



# IRON COUNTY RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ICRTEC CHAIR—MAYOR CONNIE ROBINSON • ICRTAC CHAIR—TOM STRATTON • PLANNING MANAGER—CURT HUTCHINGS

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## MINUTES

### Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC)

February 4, 2015, 1:30 p.m.

Cedar City Offices

10 N. Main Street, Cedar City UT

#### **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Tom Stratton  
Mr. Rob Dotson  
Mr. Shayne Scott  
Mr. Steve Platt  
Mr. Kit Wareham  
Mr. Monte Aldridge  
Mr. Stoney Shugart

#### **REPRESENTING:**

Brian Head Town  
Enoch City Manager  
Parowan City  
Iron County  
Cedar City  
Utah Dept. of Transportation  
Kanarraville Town

#### **MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Mayor Connie Robinson

#### **REPRESENTING:**

Paragonah Town

#### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Dave Demas  
Mr. Curt Hutchings  
Mr. Jim McConnell

#### **REPRESENTING:**

Five County Assoc. of Governments  
Five County Assoc. of Governments  
Utah Dept. of Transportation

#### **I. Quorum Declaration**

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Tom Stratton. Mr. Stratton welcomed all present and declared there was a quorum present.

#### **II. Approve Minutes for December 3, 2014**

A motion was made by Mr. Rob Dotson, seconded by Mr. Shayne Scott, to approve the December 3, 2014 Minutes of the Iron County Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (ICRTAC).

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**



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### III. 2015 Meeting Schedule Revision

Mr. Demas reported that it does sound like the schedule will be revised. He noted that per his last discussion with Mayor Connie Robinson, the ICC Committee would be meeting in February and then would meet again in April. This would require that the ICRTAC meet again in March in order to continue meeting on the months offset from the ICC meeting. However, there was conflicting information on whether the February ICC meeting was being held or not. Mr. Stratton suggested that the ICRTAC meeting schedule remain the same until there is confirmation that the ICC meeting schedule has changed.

Mr. Aldridge asked if it would be possible to revise the meeting start time. The committee discussed several possible options. It was determined that, for the time being, the meeting time would remain at 1:30 p.m. The possibility of changing the meeting start time to 2:00 p.m. will be discussed in the June or July meeting.

**A motion was made by Mr. Shayne Scott, seconded by Mr. Monte Aldridge to maintain the existing Iron County Rural Transportation Advisory Committee meeting schedule and adjust accordingly if the ICC Committee meeting schedule changes.**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

### IV. Project Discussion

#### A. New Concept Reports

Mr. Demas handed out copies of the two concept reports recently submitted by Mr. Scott – the Parowan Main Street Bridge Rehabilitation project and the Realign SR-271 and Associated Roads project. Mr. Demas noted that he and Mr. Aldridge had reviewed the bridge project and they were able to reduce the cost estimate of the bridge from 1.5 million to .5 million based on the square footage of the structure. Mr. Demas added that he has had a number of conversations with Mr. Abdul Wakil from UDOT regarding the bridge project and the possible change to the functional class of the road. Mr. Wakil will take a closer look at the roadway in the next few weeks and provide his opinion on whether to proceed with the change request. We need to know which way to go in order to qualify for funding or to approach the Joint Highway Committee for rehabilitation funds.

Mr. Aldridge stated that he did discuss the SR-271 project in his leadership group meeting at UDOT. He explained that the group did not see a motivation for UDOT to make a change. They felt that the skew was not severe enough to be an issue and the road eventually straightens out before the intersection. If the city would



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like to make the change on their own, UDOT would accept the change as long as the construction is built to UDOT standards. Mr. McConnell asked how this would affect the Family Dollar store. Mr. Scott stated they would not be on that road, they would need to be north of that location. Mr. Demas remarked that when the parcels develop in that area, it would be better to have the road lined up with one of the streets for driveway access location and things like that, so it is likely that something may drive the change in the future.

## V. Revised Project Priority List

Mr. Demas handed out a copy of the revised draft of the project priority list. He noted that the committee had previously discussed and agreed to leave the projects that have already been funded on the priority list. However, when the list was presented at the STIP meetings, they felt strongly that those projects should be taken off and shown in the funded section of the priority list. Mr. Demas revised the priority list as suggested and moved the funded projects that are on the STIP to the funded section with the exception of Mr. Wareham's (Cedar) project as he is dealing with funding issues; all projects remained in the same priority order. He asked the committee to review the revised priority list and determine if that is how they would like to proceed. He noted that the funded section is not shown on the priority list that is signed by the Executive Group. He suggested that the committee decide if the funded and completed sections should be included on the official list. After some discussion it was agreed that both copies of the priority list would be given to the Executive Group.

Mr. Demas noted that the projects in the funded section of the list are from the Alton Coal Study. Mr. Platt asked when those projects are listed on the STIP. Mr. Demas and Mr. Aldridge confirmed that it would be 2018. Mr. Aldridge explained that during the STIP meeting, the group immediately questioned why the funded projects were included on the list. He went on to explain the value of having your project listed as the number one priority on the list versus number two or three. By moving the funded projects off the priority list it will clearly identify the remaining actual priorities.

Mr. Platt asked that the cost on the South Leg of Belt Route Phase 1 be corrected to \$1,870,000 - \$1.7 million plus the \$170,000 match. A short discussion ensued regarding the exchange of federal and state funding for this project. Mr. Aldridge requested that an asterisk be added to the list with an explanation of the federal/state exchange. Mr. Scott also asked that an estimated cost of \$500,000 be added to the Improve Parowan South I-15 Interchange project.



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Mr. Dotson requested that the Signal at SR-130 and Mid Valley Road project be added to the safety section of the priority list. Mr. Scott asked how the list could be amended at this point since the list has already gone through the prioritization process and been approved by the Executive Group. Mr. Stratton raised the question as to how the new project would be prioritized on the list. Mr. Scott suggested that if the committee was in agreement, the project could be added to the bottom of the safety section of the priority list. All the members agreed to add the new project to the bottom of the list with an estimated cost of \$250,000.

Mr. Wareham brought to the attention of the committee that there may be some duplication on the #1 and #3 priorities on the Capacity list – Coal Creek Road project – SR-130 to Kitty Hawk Road and the I-15 Overpass Widening at Coal Creek Road. He believes the overpass widening (#3) is included in the SR-130 to Kitty Hawk Road project (#1) and suggested that the estimated costs be revised or that the two projects be combined. Mr. Demas noted that two separate concept reports had been submitted with one that is funded and the other is not. Mr. Wareham stated funding is approved for Coal Creek Road from SR-130 not quite to the overpass. He has submitted another Joint Highway application for the overpass widening and it will be reviewed at the next meeting. Mr. Demas recommended keeping the projects separate until all funding is approved. Mr. Wareham agreed and stated he will need to review the costs again. Mr. Demas explained that since the Coal Creek Road project that is funded involves a fund exchange that has not happened, it was decided to keep it on the priority list.

Mr. Platt inquired about the location of the next Transportation Commission Meeting. Mr. Aldridge responded that the meeting will be held in Cedar City on Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Demas will make changes that have been discussed and Mr. Wareham will go through his information to determine if anything needs to be revised. Mr. Demas will send out the revised list again and then get it approved again at the next RTEC meeting. Mr. Stratton remarked that, since the date of the next RTEC meeting is undetermined at this time, a motion is needed to approve the changes in the event the committee does not see the list again prior to the Executive Group reviewing/approving it.

**A motion was made by Mr. Steve Platt, seconded by Mr. Tom Stratton to approve the changes to the Iron County Rural Planning Organization Transportation Priority List that have been discussed.**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**



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Mr. Demas asked Mr. Aldridge if it would be best to provide the STIP a copy of the priority list that the Executive Group signs that does not include the funded and completed projects. Mr. Aldridge felt that the STIP will ask what happened to the projects that were funded if they are not shown on the list. Mr. Demas suggested having the Executive Group sign both copies.

## **VI. UDOT Report – STIP Update**

Mr. Aldridge reported that the next STIP meeting will be held on February 17, 2015 in Richfield and everyone is welcome to attend. This will be the final region STIP meeting with the Transportation Commission members. All project lists will be presented and each of the different funding categories will be discussed. Mr. Aldridge explained that during the meeting no funding is awarded; it is only being proposed. After the February region workshop, the lists are submitted and then the April Transportation Commission workshop is conducted. From that workshop decisions are made and the allocations are determined. Then the plan is put into draft mode for the review process until August. After the review process the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will review the plan and they usually sign off in October.

Mr. Platt asked for clarification regarding the name of the Transportation Commission representative for the region. Mr. Aldridge responded that it is Mr. Naghi Zeenati. Mr. Aldridge noted that Mr. Zeenati is very supportive of what is trying to be accomplished in the region and has been very active in the process.

A short discussion took place regarding state transportation funding and also the upcoming legislation on the proposed gas tax. Mr. Aldridge stated he would gather and provide to the committee members information regarding the overall percentages of state and federal funding.

Mr. Demas asked Mr. Aldridge if he could provide the committee a list of the projects proposed in the Iron County region that would be presented to the Transportation Commission. Mr. Aldridge responded that he would provide the information after the February meeting when priorities are determined.

Mr. Platt inquired as to the status of the Alton Coal Mine. Mr. McConnell responded that the last information he received was that the environmental clearances would be completed by September and hopefully it will be sent out for advertisement by the end of November.



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## VII. Future RPO Funding

Mr. Hutchings reported that the end of June is the RPO's fifth year which ends the UDOT funding participation. He briefly reviewed the history of the RPO's funding and explained that the total funding required is \$40,000. Mr. Hutchings remarked that the Five County AOG feels the RPO has developed good relationships and has been helpful in obtaining project funding. Therefore, he would like to suggest that the funding continue at the \$40,000 level.

Mr. Hutchings noted that a new contract will need to be created that identifies the scope of work. He would like a recommendation from the committee to approach the RTEC and ICCG to submit the request for funding. Mr. Demas remarked that the last 2 years were funded by \$30,000 local funding (COG) and \$10,000 from state funding (UDOT). It is the \$10,000 state funding that is no longer available. So there is a need of an additional \$10,000 from the COG. Mr. Demas mentioned that in past discussions with UDOT they were not able to continue the state funding.

Mr. Platt asked for clarification if the local Corridor Preservation Fund is funding that is available to the COG. Mr. Hutchings and Mr. Demas confirmed that the COG administers the funding from the local Corridor Preservation Fund and planning funds can be made available out of that fund.

**A motion was made by Mr. Shayne Scott, seconded by Mr. Kit Wareham to recommend to the RTEC to continue on as a body, to increase the Corridor Preservation funding from \$30,000 to \$40,000 and for Chairman Mr. Tom Stratton to acknowledge such on the contract pending the review of the contract by this body.**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

## VIII. Other Discussion Items

- A. Next meeting will tentatively be held on March 4, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Demas will confirm the date once the ICC Committee meeting schedule is finalized.
  - i. Location: Parowan

## IX. Adjourn

**A motion was made by Mr. Steve Platt, seconded by Mr. Kit Wareham, to adjourn the meeting.**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**