

DIXIE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2011
Five County Association of Governments
Conference Room
St. George, UT

PRESENT

Dave Glenn, Ivins City, Public Works Director, Chair
Jack Taylor, Santa Clara City, Public Works Director, Vice-Chair
Mike Shaw, Washington City, Public Works Director
Larry Bulloch, St. George City, Public Works Director
Cameron Cutler, St. George City, Transportation Service Manager
Monty Thurber, St. George City, Engineer Associate/Traffic Coordinator
Todd Edwards for Ron Whitehead, Washington County, Public Works Director
Bronson Bundy, Washington City
Arthur LeBaron, Hurricane City Engineer
Myron Lee, MPO Planning Manager, FCAOG
Curt Hutchings, Transportation Planning Manager, FCAOG
Diane Lamoreaux, Five County AOG
Doni Pack, Five County AOG
Rick Snyder, Sunrise Engineering
Dustyn Shaffer, Sunrise Engineering
Ronielle Howard, Parsons Brinkerhoff
Dave Demas, Horrocks Engineering
Jerry Amundsen, Lochner

ABSENT

Steve Call, FHWA, Planning Engineer
Kelly Lund, FHWA, Planning Engineer
Rick Torgerson, UDOT, Region Four Program Manager (Excused)
Dana Meier, UDOT, Dixie Team (Excused)
Ryan Marshall, St. George City, General Manager SunTran

Dave Glenn, Chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone in attendance. Those asking to be excused include Rick Torgerson and Dana Meier, UDOT.

1. MINUTES AUGUST 3, 2011 MEETING

Dave Glenn noted that a quorum was present to conduct business and presented minutes of the August 3, 2011 DTAC meeting for committee consideration.

MOTION WAS MADE BY CAMERON CUTLER, SECONDED BY MIKE SHAW, TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 3, 2011 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

2. LONG RANGE PLANNING

- A. **Unified Plan Brochure:** Myron Lee provided copies of the Unified Plan Brochure which was developed for use in presenting information to the Utah State Legislature. Draft copies are provided for review and comment. This document is a condensed version of all four MPO's and UDOT's Long Range Plans. In the past, the Dixie MPO has shared in printing costs to make this information available for elected officials and constituents. Committee members asked that when the final document becomes available it be shared electronically. Myron indicated that the final plan will also be posted on the Dixie MPO website.

3. SHORT RANGE PLANNING

- A. **GIS Mapping Update:** Curt Hutchings provided background information and noted that the major effort is focused on roadway lines along city boundaries and resolution to discrepancies. Jurisdictions are asked to meet periodically to discuss specific roadways. As revisions are made, that information is brought back to DTAC for discussion. Peter Hansen, Washington County GIS, reported that during a previous DTAC meeting slides were made available depicting alignment problems mainly between St. George and Washington City. GIS staff has been working with Chuck Gillette, Ivins City to address issues in Ivins and complete edits of the maps. Monty Thurber commented that a lot of the alignment issues are in the area of the new St. George Airport, many of which require minor roadway adjustments. St. George City and Washington City are working to resolve these issues. It was noted that a work meeting has been scheduled between these jurisdictions. Peter Hansen indicated that he is cautious about using SD files at this point but will try to find some easier way to share information.
- B. **Mobility Management:** Curt Hutchings reported that the DTAC recommendation to provide match funding for the mobility management effort for a one year contract was approved by the Dixie Transportation Executive Committee (DTEC) during their August meeting. An executed contract is now in place and the AOG staff person assigned to this effort is moving forward and beginning to identify some good projects.

Myron Lee announced that the regional transit study project is moving forward and a "kick-off" meeting will be scheduled for sometime next week. Notification of this meeting will be provided via e-mail for those interested in attending. He encouraged committee members to become involved in this process.

4. SERVICES

A. **TIGER III Grant Program - Group Discussion**

Myron Lee reported that St. George City is working to submit an application for the Mall Drive Bridge project. Potential projects must be shovel ready. A support letter is in the process of being signed by the I-15 Alliance which includes Utah, Arizona, Nevada and California. It is anticipated that this support will assist in moving the project forward for funding consideration. The Mall Drive Bridge Project is being tied

to the I-15 underpass and Exit 8 through the traffic demand model and substantial impacts of this project on these areas. Funding for TIGER III Grants is competitive and would be available in 2012. The Mall Drive Bridge project is a significant project estimated to cost \$16 million dollars. St. George City is trying to leverage additional local funding into the project to bolster their chances of obtaining these funds.

5. OPERATIONS PLANNING

- A. **Origin and Destination Study Update:** Myron Lee reported that the three MPO's and UDOT are working together on what is being termed as a Household Travel Diary Study. RSG is the contractor for this project and staff is working to develop a website that can be used specifically for this effort. It is proposed that the study include travel information for vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles, children going to school, etc. RSG staff is in the process of drafting a questionnaire for review and edit in the near future. A post office box has been established in Salt Lake City as a return address for collection of the surveys. A sample size of 900 completed household diaries is proposed for the Dixie MPO. Data will be collected on trips from households by vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian for use in enhancing the MPO's travel demand model. Some type of nominal compensation package is under consideration for households participating in the survey. Surveys will be conducted over the telephone, via print copy and on the web.

6. TIP

- A. **Coming TIP Program, Concept Reports:** Myron Lee announced that information will be sent via e-mail to each jurisdiction calling for Concept Reports to begin the TIP formal process. Because some MPO funds for projects were shifted during the previous DTAC meeting, there will be additional funds available for programming in 2015 and 2016. The amount of funds to be programmed will be impacted by the re-authorization of the transportation bill and the level of funding that will be available. The U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate will be working on bills to reauthorize funding for transportation. A copy of correspondence was provided which outlines individual preferences for transportation fund re-authorization. The Dixie MPO, Utah's transportation leaders and stakeholders have discussed common interests and goals for the new federal transportation program. Key principles which would benefit the state of Utah have been identified as follows: 1) Fundamental Reform to Promote Efficiency and Effectiveness; 2) Consolidate Programs to Empower State and Local Decision-making; 3) Streamline Project Delivery Process; and 4) Long-Term Funding that is Stable and Helps meet Utah's Critical Needs.

Concept reports will be due at the November 2, 2011 DTAC meeting. Ms. Diane Lamoreaux asked that reports include a letter from each jurisdiction pledging that match funding will be provided. This is a standard letter that is required during each TIP funding cycle.

Myron Lee mentioned that the Obama Administration has relaxed pending air quality standards this year. However, the 75 parts per billion is up for review in 2013 and may still have to be dealt with in the future.

7. LOCAL PROJECTS

- A. **Ivins:** Dave Glenn indicated that the 50% review has been completed for the roundabout project in Ivins. The old township project is approximately 90% complete. This project is approximately seven miles of streets in the older section of town.
- B. **St. George City:** Cameron Cutler reported that the Dixie Drive East project is moving forward. The alignment has been finalized and the city is working with property owners on appraisals. Red Hills Parkway goes out to bid tomorrow and a lot of interest is being received from contractors. The city is waiting on the interchange design until it is determined how much funding is left in the budget. The Dixie Drive Interchange is still on schedule for opening next year.

Monty Thurber reported that the ATMS for River Road has been put on hold because of easement issues around the SkyWest office area. Once these issues are resolved, the project will move forward.

Larry Bulloch reported that some preferred alternatives for widening Bluff Street have been developed in the Bluff Street EA. Those alternatives include upgrading the St. George Boulevard and Sunset intersections. The recommended alternative for the Boulevard intersection provides a through u-turn option. It is recommended that Sunset Boulevard would be a jug-handle with an overpass, with elimination of the signal at this intersection. Options are coming out based on cost and level of service impacts. The corridor is recommended to be widened to seven lanes. However, the corridor could be reduced to five lanes between 5th North and Sunset and still accommodate traffic to 2040. Bluff Street would go over Sunset Boulevard with a shorter span bridge/culvert. This will impact the city golf course which will require some modifications. The project will also include various types of medians.

The West Dixie Drive project has gone out to bid to widen the roadway to five lanes from Mathis Bridge to Tonaquint Drive. A portion of the corridor which is in the county will be limited to four lanes. The cost of this portion, not including the bridge, is approximately \$1.7 million dollars. There will be raised medians through this project and sufficient shoulders to accommodate bicycles.

- C. **Santa Clara City:** Jack Taylor thanked St. George City for providing assistance with the traffic light in Santa Clara to eliminate issues with turn movement.
- D. **Washington City:** Mike Shaw reported that construction on Telegraph Street is moving along on schedule for completion at the end of September.
- E. **Washington County:** Todd Edwards had no new information for sharing.
- F. **UDOT:** No UDOT representatives were in attendance.

8. STATE AND FEDERAL UPDATE

- A. **Program Development - UDOT:** None.

B. Federal Oversight: None.

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at the Five County AOG office beginning at 1:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MIKE SHAW AND SECONDED BY CAMERON CUTLER. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.