

REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 22, 2008
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION



****MINUTES****

ATTENDEES:

Mary Barker, Valley Regional Transit
Clair Bowman, City of Nampa
Sabrina Bowman, Ada County Highway District
LeAnn Carlsen, Joint School District #2
Jon Cecil, Capital City Development Corporation
Phil Choate, Idaho Transportation Department-District 3
Ryan Culter, Ada County Highway District
Matt Ellsworth, City of Meridian, *Chair*
Jared Everett, Boise State University
Jim Farrens, Ada County Development Services
Stephen Freiburger, Nampa Highway District #1 (*for Jim Buffington*)
Ryan McDaniel, City of Boise
Tim Richard, Canyon Highway District #4, *Vice Chair*
Deanna Smith, Public Participation Committee
Sarah Stobaugh, Boise Independent School District
Jenah Thornborrow, City of Garden City
Toni Tisdale, COMPASS (*Ex-Officio*)
Jarom Wagoner, Canyon County Development Services

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brad Broker, Department of Environmental Quality
Steve Hasson, City of Kuna
Anne Horn, Mayor, City of Notus
Rob Howarth, Central District Health Department (*Ex-Officio*)
Wendy Howell, City of Middleton
Brent Orton, City of Caldwell
Mary Shaw Taylor, City of Star
Margie Watson, Mayor, City of Parma

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nathan Dale, COMPASS
Sonna Lynn Fernandez, Idaho Transportation Department
Liisa Itkonen, COMPASS
Don Matson, COMPASS
Carl Miller, COMPASS
Walt Satterfield, COMPASS
Charles Trainor, COMPASS
Debbie Winchar, COMPASS

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CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

None.

OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Toni Tisdale introduced COMPASS' new Assistant Planners: Nathan Dale and Walt Satterfield.

Toni stated that there was an announcement on the radio that the Boise area was selected to participate in a road user study that will help future gas tax. The study is being done by the University of Iowa and it will be funded through SAFETEA-LU. For more information go to their website: www.roaduserstudy.org.

Carl Miller commented that staff is completing the 2008 Mid-Year Development Monitoring Report and it will be posted to the COMPASS website: <http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/gtism-devmonitoring.htm>. Charles Trainor stated the full year report will come out in March 2009.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. *Approve September 24, 2008 Meeting Agenda*
- B. *Recommend Approval of the Transportation Financial Report*

After discussion, Jon Cecil moved and Sabrina Bowman seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. *Recommend Approval of the 2008 Performance Monitoring Report (PMR)*

Carl Miller presented for recommendation, the 2008 PMR.

Discussion:

- Page 35, Table 10, under Centerline Miles of Facilities, Middleton shows "0" miles for transit. That should be changed to "3. "
- Page iii of the Executive Summary, 4th paragraph, the word flatten should be changed to **"flattened."**
- City and County Summaries: City Data tables; there is a column for the CIM Baseline and another column for a December 2007 date. Since this is the third report and in order to tract the changes, a column should be added for 2006 as well.

Carl replied that a 2006 column could be added if it would be helpful but the only changes would be reflected in the previous PMR.

- The 2008 PRM does not reflect policy changes that are being adopted by the various jurisdictions and those changes should be reflected in the 2009 PMR.

Carl stated that a PMR Subcommittee met on October 8, 2008 and it was decided that the formation of a workgroup would be helpful in redesigning the report in order to reflect both policy changes and content

displayed in the report. Carl asked if there were volunteers that would be interested in participating in such a workgroup.

Ryan McDaniel commented that the workgroup would work on the scope, audience, matrix, and geographies. The report will be resubmitted in September 2009, with a March 2009 deadline date for the scoping session.

The following committee members volunteered to participate on the workgroup:

Mary Barker, Valley Regional Transit
Sabrina Bowman, Ada County Highway District
Ryan McDaniel, City of Boise
Deanna Smith, Public Participation Committee
Canyon County representative (to be determined)

Mary Barker moved and Clair Bowman seconded to recommend the 2008 Performance Monitoring Report.

Discussion:

Stephen Freiburger questioned the utility of this report because: 1) CIM is based on the Community Choices scenario and Canyon County is not following that land use, and 2) out of the agencies listed in the City and County Summaries, 12 of the agencies have not adopted CIM. Stephen commented that he is surprised that any of the goals of the PMR were met.

Chair Ellsworth concurred that the primary purpose of the PMR is to gage the relative successes of various entities in sticking with CIM.

Jon Cecil stated that he was disappointed that so few of the entities adopted CIM. It is incumbent that RTAC's representatives as well as the COMPASS Board use this report as a tool to demonstrate that there is still a lot of work to be done. The intent has been made, now it's time to follow through and implement.

There being no further discussion, *the motion passed with one nay vote.*

At this time, introductions were made of all attendees.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discussion regarding Treasure Valley Mobility Corridors

Tim Richard presented an overview of the regional mobility corridors in the Treasure Valley and distributed a map containing Canyon County Corridor Study Areas, Ada County Highway District (ACHD) Transportation and Land Use Integration Plan (TLIP) Constraints, and Mobility Streets. Tim stated that this item will come back to RTAC for consideration and technical discussion.

Ryan Culter stated that the map is in draft form. Ryan commented that ACHD has a different definition of a mobility corridor and the biggest task at this point is to clarify that definition before laying down roadway widths or what connects to where.

After further discussion, Tim Richard urged the committee to present the map to their respective agencies for review and discussion regarding the concerns and items that need to be addressed. Tim commented that the Canyon County Western Route will go out for public comment in November.

Tim stated the project team will meet on October 28, 2008 at 1:30 p.m., at Nampa City Hall. Feedback to the project team should be emailed to Ryan Culter and Tim Richard.

B. Review the Transportation Improvement Program Project Prioritization Process

Toni Tisdale presented the RTAC subcommittee's revisions and requested the committee's discussion and guidance to further this process.

Discussion:

- How do agencies receive the criteria needed to add to the applications?

Toni Tisdale replied that most of the information is available in the Congestion Management Plan; vehicle miles traveled criteria would come from MaryAnn Waldinger; and crash data is available on the Idaho Transportation Department's website. A form will be provided to help determine if a project is, or is not, qualified.

- A recommendation was made to pick a couple of potential projects and run them through the process to determine the level of difficulty involved.

Toni replied that she had not yet run the projects.

Clair Bowman stated that he would be happy to pick a project in Nampa and run it through the process.

Chair Ellsworth commented that as a member of the subcommittee, he is willing to support this document.

- Stating the pros and cons for each of the policy options is important and should be presented to RTAC for discussion before presentation to the COMPASS Board.

After further discussion, *Stephen Freiburger moved and Clair Bowman seconded to accept the Transportation Improvement Program Prioritization Process with the understanding that a workgroup will convene to run the numbers with sample projects and that this will come back to RTAC as an action item in November.*

Discussion:

The following committee members volunteered to participate on the workgroup:

Mary Barker, Valley Regional Transit
Clair Bowman, City of Nampa
Phil Choate, Idaho Transportation Department
Matt Ellsworth, City of Meridian
Ryan McDaniel, City of Boise

Toni Tisdale stated that applications for the FY2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program update process are due at the end of October 2008 and none have been received. Prioritization lists have been received but not actual project applications. A prioritized list of projects will be presented to the COMPASS Board in January 2009.

There being no further discussion, *the motion passes with one nay vote.*

Toni stated that she will contact the volunteers to set up a time for the workgroup to meet.

C. Discussion on Complete Streets

Charles Trainor presented an overview of RTAC's October 2008 discussion.

Discussion:

- Will the committee recommend this to the COMPASS Board as a regional complete streets policy?
- RTAC should not recommend this to the Board. The City of Nampa has reviewed this policy. If it pertains to Ada County and the Ada County Highway District (ACHD) applies all the policy statements that's okay, however, Nampa would like to request that they not have to apply the policy statements that do not apply to them.
- Should direction come back from the Board to develop something similar but better tailored to regional issues than those policies specifically laid out by ACHD?
- From Valley Regional Transit's (VRT) perspective, receiving a complete streets statement from the COMPASS Board would assist VRT in their efforts. It would be beneficial to have something in place, but not this specific document.

Chair Ellsworth summarized the discussion requests: 1) a general statement in support of the Complete Streets Policy and, 2) as a second option, a policy that would be more applicable to regional needs.

- A more detailed discussion is needed in order to decide which direction to take.

Charles suggested that the committee solicit a workgroup of those interested in fleshing out what would be appropriate.

Phil Choate stated that he presented this item to the Idaho Transportation Department – District 3 (ITD) and a formal written comment will be presented to ACHD. ITD cannot support in a direct sense, the Complete Streets Policy because of the differences in the state's mission of local road and street requirements and ITD would not support a recommendation to the COMPASS Board at this time.

After discussion, *Stephen Freiburger moved and Jared Everett seconded not to pursue this item at this time but bring it back to the committee for further discussion.*

Discussion:

Sabrina Bowman gave a brief update of ACHD's status on the Complete Streets Policy.

After further discussion, *the motion fails with 7 aye votes and 8 nay votes.*

Ryan McDaniel moved and Jenah Thornborrow seconded to table this item and allow members to submit written comments on the regional significance of complete streets and how they may, nor may not, work in order to obtain a clearer understanding of today's discussion.

Discussion:

Clair Bowman commented that there will continue to be objection to the level of specificity that is in the policy. It provides stimulus for stretching out the timeline it takes to do projects or increasing the budget substantially and for adding features that professionals in their best judgment do not think are necessary.

Ryan McDaniel made a substitute motion and Jon Cecil seconded to continue this item at the November meeting and in respect of time, ask for written comments for consideration. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

D. Review Functional Classification Update Protocol

Toni Tisdale suggested that in the interest of time this item be tabled for the November meeting.

E. Review Findings and Recommendations of the Corridor Preservation Committee (CPC) for US 20/26 Access Management Plan

Don Matson presented a brief review of the Access Management Plan.

F. Discussion Regarding the Effectiveness of RTAC

Chair Ellsworth gave a review of the meeting held with Tim Richard, a representative from ACHD, COMPASS staff, and himself to discuss ways to more effectively use the committee's time and core duties during RTAC meetings.

Charles Trainor stated that the feeling is that there is an over dominance of COMPASS related items on the agenda and other items of interest fail to come before the committee. Time should be spent more on issues of importance and less on trivia.

Toni Tisdale commented that in order to save time, Consent Agenda items will be used more frequently.

Discussion:

- Too much time is being spent on the detailed review of technical documents, which should be done by specific workgroups who have been given clear direction.
- The creation of Executive Summaries and Conclusions would be very helpful.
- It is important to have discussions on items the committee does not necessarily agree on (i.e., policy level discussions) verses how a document is worded.
- Survey the constituent agencies:
 - List the major products generated by RTAC last year.
 - How meaningful were last year's projects to the respective jurisdictions?
 - Were the projects implementable?
 - Was the product effectively utilized?

Toni Tisdale stated that first and foremost, RTAC is a recommending body to the COMPASS Board and there are specific items that must be added to the RTAC agendas to obtain the Board's approval as stated in the RTAC Bylaws.

G. Set RTAC's November 2008 Agenda

Pursuant to today's discussion, Chair Ellsworth presented a list of agenda items for the November 2008 meeting:

- Mobility Corridors Update
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Prioritization Process
- Complete Streets
- Review Functional Classification Update Protocol

Chair Ellsworth asked if there were additional suggested items for future meetings.

- ACHD's (and other agencies as well) follow-up on progress made in implementing the Traffic Impact Studies Recommended Best Practices and Access Management Toolkit.
- Presentation by MaryAnn Waldinger regarding the mission of the Interagency Consultation Committee.
- Strategies for integrating Geographic Information Systems (GIS) with policy issues and building value between COMPASS and committees.
- Discuss a list of projects members would like to see COMPASS accomplish in the coming year.
- Survey results as mentioned by Ryan McDaniel.
- Update on Kuna Mora Phase I.

Debbie Winchar explained the structure of summary meeting minutes.

OTHER

A. *Next Meeting:* Wednesday, November 19, 2008, 9:00 a.m., at COMPASS.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

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