

**DIXIE MPO TRANSPORTATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (DTEC)
REGULAR AND ELECTRONIC MEETING MINUTES
September 20, 2022**

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Hart, Ivins Mayor – Chair
Jimmie Hughes, St George City – Vice Chair
Dannielle Larkin, St. George City
Naghi Zeenati, UDOT Commissioner
Kress Staheli, Washington City Council
Richard Hirschi, La Verkin City Council
Victor Iverson, Commissioner – Washington County
Gary Chaves, Toquerville City Council
Nannette Billings, Hurricane City Mayor
Bill Hoster, Leeds Mayor

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT / EXCUSED

Michele Randall, St. George City Mayor
Rick Rosenberg, Santa Clara Mayor

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Chris Hart determined there was a quorum and called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

BUSINESS

a. Consideration of August 16, 2022 DTEC Minutes

MOTION: Motion by UDOT Commissioner Naghi Zeenati to Approve the August 16, 2022 DTEC Minutes. Motion Seconded by Councilwoman Danielle Larkin and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.

b. Review Public Comments and Consider Amendment #3 of the 2019-2050 Dixie Regional Transportation Plan Adding and Updating the Active Transportation Plan

Five County AOG Transportation Planner Nate Wiberg explained that the 2019-2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) focuses on planning a bicycle network that is both safe and convenient for users. Where possible, family-friendly facilities that separate bicycles from vehicle traffic are planned. Additionally, the RTP focuses on regional connections to ensure that origins and destinations are conveniently linked along with improved connections to transportation services, such as bus and rail.

During the 30-day public comment period several comments were received including:

LaVerkin projects were identified on the map but not on the list; a follow up on the Leeds Town route; adding existing paved paths to the map as several trails on the map do not have the connections; and concerns with the SR-7 trail not aligning with the original plan.

MOTION: Motion by UDOT Commissioner Naghi Zeenati to Accept the Comments Received and Adopt Amendment #3 of the 2019-2050 Dixie Regional Transportation Plan Adding and Updating the Active Transportation Plan. Motion Seconded by Councilman Richard Hirschi and Carried by a Unanimous Vote.

c. Introduction of BLM St. George Field Office Manager

Jason West introduced himself as the new St. George Field Office Manager of the Bureau of Land Management and encouraged all the members to reach out with questions or collaborations.

d. Introduction of Federal Highway Administration Program Development Team Leader

Jennifer Elsken introduced herself as the new Federal Highway Administration Program Development Team Leader.

e. Presentation on Access Management

Mr. Lee presented a video on the importance of access management, travel lanes, land use controls, and effective travel management as populations grow and roads can no longer support the amount of traffic utilizing them. Access management is the process that provides access to land development, while simultaneously preserving the flow of traffic on the surround road systems in terms of safety, capacity, and speed.

The basic principles of access management include: limiting the number of conflict points; separating basic conflict areas; reducing interference with through traffic; providing adequate spacing of at-grade intersections; maintaining progression speeds along arterials; and providing adequate on site circulation and storage.

Routes with well-managed access experience 50% less accidents than those without. Access management provides substantial reduction of accident costs, reduce the need to build new roadways, protect the value of private investments, and enhance vitality of surrounding communities.

REGIONAL UPDATES

a. Local Government Updates

Danielle Larkin, Bluff Street Tunnel grand opening, Friday, September 23, 2022.

b. UDOT Updates

Monte Aldridge mentioned that an active transportation plan is being worked on at Bluff Street and will be out for advertisement next year.

Mile Post 10-13 will be advertised this fall and begin construction in the spring. This project will be the first in southern Utah to have sound walls.

The Northern Corridor and Toquerville Bypass projects are still being worked through.

c. Federal Updates

Heath Hansen reported from Senator Lee's office that a budget has not been passed and funding will end on September 30th.

Kyle Wilson reported from Senator Romney's office that infrastructure funding is coming.

LaRene Cox from Congressman Stewart's office reported that he has been present in Washington County regarding the various needs and plans to return in October.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

DTAC – October 5, 2022

DTEC – October 18, 2022 @ Dixie Tech

ADJOURN

Having no other business, Chairman Hart adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Cheyenne Bentley