

**DIXIE TRANSPORTATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (DTEC)  
MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2018**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chris Hart, Ivins City Mayor  
Wayne Peterson, Leeds Mayor  
Jeff Turek, Washington City Council  
John Bramall, Hurricane City Mayor  
Richard Hirschi, LaVerkin Mayor  
Naghi Zeenati, UDOT Commission  
Rick Rosenberg, Santa Clara Mayor  
Jimmie Hughes, St. George City Council

Doug Ward, Washington City  
Myron Lee, Dixie MPO  
Dave Demas, Dixie MPO  
Ron Whitehead, Washington County  
Todd Edwards, Washington County  
Steve Call, Federal Highway  
Administration  
Susan Crook, Conserve Southwest Utah  
Rick Torgerson, UDOT Region Director  
Aaron Baker, Horrocks Engineers  
Bryan Christensen, Horrocks Engineers  
Lisa Young, St. George Express  
Courtney Brinkerhoff, Senator Hatch's  
Office  
Adam Snow, Congressman Stewart's  
Office  
Brady Shakespeare, Jones & Demille  
Engineering

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Stan Smith, Springdale Mayor  
Cameron Cutler, St. George City  
Kyle Gubler, LaVerkin City Administrator  
Terry Bell, Rockville Council  
Arthur LeBaron, Hurricane City  
Chuck Gillette, Ivins City  
Troy Belliston, Washington City  
Mike Shaw, Washington City

**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.

**BUSINESS**

**a. Consideration of Minutes – August 15, 2018 Meeting**

**MOTION: Motion by Mayor Bramall to Approve the Minutes of August 15, 2018 DTEC Meeting. Motion Seconded by Commissioner Naghi Zeenati and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.**

**b. Consider 2019-2023 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)**

Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) representative Myron Lee explained that this item has been previously tabled due to the significant number of public comments received. This allowed the Committee to review the comments before taking action on the item.

**MOTION: Motion by Mayor John Bramall to Approve the 2019-2023 Transportation Improvement Plan. Motion Seconded by Mayor**

**Richard Hirschi and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.**

**c. Consider 2019-2023 Transit Transportation Improvement Plan (Transit TIP)**

Mr. Lee distributed the funding spreadsheet highlighting funds for transit coming into the TIP through 2023. Previously, funds have primarily gone to SunTran, which is the only transit provider within the MPO. There may be an additional transit provider by 2023, therefore, it has been proposed to approve the transit TIP with proportional funding going to transit services within the MPO.

**MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Naghi Zeenati to Approve the 2019-2023 Transit Transportation Improvement Plan. Motion Seconded by Councilman Jimmie Hughes and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.**

**d. Consider Self-Certification Resolution**

Mr. Lee outlined Resolution FY2019-01, and explained that the Dixie MPO is responsible, together with the Utah Department of Transportation, for carrying out the Urban Transportation Planning Process and submitting the self-certification annually with the TIP.

UDOT Commissioner Naghi Zeenati questioned how often SunTran updates their ridership numbers. Cameron Cutler stated that ridership is approximately 450,000.

**MOTION: Motion by Mayor John Bramall to Approve Resolution No. FY2019-01 Self-Certification. Motion Seconded by Mayor Rick Rosenberg and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.**

**e. Consider UDOT Interchange Feasibility Study Requests**

**i. Exit 18**

Rick Torgerson explained that in the year 2000, Exit 18 was examined to be added near SR-9. Due to increased development in that area, a new feasibility study is being proposed to determine the need for an additional exit.

**ii. Exit 7**

Exit 7 is proposed to be located near 700 South, to help connect Bluff Street and the Red Hills Parkway.

Funding for the feasibility studies comes from 50% MPO funds, and 50% UDOT funds. The cost is estimated at \$30,000 per interchange, therefore, the cost to the MPO would be \$30,000.

Mr. Lee explained that there are funds available in the Planning Fund of the MPO.

**MOTION: Motion by Mayor John Bramall to Approve the UDOT Interchange Feasibility Study Requests for Exit 7 and Exit 18. Motion Seconded by Mayor Richard Hirschi and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.**

## **REPORTS / DISCUSSIONS**

### **a. Local Transportation Funding Programs**

#### **i. Local Transportation Funds**

Effort is being made to compile a spreadsheet to show transportation funds as they become available over the next twenty (20) to thirty (30) years. The MPO is also seeking information about where those funds are spent, whether it is on preservation or operations.

Cities within the MPO have been asked to track funds from B&C Road funds, quarter cent sales tax, and private funding coming from the general fund to the transportation fund.

#### **ii. Statewide Transportation Funds**

The approach for federal funds is to examine the previous ten (10) to fifteen (15) years, and make assumptions about growth based upon past numbers.

Currently, there is a two dollar (\$2) per month, per household fee imposed on Santa Clara residents' utility bills. Mayor Rosenberg explained that those funds are used for road maintenance.

Mr. Lee mentioned that there is an active lawsuit in Layton brought forth from a private entity, citing that a similarly imposed fee is unfair due to the transportation system not being equally utilized by all residents of that city. Pending the ongoing lawsuit, the outcome may affect the implementation of that fee in Washington County.

## **PRESENTATION: HORROCKS ENGINEERING**

Mr. Lee mentioned that the Department of Transportation Advisory Committee (DTAC) and DTEC approved funding to revise and update the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) plan. Horrocks Engineering has been selected to update the plan.

Brian Christensen of Horrocks Engineering explained that the fiber system is used for communication with traffic signals, as well as allowing operators to efficiently and remotely run the system to better manage roadways and traffic. Fiber lines are primarily located in St. George, Washington and Hurricane. Future planning would update the map to have ITS available county-wide.

Collaborative projects would be a significant cost saving benefit in comparison to stand-alone projects. Partnerships with private communications companies would also allow for more cost efficient ways to bring fiber to more areas.

Mr. Lee explained that there is \$150,000 programmed for ITS projects within the MPO for identified projects.

## **REGIONAL UPDATES**

### **a. UDOT Updates**

UDOT Regional Director Rick Torgerson mentioned that the Leeds widening project has been mostly paved and is anticipated to be complete within a few weeks.

The transit project is in the process of obtaining proposals from four (4) companies which are due on September 27, 2018. A selection committee will choose one (1) of the four (4) companies by the second week of October.

Bluff Street paving is anticipated to be complete within approximately three (3) weeks.

The interchange at Exit 16 will be advertised by next month and be under contract by December. The cost is estimated at \$25 million with the completion date approximately one (1) year from commencement.

The passing lanes on SR-9 will be paved within two (2) to four (4) weeks on the section between Virgin and Rockville.

A new incident management truck has been allocated to St. George to assist Highway Patrol when needed.

Commissioner Zeenati Mentioned that the UDOT Commission will meet in Washington County on March 22, 2019.

### **b. Federal Updates**

Adam Snow mentioned the airport reconstruction was awarded \$26 million dollars of grant money. Congressman Stewart is helping to secure grant funding for transportation to Zion.

Courtney Brinkerhoff mentioned that Judge Kavanaugh is up for confirmation, and Senator Hatch supports him amid recent controversy.

Steve Call, Federal Highway Administration, mentioned that the federal fiscal year begins October 1, 2018; however, they will not have an official budget passed before then.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Walkability Audit Workshop: September 27, 28, 2018

DTAC: October 3, 2018

**DTEC: October 17, 2018**

### **ADJOURN**

Having no other business, Chairman Hart adjourned the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Cheyenne Bentley