

**DIXIE TRANSPORTATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (DTEC)
MINUTES
JUNE 15, 2016**

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Zachary Renstrom, County Commission
Chairman Chris Hart, Ivins Mayor
Vice Chairman Jon Pike, St. George Mayor
Darrin LeFevre, Toquerville Mayor
Rick Rosenberg, Santa Clara Mayor for Ken Sizemore
Wayne Peterson, Leeds Mayor
Jeff Turek, Washington City Council
Jim McConnell, UDOT Program Engineer, Region 4 for Naghi Zeenati

OTHERS PRESENT

Bruce Densley, Virgin Mayor
Stan Smith, Springdale Mayor
Arthur LeBaron, Hurricane City
Kyle Gubler, LaVerkin City Administrator
Ron Whitehead, Washington County
Myron Lee, Dixie MPO
Chuck Gillett, Ivins City
Dave Demas, Dixie MPO
Curt Hutchings, Five County AOG
Bryan Thiriot, Five County AOG
Jay Aguilar, Five County AOG
Courtney Brinkerhoff, Senator Hatch's Office
Fred Davies, Sun Tran Transit Manager
Dorothy Engelman, Erin Kimball Foundation
Susan Crook, Southwest Utah National Conservation Lands Friends
Kenneth Hosen, KFH Group
Bennett Powell, KFH Group

EXCUSED

Naghi Zeenati, Utah Transportation Commission, Region 4

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chris Hart welcomed all in attendance. It was established that a quorum existed for voting on action items.

BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes from May 18, 2016 Meeting

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pike to Approve the Minutes from the May 18, 2016, DTEC meeting. Motion seconded by Mayor LeFevre and carried by unanimous vote.

B. Resolution 2016-01 Self-Certification

Myron Lee explained that each year a self-certification process is established to certify that the Urban Transportation Planning Process does not discriminate and all Federal regulations are complied with. The Dixie Transportation Advisory Committee (DTAC) has reviewed the Urban Transportation Planning Process Certification Resolution FY2016-01 and recommends it be adopted by the Dixie Transportation Executive Committee.

MOTION: Motion by Jeff Turek to Approve Self-Certification Resolution 2016-01. Motion seconded by Mayor LeFevre and carried by unanimous vote.

C. Consider Public Comment Period for 2017-2021 TIP (July 1 to August 6, 2016)

The Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) is ready for public comment. Mr. Lee is seeking approval from DTEC for the TIP 2017-2021 public comment period to coincide with the state's TIP public comment period, which will be July 1, 2016 through August 6, 2016.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor LeFevre to Approve the Public Comment Period for 2017-2021 TIP from July 1 through August 6, 2016. Motion seconded by Jim McConnell and carried by unanimous vote.

D. Consideration of FY2017 Planning Grant Requests

Planning grant money in the amount of \$150,000 will become available July 1, 2016. Four (4) applications for these funds were received and recommended for funding by the MPO Advisory Committee. Applications received include:

- Toquerville requested \$35,000 for a Master Transportation Plan update
- Washington City requested \$35,000 for an Active Transportation Plan
- Hurricane City requested \$50,000 to update their Long-Range Transportation Plan
- MPO staff requested partial funding toward a Land Use Transportation Planning effort through Envision Utah.

DTAC recommends to DTEC that the Hurricane and Washington Cities' requests be approved as submitted. DTAC further recommends that \$44,500 be awarded to Toquerville City rather than the \$35,000 originally requested and Mr. Lee thought that DTAC also recommended \$20,000 go to the Land Use Transportation Plan effort (additional funding partners would need to be sought to acquire the remainder of the \$225,000 funds needed for this effort).

Arthur LeBaron recalled that at the DTAC meeting, DTAC determined that a request from a consultant was different than a public entity requesting funding and DTAC wanted feedback from DTEC on the Envision Utah request. In regards to Hurricane City's request, Mr. LeBaron went on to explain that the bulk of the modeling and analysis on Hurricane's most recent Transportation Masterplan took place in 2008, was adopted in 2011 and is in need of a review. Hurricane would like to include transit planning, an update and integration of the City's Trail Masterplan and the development of a city-wide Active Transportation Plan within the Master Plan. Hurricane City also intends to apply for a Community Impact Board (CIB) loan to assist with the cost of the project.

Mayor LeFevre explained that Toquerville's request of funds will be used to create a Transportation Master Plan, combined with an extensive study on the Bypass Corridor. The objective for the corridor is to relieve future traffic impacts due to tourism and commercial growth. The study will utilize the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO's) transportation model to ensure the data can be utilized by the MPO for future planning. The City of Toquerville originally was unsure of the amount they could request. At the DTAC meeting it was clarified that Toquerville could request a larger amount and DTAC has recommended that DTEC approve the larger amount be funded.

There was a discussion on the request for the Land Use Transportation Plan effort; wherein, the Committee questioned where the additional funding source would be obtained. Mr. Lee stated that Envision Utah would seek funding from the cities, county, businesses and special interest groups within the community.

Vision Dixie was last updated in 2007 and the proposed Land Use Transportation Plan will be the transportation update to Vision Dixie. The Committee then discussed the benefits the cities received from Vision Dixie and determined that the cities that read and implemented Vision Dixie gained guiding principles; however, it was questioned whether the benefits of this new effort would be worth the cost.

It was mentioned that there has been a significant amount of newly elected officials since 2007. Many current leaders may not be familiar with the contents of Vision Dixie and speculated what potential value would derive from an organized effort to review Vision Dixie and allow new leaders to be exposed to it. Vision Dixie can be found on the County's website or at www.visiondixie.org.

Mr. Lee pointed out that since 2007, Washington County has developed zone changes and land uses have occurred, which drives the transportation system. Having an update to Vision Dixie would allow road and transit systems to be projected out to 2050. It was suggested that each city update their general plan and submit it to the MPO, and the new planning document can be created based upon the cities general plans. Mr. Lee emphasized that very process was followed in developing the 2015 Long-Range Plan update and further explained the current Vision Dixie documents show projections to the year 2035 and the proposed Land Use Transportation Plan would take those projections to the year 2050.

It was determined that the proposed Envision Utah effort is costly when currently, land being released for development within the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and School and Institution Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) are uncertain, and would make a difference in the proposed plan. Mayor Pike stated that the benefit at this time for the Envision Utah effort seems unclear. Mr. Lee will email the scope of work to the DTEC members for review and this item will be addressed again at the next DTEC meeting.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pike to Approve \$129,500 as outlined, excluding the Envision Utah study until further research is obtained. Motion seconded by Mayor Rosenberg and carried by unanimous vote.

REPORTS / DISCUSSIONS

A. May JPAC Report

No one was able to represent the Southern Region at the May JPAC meeting. It was held in Logan, Utah and the members toured Logan and discussed transportation issues within the Logan area. Mr. Lee will email the PowerPoint presentations from the meeting to the DTEC members.

B. Transit Study Report: Springdale to St. George

Kenneth Hosen gave a PowerPoint presentation from the feasibility transit study that was conducted by the KFH Group, Inc., and explained that focus groups, followed by public meetings to allow public input in regards to a Springdale to St. George transit line, were essential in gathering needed information for the study.

Mr. Hosen discussed the key needs of the area; markets within the cities that included visitors, local residents and local businesses; the service design and service assumptions such as costs to operate buses; along with hours of operation and having an express service as well as local service. There were scenarios from high level to low level service and each had associated annual operating costs between \$1.6 million for the low level to \$3.7 million for the high level of service. Mr. Hosen then explained the

organization and how all participating entities should have a representative on the board and continued by explaining ways in which to fund the transit service such as: fare revenue, local funding through sponsorships/partnerships, mass transit tax and possibly the Federal Transit Administration. In conclusion, the key decisions that need to be addressed are: the level of service desired, how the service will be organized, the types of vehicles and how the service will be paid for.

There was an inquiry of Sun Tran becoming a part of the possible Springdale to St. George transit district system and Mayor Pike expressed concerns, explaining the original purpose of Sun Tran was to serve St. George City and is currently only serving half of that geographically. The question remains as to how everyone's needs are best met and if it is feasible with fleet management.

(See the PowerPoint presentation)

Three (3) public meetings will be held in regards to the study and are as follows:

June 15, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the St. George City Hall;

June 16, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Hurricane City Council Chamber; and

June 16, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center in Springdale.

C. Local Option Sales Tax

Mayor Pike explained that the Director of Government Relations Political Affairs for the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce and Executive Director of the Utah Transportation Coalition, Abby Albrecht, spoke at the previous DTEC meeting and explained that she would be willing to offer assistance that would involve materials, along with limited consulting support to the cities and county in helping to begin an education campaign to educate the public on Proposition 1 prior to it being placed on the ballot, for a fee of \$10,000. Due to the City of St. George having the largest population amongst the cities, Mayor Pike is willing to contribute the largest amount towards this effort and is seeking funding support from the county, the MPO and other cities in contributing towards the \$10,000 to begin the education campaign. Mayor Pike would like to begin the process Monday, June 20, 2016. It was determined that this would need to formally be included on a DTEC agenda prior to making a motion to approve MPO funds. Mr. Lee will add this item on the next agenda. The County is not comfortable using funds towards the campaign and the City of Virgin and Leeds voted against putting Proposition 1 on the ballot, but the remaining cities are in support and are willing to take it before their city councils to approve a contribution towards the \$10,000. Due to time constraints, it was determined that the City of St. George will fund the money up front and seek partial reimbursement from the MPO and supportive cities at a later date. The DTEC Committee would like a commitment from the County Commissioners that Proposition 1 will be on the November 2016 ballot, prior to securing Ms. Albrecht's services and requested that it be added to the Commission meeting in July. Mayor Pike expressed that if this was not going to be put on the ballot, he would go to the legislature and seek to have them change the bill to give that right to the cities.

It was reiterated that putting Proposition 1 on the ballot simply gives voters the opportunity to decide if they are in favor of the tax or not.

UDOT/FHWA BUSINESS UPDATES

A. UDOT Updates

Jim McConnell updated the Committee on projects as follows: SR-318 Quail Creek Reservoir project is now complete; the mill and fill project on SR-18 from mile post six point three (6.3) to nine point three (9.3) will begin July 11, 2016; the mill and fill project on SR-9 700 W to 300 W will begin July 5, 2016; the Mall Drive Underpass and Widening from mile post eight through ten (8-10) is currently under construction, and the SR-9 Rockville to Zion Park project has run into a few delays with archeological difficulties. The Rockville portion will start this winter and continue into next spring.

The I-15 mile post four through five (4-5) project is currently under design and will result in three (3) lanes in each direction with a new bridge to cross the Virgin River. The SR-18 project from St. George Boulevard to Sunset Boulevard is also in the design phase and will be advertised this coming fall.

B. Federal Updates

No items were presented.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented at this time.

NEXT MEETING

Next Scheduled DTEC meeting: August 17, 2016

ADJOURN

Having no other business, Chairman Hart adjourned the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Nicholle Felshaw