

**DIXIE TRANSPORTATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (DTEC)
MINUTES
January 17, 2018**

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Zachary Renstrom, County Commission
Chris Hart, Ivins City Mayor
Jon Pike, St. George City Mayor
Wayne Peterson, Leeds Mayor
Lynn Chamberlain, Toquerville Mayor
Richard Hirschi, La Verkin Mayor
Rick Rosenberg, Santa Clara Mayor
Bette Arial, St. George City
Naghi Zeenati, UDOT Commission
John Bramall, Hurricane City
Jimmie Hughes, St. George City
Jeff Turek, Washington City Council

OTHERS PRESENT

Dean Cox, County Commission
Robert Campbell, Apple Valley Mayor
Ken Neilson, Washington City Mayor
Arthur LeBaron, Hurricane City
Myron Lee, Dixie MPO
Curt Hutchings, Dixie MPO
Dave Demas, Dixie MPO
Rick Torgerson, UDOT, Region 4 Director
Cameron Cutler, St. George City
Doug Ward, Washington City
Kyle Gubler, La Verkin City
Terry Bell, Rockville Town
Ron Whitehead, Washington County
Nathan Merrill, SUBA
Mike Shaw, Washington City
Chuck Gillette, Ivins City
Karen Peterson, Leeds Town
Susan Crook, Conserve Southwest Utah
Courtney Brinkerhoff, Senator Hatch's Office
Adam Snow, Congressman Stewart's Office
Jennifer Basset-Hills, Jacob's Engineering
Loretta Markham, Jacob's Engineering

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Chris Hart welcomed all in attendance and called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. It was determined that a quorum existed for voting on action items. Introductions were then made by all present.

BUSINESS

a. Approval of Minutes – November 15, 2017

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Peterson to Approve the Minutes of November 15, 2017 DTEC Meeting. Motion Seconded by Mayor Bramall and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.

b. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Zachary Renstrom to Nominate Mayor Chris Hart to Serve as Chair. Motion Seconded by Mayor John Bramall and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Zachary Renstrom to Nominate Mayor Jon Pike to Serve as Vice-Chair. Motion Seconded by Mayor John Bramall and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.

c. Consider amendments to the 2015-2040 Dixie MPO Regional Transportation Plan, set public comment period (February 1 to March 5, 2018)

Myron Lee of the Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) distributed the Regional Transportation Plan, projects and phasing for 2015-2040 as amended May 16, 2016; and the 2018-2022 Dixie MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Proposed amendments.

(See attached)

i. Revise cost estimates to Phase 1 Projects

Mr. Lee explained that projects highlighted in light green are moving forward and projects highlighted in dark green have been completed.

ii. Add a Phase 1 project: 100 South Underpass at I-15 in St. George

St. George City representative Cameron Cutler explained that the underpasses at 100 South and 700 South are similar in that there are (four) 4 lanes that travel underneath the freeway which narrow from five (5) lanes due to space restrictions.

The 100 South underpass has had a significant increase in traffic over the past several years; as a result, the number of accidents have also increased.

iii. Add a Phase 2 project: 700 South Underpass at I-15 in St. George

The 700 South underpass is in phase one (1), however, St. George City is proposing that the project be moved into phase two (2) of the long range plan in order to incorporate it into the widening of I-15.

A traffic analysis was performed at each location, which determined that there are approximately 22,000 vehicles per day per location. It is projected that by 2040, that number will increase by approximately 10,000. If no changes are made, the service level for the amount of traffic in that area will be ineffective.

iv. Split Phase 1 Project #56 into two separate projects with revised cost estimates:

1. Washington Parkway (Green Springs to I-15 Exit 13) – Widening and New Construction – \$7,000,000

Washington City representative Mike Shaw explained that there is a need to move traffic from the Green Springs area to Washington Parkway in order to help alleviate congestion in the Green Springs area. In order to accomplish this, it is proposed that I-15 widen from Exit 10 to Exit 13.

2. Northern Corridor (Red Hills Parkway to Washington Parkway) Environmental and Right-of-Way Acquisition – \$4,000,000

Commissioner Dean Cox explained that the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) expired in February 2017 and mentioned that the County is currently working with the Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in order to address a renewal effort that benefits all parties.

There are approximately 6,800 acres of School of Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) land which has been identified as a highly tortoise dense population

area. It has been proposed to exchange this land for land in the Reserve in order to build a less impactful route through the Reserve.

It is projected that Washington County's population will double by 2035. In order to meet the needs of the growing County, this route is necessary to provide efficient commute transportation.

Mayor Bramall mentioned that Hurricane City is also in need of a transportation corridor due to population increase and the majority of roads in Hurricane being dirt roads. It was his request to move the Babylon Road project up in priority, perhaps by legislative action.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor John Bramall to Approve the Amended Regional Transportation Plan as Presented and Set the Public Comment Period on those items from February 1, 2018 to March 5, 2018. Motion Seconded by Mayor Richard Hirschi and Carried by a Majority Vote.

d. Consider 2018-2023 TIP Amendments

i. Reprogram Merrill Road funds to Washington Parkway (Green Springs Road to I-15 Exit 13) -- \$2,429,686

Mike Shaw mentioned that if funding is reprogrammed Merrill Road will still be completed using City funds. Doing so would ensure that only one (1) project would be federalized rather than two (2).

ii. Program \$500,000 of State TIF funds to Phase 1 Project #56: Northern Corridor (Environmental and Right-of-Way Acquisition)

Mr. Lee explained that it is recommended for the Committee to program \$500,000 of State funding to be used for phase one (1) of the Northern Corridor project.

MOTION: Motion by Naghi Zeenati to Approve the 2018-2023 TIP Amendments as Presented. Motion Seconded by Mayor Jon Pike and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.

e. Consider 2019-2024 TIP Programming Recommendations of DTAC, set public comment period (July 1 to August 5, 2018)

- i. Program STIP YR 2022 funds to Washington Parkway from Green Springs Road to I-15 Exit 13 – \$2. Million**
- ii. Program STIP YR 2022 TIP funds to Old 91 – \$300,000**

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Renstrom to Approve with Public Comment Period from July 1, 2018 to August 5, 2018. Motion Seconded by Mayor John Bramall and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.

REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS

a. Recreation Hot Spot Funding Update

Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) Region Four Director Rick Torgerson mentioned that the top projects identified are the Zion Canyon transit project, Big Plains Road and Sheep Bridge Road. These will be presented to the Transportation Commission in March. Cost details for each of these projects will be discussed at the next DTEC meeting.

UDOT/FHWA BUSINESS UPDATES

a. UDOT Updates

The UDOT Commission meeting will be held in Springdale on Friday, March 16, 2018.

The Springdale project is approximately forty percent (40%) complete and is in phase three (3) of six (6) phases. The project is on schedule to be completed in mid-April.

The Bluff Street project has begun and updates can be received by e-mailing the following addresses to be added to a weekly update list:
SR9@utah.gov and bluffstreet@utah.gov

Designs have begun to add passing lanes between Rockville and Springdale.

Bids are being received to extend the passing lane from the Leeds to Toquerville Exit on I-15.

The Transportation Expo will be held at the Dixie Center on February 13, 2018.

b. Federal Updates

Courtney Brinkerhoff mentioned that Senator Hatch is retiring at the end of 2018. The HCP and Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Bill is on his priority list for Washington County before his retirement.

Adam Snow mentioned that Congressman Stewart's Office is continuing to work on the Northern Corridor. The Grand Staircase Bill would help to codify the boundary of the Bears Ears National Monument in order to ensure that the boundary change is permanent moving forward. All six (6) County Commissioners from Garfield and Kane Counties are in support of this Bill.

Bette Arial mentioned that Senator Lee would like to express gratitude to the Cities, UDOT and Commission for their efforts for Washington County.

LOCAL PROJECTS UPDATES

a. City Projects of Regional Significance

Cameron Cutler mentioned that the paving of Bloomington Drive is approximately fifty percent (50%) complete.

Jeff Turek mentioned that alternatives are being examined between mile post thirteen (13) to Mall Drive for traffic flow.

Hurricane Mayor Bramall mentioned that tourism should be promoted for alternatives to Zion National Park.

Apple Valley Mayor Robert Campbell mentioned that there is high OHV and other recreation usage on Gooseberry Mesa, of approximately 40,000 per year.

Santa Clara Mayor Rosenberg mentioned a new bridge is in design for Chapel Street. Right-of-way acquisitions are currently taking place for a Western Corridor.

OTHER BUSINESS

Naghi Zeenati mentioned that UDOT has filed for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant in the amount of \$27,000,000.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

COG Meeting: February 6, 2018

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Transportation Expo: February 13, 2018

DTEC meeting: February 21, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Having no other business, Chairman Hart adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Cheyenne Bentley