

SALT LAKE CITY
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of the August 5, 2019 Meeting

Present from the Transportation Advisory Board were Courtney Reeser, Daniel Mendoza, Dave Alderman, Ellen Reddick, Jon Larsen, Matt Sibul, Paul Schulte and Suzanne Stensaas.

Absent from the Transportation Advisory Board were Bradley Palmer, John Beener, Joshua Poppel and Reid Ewing.

Also present were Bryan Meenen, Amy Lyons, Russell Weeks and Tatiana Christian.

The meeting, held at the Transportation Division Office, 349 South 200 East, Salt Lake City, Utah, was called to order at 4:04p.m. by Courtney Reeser.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests – Courtney welcomed everyone, Tatiana introduced herself.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Traffic Signal Synchronization

Bryan Meenen, SLC Transportation

Bryan gave the Board some background and a presentation on what goes into traffic signal timing. The goals of signal timing are safety first and then efficiency. Transportation wants to reduce travel times, delays and emissions at as many City signals as possible. Bryan went over different corridors throughout the city where new traffic signal timing plans were implemented and also shared both the challenges and the positive impact it has had. He discussed pedestrian crossing push buttons and said at some intersections, pressing the button will give you more time to cross and if there is no button, the signal will automatically give you a walk at every signal change. Suzanne suggested writing an article for the media regarding timing to encourage people to drive the speed limit on timed streets. Courtney suggested the Board write a letter or op-ed.

Report Out

TAB Members

Paul said they are finishing up on the brand new Meadowlark, Edison and Mountain View elementary schools and he explained the new traffic patterns associated with them. He expressed concern about the 900 South roadwork and its proximity to East High School. Suzanne was happy to see the article in the SL Tribune about the new Hive Pass but felt it was quite complicated to figure out. She would like to see a tool to help people figure out the best pass option for them. She took Matt's advice and attended the UTA meeting but felt it was discouraging and they didn't seem interested in her ideas. Suzanne also said the shrubbery is growing over the sidewalks again on Foothill Dr. and Ellen said that Dan Bergenthal can send a letter to the property owner about that. Suzanne said there is another big apartment complex going in at Sugar House and she pushed for them to have no street parking and arrange to use existing apartment

parking especially on McClelland St. Dave said his Community Council meeting in June went well and had good community turnout as well as Jon and UTA representatives. He thanked UTA for their participation and Jon said there were a lot of really good transit questions. Matt said August 11th, the first day of school is also their route change day. UTA changes 70% of their routes three times per year to provide more service. Courtney has been asked about the status of the 300 North pedestrian bridge and Jon said the contract is in its final stages and will hopefully be done soon. She has also had numerous people ask if they can do more paint the pavement projects in their area. Tatiana asked what traffic calming was and Courtney explained and also wanted to know how traffic calming could get put into the SLC budget. Jon said they are working on a proposal to brand it as a “livable street project” rather than traffic calming. Transportation would like to come at it from a more positive spin of reimagining the streets, making them safer, more comfortable and attractive to all. He’s hoping the new administration might add this to the budget next year. Dave asked about the status of Reid’s student traffic counts. Jon said he’s hoping to have those results next month. Paul was invited to work with the U of U on street lights. Daniel said he was also invited to a street light meeting with both Transportation and the U of U as the director of the Consortium on Dark Skies. Paul said he found a resource to help with the lighting for the Brazilian Free Tailed Bats at West High School. Jon said as far as traffic calming, it might be helpful to get a support letter from TAB. The City Council has already allocated \$100k but there really needs to be more. Courtney said there are multiple bus stops on 900 North and 1000 North without shelters. Matt said they are likely on the 5 or 10 year plan based on utilization. Daniel said there is a similar concern on South Temple and that once it snows, it’s impossible to get from the bus stop to the bus. Daniel said there is concern about the discontinuity of the busses going to the U of U medical center. Matt and Jon said that was solely a decision of the U of U as they want to have more valet parking and no public transportation although the City was able to convince them to keep a few busses coming. Courtney said there is a Board at the U of U that makes those decisions and she will get contact info for Daniel.

Motion: Ellen Reddick moved to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2019 meeting. Daniel Mendoza seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Right of Way Priority

Jon Larsen, SLC Transportation

Transportation is looking to update the Transportation Master Plan (TMP), and will be hiring four new employees to help with this process. There have been other master plans that have been adopted in the last few years and the TMP will stitch those together along with the street typologies. One of the things being realized is that there is a lot of competition for curb space including drivers, bus stops, taxis, bikes, etc. Jon said they should possibly have a conversation about aerial transportation in the TMP as well and the bottom line is that the number and types of users fighting for curb space seems to be proliferating. Jon would like to get some recommendations from the Board during the curb space decision making process. The Board will hold a workshop on this subject in the future.

Bikes, Pedestrians and Community Involvement

Ellen Reddick, TAB Member

Ellen is looking for more support, information and ideas for pedestrian safety. She would like to look at pedestrians in a different way. We have no idea how many peds are

hit because many are non-reported accidents. Children have even been hit and if the child doesn't get the driver information, there is no recourse. Suzanne asked how complicated it would be to get a statute making all pedestrian accidents reportable. Ellen said it is something that would need to go through the legislature. She's currently trying to get some traffic calming in her District due to the high traffic volume on nearby roads and multiple schools. If the Board members would share new ideas, new articles or information, she would really appreciate it. She feels it would be helpful to have someone speak for pedestrians, students and bus laws. There was some discussion about specific schools and how there should be more walking buses. Courtney asked how the Board could help and Ellen said it would be helpful if they could keep giving her feedback.

The next meeting of the Board was scheduled for September 9, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Approved by Board 09-09-19