

*REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 28, 2009  
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

- ATTENDEES:**
- Mary Barker, Valley Regional Transit
  - Troy Behunin, City of Kuna (*for Steve Hasson*)
  - Clair Bowman, City of Nampa
  - LeAnn Carlsen, Joint School District #2
  - Jon Cecil, Capital City Development Corporation
  - Matt Ellsworth, City of Meridian
  - Jared Everett, Boise State University
  - Stephen Freiburger, Nampa Highway District #1 (*for Jim Buffington*)
  - Rob Howarth, Central District Health Department (*Ex-Officio*)
  - Wendy Howell, City of Middleton
  - Gary Inselman, Ada County Highway District
  - Ryan McDaniel, City of Boise
  - Brent Orton, City of Caldwell, *Chair*
  - Tim Richard, Canyon Highway District #4
  - Christian Samples, City of Garden City (*for Jenah Thornborrow*)
  - Deanna Smith, Public Participation Committee
  - Nichoel Baird Spencer, City of Eagle, *Vice Chair*
  - Sarah Stobaugh, Boise Independent School District
  - Toni Tisdale, COMPASS (*Ex-Officio*)
  - Leslie Toombs, Ada County Highway District (*for Sabrina Bowman*)
  - Jarom Wagoner, Canyon County Development Services
- MEMBERS ABSENT:**
- Brad Broker, Department of Environmental Quality
  - Phil Choate, Idaho Transportation Department-District 3
  - Jim Farrens, Ada County Development Services
  - Anne Horn, Mayor, City of Notus
  - Mary Shaw Taylor, City of Star
  - Margie Watson, Mayor, City of Parma
- OTHERS PRESENT:**
- Nathan Dale, COMPASS
  - Ryan Head, COMPASS
  - Caleb Hood, City of Meridian
  - Eric Lindstrom, Kittelson & Associates
  - Amy Luft, COMPASS
  - Don Matson, COMPASS
  - Carl Miller, COMPASS
  - Sai Kumar Sarepalli, Holladay Engineering Company
  - Jim Voorhees, Canyon Highway District #4
  - Cheyne Weston, Boise Parks & Recreation
  - Debbie Winchar, COMPASS

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*CALL TO ORDER*

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

Introductions were made of all attendees.

Tim Richard introduced Jim Voorhees, the new Director of Canyon Highway District #4. Jim will be RTAC's primary representative for Canyon Highway District #4.

*AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES*

Chair Ellsworth stated that Charles Trainor has requested that an information item be added at the end of the agenda regarding the Treasurer Valley Preliminary Alternatives Analysis.

*OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS*

Stephen Freiburger commented that the National Federation of Independent Businesses is holding a "2009 Annual Small Business Day at the Capitol and Legislative Lunch" on Tuesday, February 3, 2009, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Historic Hoff Building in downtown Boise, Crystal Ballroom. The keynote speaker is Michael Ennis, Director of the Center for Transportation for the Washington Policy Center. Representatives from both urban and rural areas will sit on the panel.

*CONSENT AGENDA*

*A. Approve December 17, 2008 Meeting Minutes*

*Tim Richard moved and Jon Cecil seconded to approve the December 17, 2008 meeting minutes as written. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.*

*ACTION ITEMS*

*A. Election of Chair and Vice Chair*

*Matt Ellsworth nominated Nichoel Baird Spencer to serve as RTAC's Vice Chair. There being no other nominations, the nominations were closed. By unanimous consent, Nichoel Baird Spencer was elected to serve as RTAC's Vice Chair for 2009.*

*Stephen Freiburger nominated Brent Orton to serve as RTAC's Chair. There being no other nominations, the nominations were closed. By unanimous consent, Brent Orton was elected to serve as RTAC's Chair for 2009.*

Chair Orton proceeded to conduct the meeting.

*B. Recommend Approval of New Projects and Prioritization for FY2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*

Toni Tisdale presented the amended projects and prioritization for the FY2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program.

*After discussion, Clair Bowman moved and Tim Richard seconded to recommend approval of the New Projects and Prioritization for FY2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.*

*C. Approve Recommendation of a Functional Classification Amendment for the City of Caldwell*

Chair Orton presented for approval, an amendment that Specht Avenue from Franklin Road to Commercial Way and Commercial Way from Specht Avenue to 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue be functionally classified as Collector roadway.

After discussion, *Clair Bowman moved and Wendy Howell seconded to approve the recommendation of a Functional Classification Amendment for the City of Caldwell. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.*

*D. Recommend Approval to Amend the FY2009-2013 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*

Toni Tisdale reviewed the proposed new economic stimulus projects. The TIP Amendment includes combining and advancing existing projects as well as adding new projects for the anticipated economic stimulus bill.

After discussion, *Matt Ellsworth moved and Mary Barker seconded to recommend approval to amend the FY2009-2013 Regional Transportation Improvement Program. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.*

Clair Bowman thanked Toni for all the work she has done with regard to this amendment.

*INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS*

*A. Staff Report on Western Canyon County Arterial Corridor*

Tim Richard presented an update on the Western Canyon County Arterial Corridor project and responses received from the January 14, 2009 public open house. A need to preserve the corridor was recognized. An overall mobility corridor map was also displayed. Tim requested comments regarding the mobility corridor map be forward to him.

*B. Staff Report on the Overland Alignment Corridor*

Clair Bowman presented an update on the Overland Road Alignment Corridor project. Overland Road, because of facilitating the Ten Mile Interchange, construction has been realigned to the south where it intersects with Ten Mile Road, which leaves a dead-end at Ten Mile Road as it is currently assigned. The Ada County Highway Department (ACHD) wants to determine what that alignment should be west to the county line. The Nampa Highway District and the City of Nampa have a great deal of interest in a connection on the west end. They also want to determine the future use of Airport Road. A meeting took place with Nampa Highway District staff and Sally Goodell from ACHD from which a tentative agreement was made to have two contracts (federal funds being used by Canyon County and ACHD wanting to use local funds) but choosing one contractor for the study. Doing this will ensure good communication and a focus on maintaining interest and recognition on both sides of the county line.

*C. Staff Report on the Amity and Lake Hazel Corridors*

Caleb Hood presented an update on the Amity and Lake Hazel Corridors. The City of Meridian was having concerns regarding Amity Road, Lake Hazel Road, and the mobility corridor designation through *Communities in Motion* (CIM) and the Neighborhood Center in the City of Meridian's Comprehensive Plan. Those concerns have been addressed. The way that the Transportation Land Use Integration Plan (TLIP) is moving forward in draft form with Lake Hazel Road being that mobility corridor, as shown in CIM, will work in concert with the City of Meridian's future land use map; particularly at the Lake Hazel – Locus Grove intersection.

*D. Review Amended Prioritization Process*

Toni Tisdale stated that after discussions with member agencies and the RTAC prioritization subcommittee, clarifications were suggested before presenting this item to the COMPASS Board. New language is still under development. Items for clarification:

- maintenance issues because they do not score the same as widening projects
- off-the-top funding; may not leave in as a policy and if staying on the table, will have to be recommended to the COMPASS Board.

Toni commented that the subcommittee will convene to discuss the clarifications and a recommendation will be presented to RTAC in February 2009.

*Discussion:*

Ryan McDaniel stated that the scoring of projects, through the subcommittee, is working out well. However, the studies, partnerships, and overlays don't satisfy the criteria for projects. A policy level decision may have to be made that is separate from the process level distinction; which will be made by the COMPASS Board.

Leslie Toombs commented that because of the dollar amounts involved in new or widening projects, ACHD has gone into advanced construction. ACHD would like to focus on doing overlays with federal money and freeing up local money for widening projects. Prioritization as it is currently set up, is not set up for reviewing maintenance-type projects.

Mary Barker stated that there are a number of projects that Valley Regional Transit (VRT) has that are capital-type projects. The biggest capital project in the stimulus package right now - going through all the bus stops and making them ADA accessible and making sure that sidewalks and accessibility is at the bus stops. Other capital projects include facilities for Meridian, Nampa, and Caldwell involving transit hubs and park-and-ride facilities. There are many infrastructure projects that would benefit the system as it is today and also prepare for growth.

Matt Ellsworth asked if there would be an opportunity for VRT to start freeing up what is currently being used on capital projects with the influx of these federal dollars and freeing up money for operational-type expenses? Mary replied that unfortunately the lines are pretty clear at this point of what will be used for capital and what will be used for operations. VRT always keeps an eye out for every opportunity to put more into the operating pool but the lines are pretty clearly drawn by the federal agencies as to when that can and cannot be done.

Chair Orton thanked the subcommittee for their continued work on this process.

*E. Status Report of 2009 **Communities in Motion** Performance Monitoring Report (PMR) Work Group*

Carl Miller presented an overview of the 2009 PMR and reviewed revisions per the RTAC workgroup's recommendations. Carl stated that he will be sending each respective agency a letter requesting them to complete the Agency Summary page and requested the summaries be returned to him by the end of February 2009. In the past, the PMR had been issued in the fall of each year but it is our hope to move that process up in the calendar which will help in reflecting on the changes that have occurred over the past year.

*Discussion:*

- There are concerns when dealing with areas of impact and titling that preservation of open space because that is not the primary function of areas of impact. The offset could be open space but not all open space outside of an area of city impact is open space. A careful line should be drawn between planned growth and growth within the area of impact. It sounds as if everything outside the area of impact is open space, which is not a true classification (i.e., the bombing range). Be careful when using open space as a title heading and using area of impact as the measures under the title.
- Under Transportation Choices, if transit is not available for a city, will it say, "Not available to this city at this time?" Regarding level of service (LOS); LOS of what? When talking about policy changes that could take place, be careful when telling elected officials that they are mismanaging their cities. Tie those changes back directly to the goals and policies of CIM. CIM does not have the same land use assumptions as the cities' comprehensive plans. In some places, they oppose each other.

Carl replied that LOS has not been identified and contingent upon the receipt of data, a determination will be made as to how LOS can be defined.

*F. Discuss Construction and Studies Coordination*

Ryan Head presented a brief explanation, and overview, of COMPASS' Studies Coordination website. Ryan requested that changes and updates be forwarded to him or Debbie Winchar, who manages the COMPASS website.

*G. Discuss List of Projects for Discussion in FY2009*

Toni Tisdale gave a brief overview of the list of projects for possible discussion and action throughout calendar year 2009.

*OTHER*

Toni Tisdale gave a brief review of Charles Trainor's handout: Treasure Valley Preliminary Alternative Analysis – Overview of Analysis Approach and Initial Findings.

Jarom Wagoner stated that a Canyon County Open House will be held in the Public Meeting Room at the Courthouse, on January 29, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., regarding the rezoning of farm and commercial land.

*A. Next Meeting:* Wednesday, February 25, 9:00 a.m., at COMPASS.

*ADJOURNMENT*

*There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.*

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