

DIXIE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2020 – 1:00 p.m.

Five County Association of Governments

1070 West 1600 South

St. George, UT

Conducting: Todd Edwards, Chairman – Mr. Edwards indicated that this meeting is being held 100% electronically. Mr. Edwards then read the following Determination under which this meeting will be governed:

Written Determination Regarding the Need for Electronic Meetings Without Anchor Locations.

Due to the seriousness of the current worldwide Covid-19 pandemic, the continued spread of the infection throughout Utah and in Washington County, resulting in the State of Utah determining that High Transmission Risk Level is appropriate for Washington County, and Covid-19's potentially deadly and life-altering effects, I, as Chairman of the Dixie MPO Transportation Advisory Committee, have determined that conducting an electronic meeting with an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present at the anchor location, given the limited capacity of our meeting space for physical distancing as called for under State Guidelines.

Accordingly, pursuant to Utah Code section 52-4-207(4), electronic meetings will not be required to have an anchor location at this time. This written determination will expire thirty days from the date it is signed.

Mr. Edwards noted that each Committee member will be asked if they are present and if they can hear clearly.

The Committee members were also instructed that they must give a verbal indication that they can hear and understand what the Chair is saying and what is happening at the meeting, and if at any time during the meeting they are having difficulty hearing or understanding whoever is speaking, they should interrupt and let the Chair know they are having problems hearing and ask the speaker to speak up and speak directly into their phone or whatever device they are using to communicate.

Mr. Edwards also asked members to place their devices on MUTE except when speaking.

Mr. Edwards conducted the roll call:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Todd Edwards, CHAIR, Washington County Engineer
- Wayne Peterson, Leeds Town
- Jay Sandberg, St George City
- Monty Thurber, St. George City, Engineer Associate/Traffic Coordinator
- Kayde Roberts, UDOT Region Four

- Arthur LeBaron, Hurricane City
- Chuck Gillette, Ivins City, Public Works Director
- Jack Taylor, Santa Clara City Public Works Director
- Mike Shaw, Washington City Public Works Director
- Kyle Gubler, LaVerkin City
- Cameron Cutler, St. George City, Public Works Director

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Ty Bringhurst, Toquerville City

OTHER ATTENDEES:

- Myron Lee, Dixie MPO
- Aron Baker, Horrocks Engineering
- Taylor Ricks
- Jeff Sanders, UDOT
- Rick Snyder, Washington City
- Chris Hall, UDOT
- Susan Crook
- Ryan Tiu
- Payton Bullock
- Kurt Ivie, Washington City – City Council
- Other attendees were present but did not introduce themselves

Chairman Edwards noted that a quorum was present and called for the meeting to continue.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE:

- A. COVID–19 Accommodations/Protocol – The COVID-19-Accommodations and Protocol were discussed prior to Item 1.A to comply with the roll call rules when holding an electronic meeting.
- B. Consider Minutes from October 7, 2020 – Chairman Edwards noted that no additions or corrections were mentioned and called for a motion to approve the minutes.

Kyle Gubler made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Arthur LeBaron seconded the motion.

Chairman Edwards then conducted a verbal roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with all Committee members in attendance verbally voting in favor of the motion.

2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:

- A. Update of 2021 Transportation Expo / Survey Tools – Myron Lee reported that the DTEC committee approved the recommendation from the DTAC committee

regarding the idea of holding a virtual Expo in 2021 instead of an in-person Expo. They are looking at holding a Zoom meeting type platform where participants can click on different projects and then do a live chat with individuals hosting the project. Mr. Lee asked if the committee members could provide:

- Projects that they would like to feature from their different organizations.
- Individuals who could be involved from each City who could answer public questions the day of the Expo.

Myron indicated that he would send out an email to all the committee members with the details on what information he needs to obtain.

3. LONG-RANGE PLANNING:

- A. Build-out study initiative/partnership – Myron Lee reported that the Kem C Gardner Institute would like to do a build-out study for Washington County in conjunction with the MPO, the Water Conservancy district, and Washington County. They have received a commitment from each of these participants to contribute about \$5000 to do the study. The purpose of the study would be to give us information that we need for our travel demand model.

Cameron Cutler asked what additional information this study would give beyond what the last study we had provided. Mr. Lee indicated that the last study was done in 2017 with a horizon of 2040. This new study would go 10 years beyond our current travel demand model out to 2060. **Jeff Sanders** then asked if the study would be done before the Census data comes out. Mr. Lee indicated that the Kem C Gardner institute wants to do the study before they have the Census numbers. Because they will be using the Census numbers to build a population projection, they would like to compare the build-out study with the new population numbers to see if there's sufficient land uses available for the population or if it would create a constraining situation.

4. TIP:

- A. Presentation of TIP Project Concept Reports – Myron Lee indicated that there are (6) projects nominated for MPO funding and that all the information was emailed to the committee members for their review prior to the meeting. Evaluations need to be returned to Myron prior to Thanksgiving. The projects discussed are as follows:
- Purgatory Road Design – This project is the regionally master planned connection between SR-9 and SR-7 through the Purgatory Valley and across the Virgin River. The purpose of this request is to secure funding to design the roadway from SR-9 to the Virgin River. This does not include a request to design the river crossing, but rather to tie into the roadway network in Washington City on the north side of the Virgin River. Arthur LeBaron led the discussion on this project. Mr. LeBaron again emphasized that this request is for design money and that they would like to advocate for immediate funding as all the preliminary work has been completed.

- Old high 91 Reconstruction and Widening – This project is to improve the 3.1 miles of Old Highway 91 from 200 East to the Shivwits Indian Reservation (a continuation of the project recently completed in Ivins/Santa Clara). It will include resurfacing the existing 26-28 foot wide surface and widening to a 38 foot wide surface with (2)12-foot lanes and (2) 7-foot shoulders along with turning lanes, acceleration lanes at all major intersections, a bike lane and a continuation and connection to the shared-use trail on the north side of Highway 91. The option of roundabouts at these intersections is also being considered as an alternative to the turn lanes. **Chuck Gillette** led the discussion on this project.
- 100 South I-15 Underpass Pedestrian Safety Improvements – The purpose of this project is to construct a more functional roadway with additional shoulder for cyclists and wider sidewalks for pedestrians. **Jay Sandberg** led the discussion on this project.
- Gap Canyon Drive (Formerly Plantations Drive) – This project is to complete a portion of a regional arterial road connecting St. George to the proposed Western Corridor connecting Santa Clara, Ivins, and Highway 91 to I-15. This will also provide an alternative traffic corridor to Santa Clara Drive, Sunset Blvd, and North Dixie Drive. – **Jay Sandberg** led the discussion on this project.
- Merrill Road Extension – This project is to widen the roadway, move the drainage channel (and enclose in pipe), and make the area safer for vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians. The widening will also improve the function of the traffic movements in the intersection of 3000 E/Mall Dr./Merrill Rd. Mr. Sandberg noted that the improvements will be on the St. George City side. **Jay Sandberg** led the discussion on this project.
- 3650 South & SR-7 Interchange – This project is the interchange under SR-7 at the east end of 3650 S in Washington City. **Mike Shaw** led the discussion on this project.

- B. Review of TIP Schedule / Available Funding (TIP/TAP) – Myron Lee discussed the 2021-25 Dixie MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) 8/12/2020 DRAFT, and the 2018-22 Dixie MPO (TAP Funds) 8/02/2017 DRAFT. Mr. Lee indicated that we have about 4 million dollars of funding to program of which \$300,000 needs to be spent by 2021. Mr. Lee also indicated that there is approximately \$270,000 of TAP funds in the Transportation alternative funds that is available to program.

Mr. Lee also presented the 2020 Dixie MPO Project Evaluation Tool and led a discussion on how to use the tool.

5. LOCAL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

- A. Hurricane – Just completed some chip sealing off Highway 59. They are working on some road project designs and hope to deliver the 2800 W project together with UDOT's delivery of the Southern Parkway tying into SR-9.

- B. Ivins – Continuing work on the Old Highway 91 project and their master plan.
- C. LaVerkin – Nothing to report.
- D. Leeds – Nothing to report.
- E. St. George City – Finished up a big slurry seal project this year. Tuweap and Sunset Boulevard signals are energized. They are hoping to start the River Road project in December.
- F. Santa Clara – No update
- G. Toquerville - No update
- H. Washington City – Working on the 3650 E project as well as the 3650 1450 joint project with St. George City. Also working on the Washington Dam road project and hope to have it ready to bid this winter.
- I. Washington County – Nothing new to report.
- J. UDOT – Main project is still the Southern Parkway – still hoping to get the asphalt down before it gets too cold. Putting together a contract with St. George City on the Bluff Street tunnel which they hope to complete in time for the IronMan competition in September of 2021. Also working on the fiber project on SR9 to close the gap between their office and Zion.

6. Upcoming Meetings / Deadlines:

- A. November 18, 2020 – DTEC Meeting
- B. December 2, 2020 – DTAC Meeting

7. Roll Call Vote:

- A. Chairman Todd Edwards conducted a verbal roll call. All Committee members that attended the meeting verbally declared their full involvement in the meeting as outlined except Jack Taylor who left the meeting at approximately 1:30 pm.

ALL BUSINESS HAVING BEEN CONDUCTED; THE MEETING ADJOURNED upon a motion by Kyle Gubler and a second by Cameron Cutler. No vote was required for this motion.