



REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 25, 2007
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

****MINUTES****

- ATTENDEES:*
- Dave Alvord, City of Eagle (*for Nichol Baird Spencer*)
 - Lisa Bachman, City of Kuna
 - Mary Berent, City of Middleton, *Chair*
 - Kevin Bittner, Valley Regional Transit
 - Jon Cecil, Capital City Development Corporation
 - Ester Ceja, Public Participation Committee
 - Mike DuBois, Department of Environmental Quality
 - Matt Ellsworth, City of Meridian, *Vice-Chair*
 - Michael Fuss, City of Nampa
 - Karen Gallagher, City of Boise
 - Shawn Martin, Ada County Highway District
 - Brent Orton, City of Caldwell
 - Tim Richard, Canyon Highway District #4
 - Sarah Stobaugh, Boise Independent School District
 - Larry Strough, Idaho Transportation Department-District 3 (*for Phil Choate*)
 - Toni Tisdale, COMPASS (*Ex-Officio*)
- MEMBERS ABSENT:*
- Jim Buffington, Nampa Highway District #1
 - Elizabeth Conner, City of Garden City
 - Marje Ellmaker, Mayor, City of Notus
 - Dean Gunderson, Ada County
 - Rob Howarth, Central District Health Department (*Ex-Officio*)
 - Don Kostelec, Ada County Highway District
 - Nathan Mitchell, Mayor, City of Star
 - Whitney Rearick, Boise State University
 - Jarom Wagoner, Canyon County Development Services
- OTHERS PRESENT:*
- Andrew Cibor, Kittelson & Associates
 - John Cunningham, COMPASS
 - Keith Holmes, COMPASS
 - Don Matson, COMPASS
 - Marilyn Sampson, COMPASS
 - Charles Trainor, COMPASS
 - Jeanne Urlezaga, COMPASS
 - Cameron Waite, Washington Group
 - MaryAnn Waldinger, COMPASS
 - Debbie Winchar, COMPASS

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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Berent called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

Chair Berent stated that before Open Discussion begins, Jeanne Urlezaga has requested to present a discussion regarding in-kind match for the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) Access Management Grant.

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) Access Management Grant

Jeanne Urlezaga stated that when COMPASS applied for the Access Management grant, it was anticipated that in-kind labor would be provided through this committee to match the federal dollars. The amount of \$11,500 of in-kind match is budgeted in the FY2007 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget for this project. To date, only eight RTAC members have submitted an accounting of time spent on Access Management, providing a total of \$855. In order to obtain the necessary local match, RTAC members are strongly urged to fill out the time accounting form, beginning October 1, 2006 to the present and submit to Debbie Winchar.

OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charles Trainor announced that COMPASS is selling an HP plotter. If interested, please contact Ross Dodge or Eric Adolfson in COMPASS' GIS department.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve March 28, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Matt Ellsworth moved and Karen Gallagher seconded to approve the March 28, 2007 minutes as written. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Information/Discussion Items

*A. Review Amendments to **Communities in Motion***

Charles Trainor presented a review of the supplements to *Communities in Motion*, which are needed to bring it into compliance with the new regulations under the State Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU).

Proposed supplements will be presented to RTAC in June for consideration, with action sought from the COMPASS Board in July 2007. Charles emphasized that this is not an update to the Plan. If the July 2007 deadline is not met, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) cannot be amended or updated, and projects that are contingent upon that update will be stymied.

Charles Trainor urged the Committee members to emphasize to their respective Board members that this is a technical supplement to the Plan and not a massive change.

B. Review Growth Projection Options

Charles Trainor presented various approaches to projecting growth. No decision is required yet, but options will be presented to the COMPASS Board under the Unified Planning Work Program and Budget

(UPWP) next year. The approach to the regional growth projection will be a major component in 2008, in preparation for the 2010 update to *Communities in Motion*.

Discussion:

- Is there a way to obtain guidance when preparing local growth forecasts?

Charles responded – it can be done.

- Will the growth options be presented to the Board without RTAC's recommendation? Does COMPASS staff have a recommendation? Will the consultant noted in the UPWP provide assistance?

Charles responded - this will be presented as an informational item to the Board. The consultant will provide assistance and guidance.

- The memo given to the Board should note the consultant's assistance. Change the growth trends and population table to be more helpful.

Charles responded – this chart was not intended to be presented to the Board. The intent of the table was to show that as areas get bigger, growth percentages drop.

- What is the status of the homebuyers' survey?

Charles responded – it was put on hold when Congress failed to appropriate the money. It has now been released but in the meantime the consultant, Clearwater Research, has taken on other duties and it may be a month or so before that study will begin.

- Would it be reasonable to take to the Board a scope of what the consultants will do and a methodology for locals to provide input into that process?

Charles responded – the scope will be discussed but scopes are not taken to the Board to approve.

- Do you anticipate that for each of those approaches to growth projection there would be a scenario or do you anticipate making one choice?

Charles responded – before entering the final round of the plan we need to pick a number. Allocation scenarios will not be done for six different potential regional growth futures. The options are intended to give the COMPASS technical committees and ultimately the Board, a range of the futures and then to retrieve a compromise on no more than two of the options.

- Some of the GARVEE projects being designed now are being designed based on *Communities in Motion* numbers.

Charles responded – the numbers were done to get a sense of the transportation and investment needs over a 20-year period of time.

- The numbers have to be followed up with land use.

Charles responded – we want consistency in the numbers. We are aware of, and are trying to respond to, the differences. One of the challenges is attending to the air quality issues that have the potential to be fatal flaws.

- An appropriate level of conservatism is needed when projecting numbers.

C. Update on Status of FY 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Programs

Toni Tisdale stated it was scheduled for the Committee to receive a draft list of projects for review but as Ada County Highway District (ACHD) and the urban programs of Nampa, Caldwell, and Middleton were looking at their programs, issues are arising similar to the issues experienced by the Idaho Transportation Department last year: massive cost increases. Local projects managers are meeting to discuss the issues.

At the May meeting, RTAC will be requested to provide a recommendation to the Board to release the programs for public comment. On June 18, 2007, the Board will be requested to approve release of the programs for public comment. Information will be forwarded to RTAC after May 10. Urban Balancing meets on May 9 and TMA Balancing meets on May 10. It is essential that all projects are included on the list. RTAC members are considered part of the public and can provide comments through the public comment period.

D. Discussion Regarding Studies Coordination

MaryAnn Waldinger distributed for review, a map of Corridor Studies, Area-wide Studies and Planned Communities known as of April 2007. The map is intended to provide information with regard to various corridor studies and how they integrate geographically. The biggest challenge is obtaining information on the potential planned communities. The goal is to collect more information within the next three weeks, incorporate that information into the appropriate Traffic Area Zones (TAZs), and obtain preliminary model results by late May – early June. It is anticipated that land use information will be updated every six-months.

Discussion:

- When looking at planned communities, how many jobs are in the area to support the residents?

MaryAnn responded – when given a number, certain things come into question. A research project is underway that is looking at master planned communities in California and their trip characteristics, for comparison.

- It would be interesting to see the job breakdowns from developers.

MaryAnn responded – she will see what she can put together.

- The school districts have been working with the planned community developers and have preliminary numbers on some of the missing pieces.

Toni Tisdale commented a standing item regarding Studies Coordination will be included on future RTAC agendas. The studies list will need to be kept current.

Other

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 23, 2007, 9:00 a.m. at COMPASS.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.