



**REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JUNE 24, 2009
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION**

**** MINUTES ****

ATTENDEES: Sabrina Andersen, Ada County Highway District
Mary Barker, Valley Regional Transit
Clair Bowman, City of Nampa
Jon Cecil, Capital City Development Corporation
Phil Choate, Idaho Transportation Department-District 3
Stephen Freiburger, Nampa Highway District #1 (*for Jim Buffington*)
Karen Gallagher, City of Boise
Caleb Hood, City of Meridian
Rob Howarth, Central District Health Department (*Ex-Offico*)
Wendy Howell, City of Middleton
Jeff Lowe, City of Eagle, **Vice Chair**
Deanna Smith, Public Participation Committee
Jenah Thornborrow, City of Garden City
Toni Tisdale, COMPASS (*Ex-Officio*)
Jim Voorhees, Canyon Highway District #4
Jarom Wagoner, Canyon County Development Services
Kelly Woodworth, Ada County Development Services (*for Jim Farrens*)

MEMBERS ABSENT: LeAnn Carlsen, Joint School District #2
Jared Everett, Boise State University
Steve Hasson, City of Kuna
Anne Horn, Mayor, City of Notus
Gary Inselman, Ada County Highway District
David Luft, Department of Environmental Quality
Brent Orton, City of Caldwell, **Chair**
Sarah Stobaugh, Boise Independent School District
Mary Shaw Taylor, City of Star
Margie Watson, Mayor, City of Parma

OTHERS PRESENT: Ryan Head, COMPASS
Sai Kumar Sarepalli, Holladay Engineering Company
Nichoel Baird Spencer, City of Eagle
Charles Trainor, COMPASS
Cheyne Weston, Boise Parks & Recreation
Debbie Winchar, COMPASS

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Lowe called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

None.

OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introductions were made of all attendees.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve May 27, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Toni Tisdale commented that a minor correction was made to the minutes prior to the meeting: page 5, list of volunteers – changing Nampa Highway District #2 to #1.

Mary Barker moved and Jon Cecil seconded to approve the May 27, 2009 meeting minutes as amended. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Recommend Approval of Projects for the End of Year Plan

Toni Tisdale presented recommendations for projects for the Idaho Transportation Department to consider through the End of Year Plan. Toni noted that two changes were made to the Urban Program table: Key #11584, 21st Ave. and Franklin Rd. Intersection, Phase IV, Caldwell – funding changed from \$300,000 to \$540,000; and, the addition of Key # 09195, Linden and 10th Intersection, Caldwell, \$45,000, Cost Overrun and Change Order.

After discussion, **Clair Bowman moved and Wendy Howell seconded to recommend approval of Projects for the End of Year Plan. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.**

B. Approve Meeting Date for July 2009

Toni Tisdale stated that on April 22, 2009, RTAC agreed to move the meeting date in July to accommodate the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update review and approval deadlines. The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is behind schedule in getting Update data out, so the list is not ready to review this month and approve in July 2009. Toni requested approval to schedule the July meeting for July 29, 2009, allowing additional time for review of the Draft TIP document and project list, which will be emailed to RTAC on July 20, 2009 or before.

Karen Gallagher moved and Jim Voorhees seconded to approve RTAC's July 29, 2009 meeting date. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Update on Draft FY2010-2014 Transportation Program Project List for Public Involvement

Toni Tisdale stated that COMPASS staff received the initial Update information from ITD on June 10, 2009. Staff now expects the Update to go through public involvement in August and September 2009, followed by final Board approval in September 2009. The Executive Committee met on June 16, 2009 to approve an accelerated schedule to get the TIP Update approved. Toni presented the FY2010-2014 TIP Update Calendar.

B. Discuss Construction and Studies Coordination

Toni Tisdale stated RTAC requested a standing agenda item to discuss construction and studies coordination and a roads' report update is emailed several times a week. Toni presented an updated construction report and asked if the group had additional updates.

Discussion:

- The addition of lane closures in Canyon County would be helpful.

Mary Barker commented that Valley Regional Transit (VRT) just completed the first draft of the evaluation of bus stops in order to do the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) bus stop enhancements at the stops. The stops were grouped into categories: stops that didn't need any work; stops that required fairly simple work; stops that remain and need extensive work; and, stops that would require acquisition. Mary said VRT obtained environmental categorical exclusion for this entire project, assuming that additional land would not be acquired. As the list is finalized, it will be brought to RTAC.

Sabrina Anderson stated the Ada County Highway District adopted the Southwest Boise Area Plan, South Meridian Area Plan, Bike Master Plan, and components of the Transportation and Land Use Integration Plan (TLIP): Livable Streets Design Guide and Complete Streets Policy.

Clair Bowman said the Nampa Citywide Transportation Plan website (<http://www.cityofnampa.us/transplan/>) provides a link for submitting transportation project suggestions. To date, approximately 60 suggestions have been submitted for short-term, immediate fixes and bus stop installation requests. The suggestion form can be downloaded by going to: <http://www.cityofnampa.us/transplan/needs-assessment/index.html>.

C. Update on Transportation Improvement Program Prioritization Process

Toni Tisdale stated that after a lengthy discussion with an RTAC subcommittee on project prioritization, the Executive Committee on May 19, 2009, directed its own subcommittee to discuss project prioritization. Members of the subcommittee include: Matt Stoll, Sally Goodell, Kelli Fairless, and Toni Tisdale. Their comment was basically, "Is it broken and if it's broken, fix it." The subcommittee met on June 12, 2009 and decided both the new process RTAC recommended and the old process were too complex and the main goal should be to implement *Communities in Motion* (CIM). Toni said the subcommittee came up with a concept which is outlined on the attachment provided and the Executive Committee requested RTAC's comments.

Toni reviewed the outline and requested the RTAC's input.

Comments:

- A multi-modal Complete Streets Policy was recommended by RTAC last month. Is this new policy considered? On the "Go/No Go" portion, question number one could reference the COMPASS Complete Streets Policy instead of having every project required to have a multi-modal element.
- Does the concept consider existing plans for alternative modes?
- The complication of the process comes in the details of the criteria.
- Someone from Canyon County and Cities should be represented on the Executive Committee Subcommittee.
- Having concept studies and special projects off-the-top is good.
- The maintenance issue is dealt with by having maintenance projects go through the "Go/No Go" criteria, then being prioritized.
- CIM was designated a few years ago. Canyon County agencies were not as aggressive then as they are now. There was a request that implementation of question number 2 of the "Go/No Go" criteria be delayed until after the CIM Update is adopted.
- There was a question if the criteria would include pedestrian and bicycle access. (The "mobility" portion of Selection Criteria number 1 includes pedestrian and bicycle access.)
- It is very difficult to come up with a fair system to measure cost/benefit analysis.
- Other federal funds should count towards leveraging, i.e. Community Development Block Group (CDBG) grants, and match from other FHWA/FTA sources.
- In Canyon County, the amount for capital (\$650,000 per year) is too small to do much good for a capital project. Although the Transportation Management Area (TMA) change through the 2010 Census should raise the amounts available in a short time.
- Is the methodology for selection of the CIM Update for priority corridors going to be the same as the original CIM?
- In the end, it appears that the criteria will greatly narrow the projects that will be eligible.
- We cannot delay implementation of a new prioritization system. We need to know what to apply for. We are not developing new projects (nothing in PD) (Ada County) because of being unsure what selection criteria would be used.
- The new process should be adopted by September 2009 in order to begin using it for the FY2011-2015 TIP Update process.

- Use what you can of the process that RTAC has been working on.

After discussion, Toni stated that additional comments on the project prioritization concept are due to her by noon on July 2, 2009.

OTHER

A. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 29, 2009, 9:00 a.m., at COMPASS.

Jim Voorhees asked about the status of the proposed COMPASS and Valley Regional Transit (VRT) merger. Toni replied that the merger was discussed at the Joint COMPASS and VRT Board of Directors' Retreat on May 18, 2009 and additional information and analysis was requested. Sabrina Anderson commented that the merger will go to the full COMPASS Board for discussion. Mary Barker concurred that no strong direction was given at the Joint COMPASS and VRT Board of Directors' Retreat.

ADJOURNMENT

Stephen Freiburger moved and Clair Bowman seconded adjournment at 10:15 a.m. Motion carries.

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