

SALT LAKE CITY
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of the May 6, 2013 Meeting

Present from the Transportation Advisory Board were Andrea Olson, Brian Doughty, Cheryl Heying, Hal Johnson, Haytham Ibrahim, Jonathan Springmeyer, Whitney Ward, and Rachel Otto.

Also present were Erin Mendenhall, Vicki Bennett, Becka Roof, Kevin Young and Amy Pufahl.

The meeting held at the Transportation Division Office, 349 South 200 East, Salt Lake City, Utah, was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Jonathan Springmeyer.

Motion: Haytham Ibrahim moved to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2013 meeting. Brian Doughty seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Air Quality Update: Vicki Bennett, the Sustainability Director for Salt Lake City, gave an air quality overview handout to the Board. Currently vehicles are estimated to be the cause of about 57% of the pm2.5 pollution in the winter and there is a little difference in the summer. Air quality is not just a local issue; it is a statewide issue and as much as the State is trying to improve and come up with new ideas we're still about 10% short of EPA recommendations. The Sustainability Division are looking at everything including transportation, aerosols, two stroke motors, etc. and are also constrained in that while a lot has been done on the vehicle side of things it is considered voluntary and therefore only counts for 3% of their improvements. The Clear the Air Challenge has been going for three years now and has been very beneficial as businesses and individuals have been very involved. This program is now being run by the Chamber of Commerce in partnership with UTA and the Wasatch Front Regional Council. During the legislative session there were multiple elected officials who asked for statewide reductions, but no bills were passed. However, this may be discussed during the interim committee this summer. Haytham Ibrahim suggested making registration for motorcycles less expensive to encourage people to use them. Rachel Otto asked what we could do on a local city level. Some of the things the City is trying to work on are to have transit oriented development which has the best long term impact. They are working on helping people feel safer on bikes and while walking and are educating on how to be a bike commuter. Erin Mendenhall, with Breathe Utah, said they are working on drafting letters to the legislators in collaboration with AARP who's been approaching Breathe Utah in relation to their senior driving program. They are also working with car rental programs within the state who are considering signing on. Breathe Utah has a form on their website that auto generates individual action letters to Governor Herbert's office. Brian Doughty asked about traffic signal timing. The latest traffic signal study has shown there to be an overall improvement of 7% in traffic flow. Kevin Young said the biggest issue is our big blocks and requirements to allow pedestrians enough time to

cross. Currently our system is generally as good as it will allow while also coordinating with the County and State. We are looking at the possibility of a new system in the future. Transportation likes to hear feedback if lights don't seem to be operating properly because sometimes there is a glitch in the timing of our system that needs to be fixed. Vicki said when we're having a bad air day we would have to take half of the vehicles off the road to improve emissions to a level that is better. UTA is always cooperating with government agencies on fee structures and route changes. Hal Johnson said that UTA is underfunded compared to other cities our size and have still managed to build a large rail network but that they don't have as much service out on the street. The Parking & Transportation Committee of the Downtown Alliance will be discussing UTA eco pass availability for downtown small businesses at their next meeting. Cheryl said cars are 90% cleaner than they were 10 or 15 years ago and the new standards that the EPA is suggesting would dramatically reduce emissions. The Smart Trips program is going on again this year. This is where they go into different areas of the city and create trip packets for anyone who is interested. This year the area that is being emphasized is Fairpark due to the new TRAX line and next year it may be an area around the new trolley line. The County Health Department still has a number to call regarding smoking vehicle complaints. They will then send a letter to the offender asking them to repair their vehicle.

Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan Update: Becka Roof from SLC Transportation said work is under way to update this plan. It is a project that was funded through the City's CIP process and began earlier this year. The first round of public involvement on the project has already occurred and included a number of different committees that are working on this project. There is an internal steering committee which is comprised of a TAB representative and representatives from departments and divisions within the city. This committee meets to discuss what we need to get out of the plan and having an opportunity to hear needs and feedback from other staff allows us to move forward together. There is also a stakeholder committee which includes representatives from state agencies, local bicyclists, the business community, the downtown alliance and others. Their first meeting was on goals and activity nodes in Salt Lake City. It is expected that their next meeting will be more about existing conditions and taking a look at some of the special projects that are being wrapped into this plan. There was a public open house on April 11th with close to 100 people attending. The focus and goals of the meeting was to identify different facility type preferences and different choices that we have in terms of relative priorities for different facilities. The public had a chance to do mark on maps showing where they would like to see improvements and where conditions are pretty good for walking. It is anticipated that there will be a second open house either late summer or fall with the idea being to put this plan together before the end of the calendar year. There is a project website for this which is www.walkbikeslc.com, however the public comments are not currently posted there. Whitney asked how the Bike Share has been going. Becka said it has been quite well received and believes we're in the neighborhood of having 700 members. Jonathan said the membership card makes it so easy to use as you just touch it and go. The Board members expressed the desire to have more green bike stations especially in the Sugarhouse area and near TRAX stations. The green bikes are all GPS chipped so

they can track them if they are missing as well as the distance and speed of trips. The stations are portable and can be relocated if the data shows higher need at a different location. The City was very strategic in how they placed the stations and that seems to have worked very well.

General updates/other business: Some who attended stated that the Open Streets event had fewer people and vendors than anticipated and they would like more activity and movement next time, possibly via more advertising. Colin Quinn-Hurst will give an update at the next TAB meeting. The UTA Bike Bonanza will be held on May 17th from 1 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Gallivan Plaza. The Mayor's Bike to work day is tomorrow May 7th and will begin at 7:30 a.m. on the northeast corner of Liberty Park. The Wasatch Choice for 2040 Consortium is on May 29th.

The next meeting of the Board was scheduled for Monday, June 3, 2013. Tentative agenda items include updates on: Street Cars, Open Streets, , the Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Wasatch Front Regional Council long range transportation plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

(A recording of the meeting will be available for one year)