project and that Phase 1 of the regional trail from La Verkin to Springdale is under construction through some private property.
 - D. **Leeds** – No updates at this time.
 - E. **St. George City** – Jay Sandberg reported that the George Washington Boulevard bridge has passed environmental clearances and the project has been awarded to JP Excavating for about \$23 million. Construction will begin in March. Monty Thurber announced an open house for the new St George City Hall on January 17. A new traffic signal will go live tomorrow near the new Costco building east of I-15 Exit 2.
 - F. **Santa Clara City** – The environmental study for the Western Corridor project from Old Highway 91 to Gap Canyon Parkway will cost more than originally estimated. Santa Clara will present a plan in February to delay that project until sufficient funds can be found.
 - G. **Toquerville** – The city hopes to wrap up issues surrounding the bypass project this month.
 - H. **Transit** – Chris Pearson reported that SunTran has wrapped up a route evaluation project and plans to implement a few route adjustments. The city will hold back on those adjustments until a transit master plan is completed.
 - I. **UDOT** – Cameron Gay reported:
 - a. Bluff Street from Main to St. George Boulevard will be ready to advertise in early April.
 - b. The I-15 widening from MP 6-8 is continuing to progress. Balloting for sound walls has wrapped up. The State will build sound walls on the East side of the freeway, but not the West side. State officials are looking for funding sources to replace the loss of an \$87 million federal grant and remain hopeful a solution will be found.
 - c. The I-15 SB Passing Lane project is scheduled for a 60 percent design review at the end of January, anticipated to advertise in late spring 2026, and construction expected next summer.
 - d. The Virgin River Bridge fencing contract has been awarded.
 - e. Utah Trail Network has funded a continuation of the bike trail adjacent to SR-7. A design contract will soon be advertised.
 - f. The SR-7 passing lane project is expecting a spring/summer construction.
 - J. **Virgin** – no updates.
 - K. **Washington City** – Paul Mogle reported:
 - a. A new signal will be constructed at the intersection of Merrill Road and Washington Fields Road with a southbound right turn pocket.
 - b. The city is widening Main Street from Buena Vista to Washington Parkway.
 - L. **Washington County** – Todd Edwards reported that Sheep Bridge Road project is moving through the Environmental Impact Statement. The County hopes to complete the project by spring.
4. Upcoming Meetings / Deadlines:
- A. January 20, 2026 – DTEC meeting
 - B. February 4, 2026 – DTAC meeting
 - C. February 17, 2026 – Transportation Expo

ALL BUSINESS HAVING BEEN CONDUCTED; THE MEETING ADJOURNED.