



REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JULY 25, 2007
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

****MINUTES****

ATTENDEES:

Casey Bequeath, Canyon Highway District #4 (*for Tim Richard*)
 Jon Cecil, Capital City Development Corporation
 Ester Ceja, Public Participation Committee
 Phil Choate, Idaho Transportation Department-District 3
 Chris Danley, Ada County Highway District (*for Don Kostelec*)
 Michael DuBois, Department of Environmental Quality
 Matt Ellsworth, City of Meridian, *Vice Chair*
 Michael Fuss, City of Nampa
 Dean Gunderson, Ada County
 Rob Howarth, Central District Health Department (*Ex-Officio*)
 Shawn Martin, Ada County Highway District
 Patricia Nilsson, City of Boise (*for Karen Gallagher*)
 Whitney Rearick, Boise State University
 Mary Shaw Taylor, City of Star
 Toni Tisdale, COMPASS (*Ex-Officio*)
 Jarom Wagoner, Canyon County Development Services

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mary Berent, City of Middleton, *Chair*
 Wendell Bigham, Joint School District #2
 Kevin Bittner, Valley Regional Transit
 Jim Buffington, Nampa Highway District #1
 Anne Horn, Mayor, City of Notus
 Brent Orton, City of Caldwell
 Nichoel Baird Spencer, City of Eagle
 Sarah Stobaugh, Boise Independent School District
 Jenah Thornborrow, City of Garden City
 Vacant, City of Kuna
 Margie Watson, Mayor, City of Parma (*added after approval of minutes*)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Andrew O'Connor, Ada County Development Services
 Don Matson, COMPASS
 Terri Schorzman, COMPASS
 Charles Trainor, COMPASS
 Debbie Winchar, COMPASS

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CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Ellsworth called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

None.

OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introductions were made of all attendees.

Vice Chair Ellsworth asked if the Committee was interested in making a recommendation to the COMPASS Board, to shift more discretion to COMPASS staff in the ultimate direction of freeing up time at the RTAC meetings. Some of the agenda items, while all very important, might be better handled at the COMPASS staff level rather than having RTAC wade through some of the intricate details presented. Would this matter be worth revisiting as a future agenda item?

As an example, RTAC considered updates to *Communities in Motion* which were put into place for compliance with the rules that came forth with SAFETEA-LU. It is important that the Committee be made aware of these updates, but RTAC's word-for-word review of all the documents might have been a little excessive.

One of the requirements in place in the RTAC bylaws is that every agenda item considered by the COMPASS Board has to come through RTAC. Would that be worth revisiting?

Toni Tisdale replied it is not necessarily every item, but rather items dealing with specific COMPASS products, such as the Unified Planning Work Program and Budget, Long-Range Transportation Plan, and Transportation Improvement Programs.

Vice Chair Ellsworth agreed that they are important but wondered if there should be a realignment of priorities.

Phil Choate suggested this matter be added to the next meeting agenda.

Vice Chair Ellsworth suggested the Committee review the bylaws and consider whether some of the items may be better reviewed by COMPASS' other technical committees.

Patricia Nilsson stated that RTAC is a committee of the COMPASS Board and it would be best to start with a review of the bylaws. The bylaws, if amended, have to go through Executive Committee and the COMPASS Board. Consideration of RTAC's duties should be added to the next meeting agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve June 27, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Jon Cecil stated on page 2, last paragraph, the text "...what a green or red dot represent" should be changed to "...*what does a red or green dot represent*" and on page 4, 5th paragraph, "Charles commented that that..." delete second "that."

There being no further discussion, *Jon Cecil moved and Phil Choate seconded to approve the June 27, 2007 minutes as amended. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.*

ACTION ITEMS

A. Recommend Approval of the FY2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Programs for Northern Ada County and Nampa Urbanized Area and Associated Air Quality Conformity Demonstration

Toni Tisdale presented the FY2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) for Northern Ada County and Nampa Urbanized Area and Associated Air Quality Conformity Demonstration.

Discussion

- Last year, Eagle Road from Victory to Ridenbaugh was included as a regionally significant project and it was removed from this year's update.

Shawn Martin replied that the project was supposed to be constructed this year.
Toni Tisdale stated that she will check this project.

- US 20/26, from Cloverdale to Hewlett Packard, last year the project cost was about \$7 million and this year it is shown below \$5 million.

Patricia Nilsson stated that there may have been prior expenditures from previous years.
Toni Tisdale commented that a total in this program is only for FY2008 - FY 2012.

- What is the status of state funded project, Key No. 08945, Nampa Boulevard bridge deck repair? The City of Nampa was given the portion of roadway from 3rd Street and the bridge was included as a funded project by the state. Once it became a City of Nampa street, it became non-funded. Also need to make sure that this project does not coincide with the City of Nampa's bridge deck repair on 16th Street.

Phil Choate requested that comments be sent to him and copy Sonna Lynn Fernandez.

Toni Tisdale stated that the TIPs will be presented to the COMPASS Board and Idaho Transportation Board for approval in August 2007. After approval, the TIPs and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) will go through a mirroring process, which may produce minor changes. Any changes will be presented to RTAC in either September or October 2007.

After discussion, Patricia Nilsson moved and Michael Fuss seconded to recommend approval of the FY2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Programs for Northern Ada County and Nampa Urbanized Area and Associated Air Quality Conformity Demonstration and direct COMPASS staff to investigate the status of Key No. 08945 to address the City of Nampa's concerns, and check the status of the Eagle Road from Victory to Ridenbaugh project. There being no further discussion, the motion passes unanimously.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Review the Financial Report on Transportation

Charles Trainor reviewed the Transportation Financial Report.

Discussion

- Add a conclusion of the report's key points, which would be helpful for the COMPASS Board.
- Does the Transportation Construction Cost Indices include right-of-way?

Charles stated he would check to see if it is included.

- The report was specifically identified by the Federal Highway Administration in the 2005 Certification Review. It would be helpful to add background on why this report is being created and resources used.
- Figure 11 – 2006 Ada Roadway Disbursements – the largest category of disbursement titled “Other” warrants more description. What is “Other?”

Charles responded that he will obtain the state’s definition of what constitutes this category.

- It might be helpful to point out that Idaho is more similar to Utah than the other states identified in the Construction Cost Indices table.
- An executive summary, rather than a report, may be more helpful to the COMPASS Board

Charles replied the next challenge is to turn this report into a more understandable document.

- Figure 13 – Seal Coating Investments and Figure 14 – Pavement Overlay Investments, the percentages for chip sealing/overlay should be adjusted.
- It should be noted in the report that a transit study is in development.

B. Review draft **Communities in Motion Performance Monitoring Report**

Charles Trainor reviewed the sample draft *Communities in Motion Performance Monitoring Report*. Committee members are requested to provide comments on the general approach and nature of the content.

Discussion

- Indicators need to be fleshed out on each of the performance standards.
- Expand affordable housing measurements to include townhouses/condos and rental units.
- The report does not refer to the monitoring of air quality.
- Monitor local decision making (i.e., ordinances being passed by the cities).

Charles replied that an accounting from each member of what was done in the last year to implement *Communities in Motion* is needed. What ordinances have passed that would promote transit-oriented development?

Whitney Rearick stated she would be willing to help obtain that information.

- Through *Blueprint for Good Growth* (BGG) the previous question, in regards to BGG, was asked of all members. What are the jurisdictions doing to implement BGG? There are many parallels and that list to some extent, has already been fleshed out. Karen Doherty may have that information for Ada County.

- A qualitative evaluation of information being gathered is needed.
- Provide evaluation at Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) level to help cities understand where they are meeting CIM goals.

Charles replied that this level of responsibility may be data that could be provided upon request.

Charles stated that this sample report will be presented to RTAC again in August and at that time will contain more information. It will be presented to the COMPASS Board in September.

Vice Chair Ellsworth asked if it is an option to back off the date in order to do more editing.

Charles replied that he will get back to the committee with an answer.

Charles stated he appreciated all the committee's comments. Please forward any other comments to him and/or Terri Schorzman as soon as possible.

Patricia Nilsson commented that it is important that Task 4.4.3 in the Plan be implemented in the report.

C. Discussion regarding Construction Coordination

Toni Tisdale reviewed factors with regard to the coordination of construction throughout the Treasure Valley. Through this process, mitigation efforts will also be worked on for additional monies for park and ride lots, bus lines, and van pools.

Dean Gunderson commented that Boise State University (BSU) is contributing additional funds to acquire new inter-county routes and will possibly participate in the relocation of the park and ride lot from the Idaho Center to the BSU West Campus. This action was recently approved by Valley Regional Transit's Board of Directors.

Charles Trainor stated a pro-active group is needed to discuss and evaluate the possible affects of lane or structure closures.

Discussion:

- There should be some coordination with Emergency Management.
- Shoulders and bike lanes need to be included in the analysis. For those jurisdictions that make greenbelt improvements, scheduled closures of the greenbelt should be included.
- Weekly reports go out to the media. The same reports should be forwarded to COMPASS.

Vice Chair Ellsworth commented that this is a two-step process. The projects need to be coordinated to minimize parallel routes being shut down at the same time. Once a plan is established, then the process of how to relay this information can be addressed.

OTHER

A. *Next Meeting:* Wednesday, August 22, 2007, 9:00 a.m., at COMPASS.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

