

**DIXIE MPO TRANSPORTATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (DTEC)
ELECTRONIC MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2021**

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Hart, Ivins Mayor
Dean Cox, Commissioner
Victor Iverson, Commissioner
Gil Almquist, Commissioner
Naghi Zeenati, UDOT Commissioner
Richard Hirschi, La Verkin Mayor
Wayne Peterson, Leeds Mayor
Ken Nielsen, Washington City Mayor
Dannielle Larkin, St. George City
Jimmie Hughes, St. George City
John Brammall, Hurricane Mayor
Lynn Chamberlain, Toquerville Mayor
Michele Randall, St. George City Mayor

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT / EXCUSED

Rick Rosenberg, Santa Clara Mayor

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Chris Hart called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

a. Review of Electronic Meeting Protocol for Voting Members

It was determined that a quorum existed for voting on action items, via Zoom.

BUSINESS

a. Consideration of February 17, 2021 DTEC Minutes

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Dean Cox to Approve the February 17, 2021 DTEC Minutes. Motion Seconded by Mayor John Bramall and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.

DISCUSSION

a. Discussion on Zone 6 Trails Plan

Washington County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Director Cameron Rognan provided an update of the Zone 6 trails plan. There are many unofficial and redundant trails within Zone 6 and it is the goal to establish official authorized trails in the area. The BLM and travel management agencies will be

consulted in the process of determined which trails will remain open and which ones will be closed. Input from the mountain biking, hiking, and equestrian communities will also be sought in regards to the trail system.

The Washington County Trails committee will meet on March 31st and will continue to discuss the Zone 6 trail system.

b. Sequence of UDOT Priorities within Dixie MPO

Utah Department of Transportation Engineer Rick Torgerson explained that the preferred alternative phase 1 construction 2012-2020 and displayed the projects that have already been completed along I-15.

The preferred alternatives phase 2 construction for 2020-2030 was highlighted displaying proposed improvement projects in St. George and Washington City. Projects include, removing existing roundabouts and constructing a single point interchange at Brigham Road; enhancing the transportation system from MP 10 to MP 16; adding an travel lane in each direction between Green Springs Drive and Washington Parkway; adding one travel lane and auxiliary lanes in each direction between Brigham Road and Dixie Drive; and adding one travel lane in each direction between Bluff Street and St. George Boulevard.

The preferred alternatives phase 3 construction for 2030-2040 were highlighted. Projects include: Enhancing the transportation system for south-bound I-15 between SR-9 and Washington Parkway; adding a southbound lane auxiliary lane from SR-9 to Washington Parkway; adding a third lane on the Northbound East Bound exit ramp to SR-9.

c. 2021 Utah State Legislature Update

Dixie MPO Transportation Specialist Ryan Tiu gave an update of the 2021 Legislative session. Bills included: HB 433, amendments to related infrastructure funding with Toquerville Parkway, East Zion SR-9 improvements, widening I-15 between mileposts 10 and 13 and at milepost 11.

HB 82, single-family housing modifications, which modify and define provisions related to single-family housing and accessory dwelling units.

HB 142, Cyclist Traffic Amendments which amends traffic codes relating to operating a bicycle on the roadway.

SB 113, in regards to transportation funding and governance amendments. The bill amends provision related to transportation, public transit, towing and other related items.

d. Census Bureau Proposal “Metropolitan Statistical Areas”

Dixie MPO Myron Lee explained that the Census Bureau is changing the way small urban areas are defined. The St. George MPO was designated as an urban area of at least 50,000 population and 1000 people per square mile. The Census Bureau is seeking to change the measurement to 385 housing units per square mile. This would potentially be beneficial to Washington County as vacation rental homes could be counted in the new calculation resulting in additional available funding for the area for grants etc.

REGIONAL UPDATES

a. Local Government Updates

Mayor Ken Nielson reported that Washington City is working on 3650 South to the Southern Parkway along with Washington Dam Road.

b. UDOT Updates

Rick Torgerson stated that the UDOT Commission will be meeting April 8, 2021.

The Southern Parkway will be ready for grand opening in mid-April.

UDOT will be combining with the Love Where You Live campaign to clean up trash along I-15 and partnering with the cities to keep litter to a minimum.

c. Federal Updates

None Presented.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

DTAC- April 7, 2021

DTEC – April 21, 2021

ADJOURN

Having no other business, Chairman Hart adjourned the meeting at 12:57 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Cheyenne Bentley