



*REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 24, 2007
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION*

****MINUTES****

ATTENDEES:

Mary Berent, City of Middleton, *Chair*
 Jon Cecil, Capital City Development Corporation
 Phil Choate, Idaho Transportation Department-District 3
 Matt Ellsworth, City of Meridian, *Vice Chair*
 Steve Hasson, City of Kuna
 Shawn Martin, Ada County Highway District
 Sarah Stobaugh, Boise Independent School District
 Jenah Thornborrow, City of Garden City
 Toni Tisdale, COMPASS (*Ex-Officio*)
 Jennifer Tomlinson, City of Boise (*for Karen Gallagher*)
 Leslie Toombs, Ada County Development Services (*for Dean Gunderson*)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Wendell Bigham, Joint School District #2
 Jim Buffington, Nampa Highway District #1
 Ester Ceja, Public Participation Committee
 Michael DuBois, Department of Environmental Quality
 Kelli Fairless, Valley Regional Transit
 Michael Fuss, City of Nampa
 Anne Horn, Mayor, City of Notus
 Rob Howarth, Central District Health Department (*Ex-Officio*)
 Don Kostelec, Ada County Highway District
 Brent Orton, City of Caldwell
 Whitney Rearick, Boise State University
 Tim Richard, Canyon Highway District #4
 Nichoel Baird Spencer, City of Eagle
 Mary Shaw Taylor, City of Star
 Jarom Wagoner, Canyon County Development Services
 Margie Watson, Mayor, City of Parma

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Cunningham, COMPASS
 Pete Friedman, City of Meridian
 Ryan Head, COMPASS
 Don Matson, COMPASS
 Terri Schorzman, COMPASS
 Charles Trainor, COMPASS
 Debbie Winchar, COMPASS

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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Berent called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

Since a quorum was not present, the Chair moved to the Information Items.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Overview of the Transportation Studies Coordination Project

Ryan Head provided an overview of the Transportation Studies Coordination Project and directed the committee to the Transportation Studies Coordination website pages located on the COMPASS website. Ryan commented that keeping the data for the website up-to-date is a crucial element of the studies coordination effort.

Toni Tisdale stated that Transportation Studies Coordination will be a standing discussion item at the RTAC meetings in order to allow member agency staff to keep discussions current regarding transportation studies.

Discussion:

- Is there a constructive way to add traffic studies to this venue?

Charles Trainor responded that several months ago, staff addressed the question of what happens to traffic studies when they are complete. The traffic studies go to an agency but are never posted or made available anywhere else.

- An electronic version of a traffic study could be forwarded to COMPASS.
- Discussions have also occurred addressing the issue of creating a traffic studies format so that the information being presented would be consistent.

Charles commented that there is a need for more standardization of traffic studies: how they are conducted and the information they use.

Phil Choate stated that if someone is interested in obtaining another "read" of a traffic study, call the Idaho Transportation Department and a traffic engineer or technician will be take a look at it and provide feedback.

Toni Tisdale asked if the committee was interested in adding traffic impact studies to the Transportation Studies Coordination website.

Matt Ellsworth replied that it may be more appropriate to look at present traffic studies and figure out how to standardize the information at hand before adding to the website.

Chair Berent suggested that further discussion of traffic studies be addressed at an upcoming RTAC meeting.

Since quorum was not established, and because an informal vote can be taken by the members present, Chair Berent moved to the beginning of the agenda.

OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. *Approve September 26, 2007 Meeting Minutes*

Due to the lack of quorum, this item has been tabled until the October meeting.

B. *Approve RTAC End-of-Year Meeting Dates*

Chair Berent stated that the dates are set as presented: November 28, 2007, no change; and the December 26, 2007 meeting is rescheduled for December 19, 2007.

ACTION ITEMS

A. *Recommend Amendments to the FY 2008-2012 Northern Ada County Transportation Improvement Program and **Communities in Motion***

Charles Trainor presented for recommendation, the proposed amendments.

*After discussion, a consensus was voiced by all committee members present to recommend the amendments to **Communities in Motion**, FY 2008-2012 Northern Ada County Transportation Improvement Program, and associated Air Quality Conformity Demonstration.*

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

B. *Review RTAC Bylaws*

Toni Tisdale presented a review of the RTAC Bylaws to determine the level of committee involvement on various program issues. The committee will be requested to approve the Bylaws as amended at RTAC's November meeting.

C. *Review possibility of one Regional Transportation Improvement Program*

Toni Tisdale provided information regarding the Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) and requested committee discussion to combine the two programs into one. Toni noted that there may be a down-side to combining the programs in that it would hamper a split vote on TIP approval.

Discussion:

- It may be a good idea to check out the TIP structure of other areas with similar environments.

Toni stated that she would check into the TIP structure of multi-county metropolitan planning organizations.

After further discussion, it was the consensus of all committee members present to move forward with this new policy.

D. *Status Report – State Highway 44 Corridor Preservation Study*

Don Matson provided an update on study efforts and public involvement. A State Highway 44 Agency Coordination Workshop will be held on Thursday, November 08, 2007, at the Idaho Transportation

Department, District 3, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. If an agency does not reply to the invitation, comments may still be provided, but the comments will be entered as a public comment rather than that of a participating agency.

Don commented that he and Sue Sullivan of the Idaho Transportation Department will be happy to provide an update and accept feedback throughout the process.

*E. Review **Communities in Motion** Implementation Guidebook*

John Cunningham presented an overview of the *Communities in Motion* (CIM) Implementation Guidebook.

John commented that COMPASS will provide a link to the "*Communities in Motion Implementation Guidebook*" for review and comment. The Guidebook can also be provided by hard copy or on CD. Please let Debbie Winchar know your preference (dwinchar@compassidaho.org). COMPASS will be accepting comments until the close of business on Friday, November 16, 2007. Please forward all comments to John Cunningham: jcunningham@compassidaho.org. This is the first of two reviews by RTAC. A second, more formal review seeking approval to transmit to the COMPASS Board will come after outreach forums planned during the winter.

Status Reports

Charles Trainor stated that with regard to the Transportation Project Coordination, a meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 21, 2007, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., with the Idaho Transportation Department's Advisory Council regarding the new statewide travel information service that gives updates on winter road and weather conditions, emergency closures and access to tourist information 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week. By dialing 511 or visiting 511.idaho.gov on the Web, travelers will be updated as conditions change on Idaho's highways and provided more timely and accurate information.

Toni Tisdale added that this is a coordination effort between GARVEE projects and the local projects. For more information, a link to the Idaho Transportation Department's website has been provided on the COMPASS' - What's New webpage: <http://www.compassidaho.org/whatsnew.htm>.

OTHER

A. Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 28, 2007, 9:00 a.m., at COMPASS.

Steve Hasson asked if there is a park-and-ride strategy for the Treasure Valley.

John Cunningham responded that two park-and-ride studies are planned. The Ada County Highway District's park-and-ride study has been funded. There is a plan to do a traffic study in Canyon County as well.

Toni Tisdale stated that she would contact Craig Herndon at the Ada County Highway District who is the project manager for this study and ask if he would be available to speak to RTAC at the next scheduled meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.