

DIXIE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

Five County Association of Governments

1070 West 1600 South

St. George, UT

Conducting: Jay Sandberg, Chairman – Mr. Sandberg called the DTAC meeting to order from an anchor location with an electronic meeting option over a GoToMeeting connection.

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

In addition, Mr. Sandberg noted that he will take roll again at the end of the meeting wherein the Committee members attending electronically must declare for the record that they participated in the meeting from beginning to end and that they were able to hear and comprehend everything that occurred during the meeting.

Mr. Sandberg conducted the roll call:

MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE ANCHOR LOCATION:

- Jay Sandberg, CHAIR, St. George City
- Arthur LeBaron, Hurricane City
- Monty Thurber, St. George City, Engineer Associate/Traffic Coordinator
- Chuck Gillette, Ivins City
- Kyle Gubler, LaVerkin City
- Kirt Ivie, Washington City Council for Blake Foncesbeck, Washington City Public Works Director
- Dustin Mouritsen, Santa Clara City Public Works Director
- Cameron Cutler, St. George City Public Works Director
- Todd Edwards, Washington County

MEMBERS PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY:

- Cameron Gay, UDOT

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Toquerville Representative
- Leeds Representative

OTHER ATTENDEES:

- Myron Lee, Dixie MPO
- Nicholas Gayer, Dixie MPO
- Susan Crook, CSU
- Clayton Wilson, Stanley Consultants
- Leslie Fonger, Greater Zion Destination Development Manager
- Patty Wise, LaVerkin City Council

- Sharice Walker, Avenue Consulting
- Lief Condie, Sunrise Engineering
- Lloyd Sutton, St. George City Active Transportation Coordinator
- Tim O'Brien, St. George City resident
- Other attendees were present but did not introduce themselves.

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

Chairman Sandberg also welcomed visitors who were in attendance.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE:

A. Consider Minutes from February 1, 2023.

Chairman Sandberg noted that no additions or corrections were mentioned and called for a motion to approve the minutes.

Arthur LeBaron made a motion to approve the minutes. Dustin Mouritsen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with all Committee members verbally voting in favor of the motion.

2. TIP:

A. Transportation Expo recap/review of comments – Myron Lee reported that this year's expo was better attended than any previous expo with a total of 961 attendees. Myron referred to a handout that basically captures the comments placed on sticky notes that were placed on the map. The sticky notes contained comments for each Project number.

Along with the comments that came from the MPO booth, there was also a number of comments from St. George, Washington, Leeds, Ivins, Santa Clara and Hurricane. For instance, in St. George, state Route 7 was mentioned at several points. The main comment is the need for an interchange improvement between SR7 and I 15. There were also comments about the Brigham Road roundabout. There still seems to be a fair amount of discouragement on that interchange.

There were also a lot of comments calling for more transit lines throughout the city, particularly to Sun River, but also a desire to have a more robust transit system where there's an out and back type of a connection.

Also noted were a couple of comments on the 1000 East St. George Boulevard intersection regarding congestion in that area as well as a couple of comments both in favor and against the northern corridor.

Rather than discuss the balance of the items individually, Myron handed out the comments to those Committee members for the communities that the comments would apply to, with the explanation that some of the comments had listed a phone number and requested a follow-up call.

A discussion followed about the Expo and the experience those hosting booths had with the public. The general feeling was that there seemed to be a little better cross section of residents this year, and that most of the people that came through were very complimentary of the information that they were getting and the opportunities they were given to comment.

3. PLANNING:

- A. Active Transportation Plan prioritization and phasing discussion - Nathan Wiberg reported that we have been doing a lot of active transportation planning regionally, and you (committee members) have been doing quite a bit locally as well.

During this time, UDOT has asked us to fiscally constrain our active transportation projects. Initially this was fairly difficult to do because we did not have a funding history to project those numbers over the next (10) years; and, as of yet, the MPO does not receive direct funding from the TIF for active transportation projects. With this in mind, we used some assumptions and estimates that other MPO's use and did the best we could.

Assumptions: (see handout)

- DMPO portion of TIF - we're assuming that 5% of the TIF goes to active transportation planning or projects, and 6% of that goes to Dixie MPO.

But based on the tool, because some of those funds have already been spent, we're looking at 2% from 2023 to 2030. That is what that top number is (see handout. It's about 10 million spread across ten years.

- TAP and CRP - We can also use a little bit of the Tap, CRP, and cities budget funding as well. The bottom line is one time, **assuming that the governor's budget gets approved**, the state will receive 45,000,000 for active transportation projects. At 6%, that would be about \$2.7 million all combined. We are going to try to constrain \$16.5 million to projects out of a total of six.

Mr. Wiberg also presented the Dixie MPO Regional Active Transportation Plan (2019 – 2050) for discussion. Nathan stated that the handout only shows Phase 1, which contains approximately 155 projects – some of which are small pieces that make up the one larger project. There was also discussion about projects on the Active Transportation Plan that only including paved projects - due to funding eligibility.

Basically, what the committee is looking for today, is to come up with a list of projects that are constrained (via a constraint formula) that we are looking to give to UDOT for their plan.

It was determined that each city with projects in Phase 1 of the Active Transportation Plan will choose (2) projects, preferably their highest priority, and those (2) projects will make up the constrained list.

There was discussion about some of the projects and the following projects were chosen for the fiscally constrained list.

The projects chosen are:

- Hurricane
 - Purgatory Road \$2,261,686
 - Turf Sod Road \$3,498,256
- Ivins
 - (Combined) – Trail Underpass (or overpass) on Old Highway 92 @Western Corridor, and Western Corridor West \$3,000,000 combined
 - Trail Underpass (or overpass) on Old Highway 91 near Anasazi Road
- LaVerkin
 - Confluence Park North Regional Trail \$1,072,058
 - Confluence Park Power Plant Trail \$ 277,684
- St. George
 - Bloomington Sun River Trail Extension \$1,257,613
 - Virgin River South Trail – Springs Park to Mall Dr \$ 658,750
- Washington City
 - 3650 South Trail \$1,941,677
 - Canal Trail \$5,995,135

A discussion was also held about projects being funded equitably across jurisdictions. The Plan needs to be completed so the cities can apply for funding, which is when the equitable issue can come into play. There was also discussion about including locally funded projects in the long-range plan.

The MPO recognizes that because this is the first time doing this process for Active Transportation, adjustments and further comments and/or discussion may be needed.

Arthur LeBaron made a motion that we recommend to DTEC that they approve the projects just determined and add to the list any projects that the cities plan to fund with their own funding. Todd Edwards seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with all Committee members verbally voting in favor of the motion.

- B. SS4A Grant – next steps – Nicholas Gayer reported on the SS4A Grant:
- First, we are still going through the grant agreement process. We had our first official update with FHWA about the grant today.
 - There will be another general meeting with the FHWA and then we will meet with our UDOT Divisional representative.
 - Once this is done, we will be able to start with the steps to put out an RFP, getting the match for the money, etc.
 - It is anticipated that because we were awarded an amount over \$1,000,000, we may need to go through a budget review with the FHWA.

- We have received confirmation that the money we have been awarded can be spent between now and the next five years; however, it is recommended by FHWA to not do anything until after the agreement is completed. It's all about us not spending any money until the grant agreement is processed.
- FHWA anticipates that it could take up to two years to actually develop our action plan and then go right into getting implementation money.
- We need to come up with a match amount of \$200,000.

One other question has been what UDOT's involvement might be with us. It looks like they can be as a partner, but not a pass-through entity. UDOT will not be an intermediate entity.

After extensive discussion, it was recommended that the MPO petition the Washington Council of Governments to draw corridor preservation funds for the required SS4A match.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

A Roll Call Vote was completed because there was a voting member attending the meeting electronically.

4. LOCAL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES

- A. Hurricane – The 2800 W project is almost ready to pave. We have just broken ground on the roadway connector project that connects State Street to 600 N on the 700 W corridor.
- B. Ivins – Working on highway 91. They are still evaluating a change order going from a 2-lane road to a 3-lane road.
- C. LaVerkin – Nothing new to report.
- D. Leeds – No report this meeting
- E. St. George City – Getting ready for the spring chip seal projects. Finishing up the Red Cliffs and Mall Drive reconfiguration. Dixie Drive is still under construction. Working on various signals.
- F. Santa Clara – Just completed some more traffic signal upgrades. Will be doing some road maintenance.
- G. Toquerville – No report this meeting.
- H. Washington City – Exit 11 on Main Street will be starting next month. George Washington Parkway and SR7, have been able to secure some funding to help close the gap between the bid and estimated costs. The bids came in almost double the estimates.
- I. Washington County – No report at this meeting.
- J. UDOT – Sunset Boulevard and SR8 rehab project pre-construction meeting in March. We have set a start date of April 15 on the I-15 milepost 10 to 13 and interchange 11. The Quail Creek turn lanes project recently had a kick-off meeting.

5. Upcoming Meetings / Deadlines:

- A. March 21, 2023 – DTEC Meeting
- C. April 5, 2023 – DTAC Meeting

ALL BUSINESS HAVING BEEN CONDUCTED; THE MEETING ADJOURNED.