



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Advisory Board of the Utah Transit Authority

Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 1:00 p.m.
Utah Transit Authority Headquarters, 669 West 200 South, Salt Lake City, Utah
Golden Spike Conference Rooms

UTA Advisory Board Members Present:

Jeff Acerson

Jacqueline Biskupski

Leonard Call

Erik Craythorne

Karen Cronin

Robert Hale

Clint Smith

Troy Walker

Advisory Board Members Excused/Not in Attendance:

Julie Fullmer

Also attending were members of UTA staff, as well as interested citizens and members of the media.

Welcome and Call to Order

Chair Acerson welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. with eight board members present. Following Chair Acerson's opening remarks, the advisory board and meeting attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Oath of Office

Cathie Griffiths performed the oath of office for Advisory Board Alternate Dan Peay.

Safety Minute

Chair Acerson yielded the floor to Lamont Worthy, UTA Video Security Administrator, for a brief safety message.

Public Comment Period

Member Cronin introduced Jim Riding, Mayor of West Jordan City, who gave public comment in support of the West Jordan Station Area Plan.

Approval of February 20, 2019 Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the February 20, 2019 Advisory Board Meeting Minutes was made by Member Smith and seconded by Member Craythorne. The motion carried unanimously.

Agency Report

Steve Meyer, UTA Interim Executive Director, stated that the Capital Investment Grant Report released by the Federal Transit Administration has rated the Ogden Bus Rapid Transit Project, which is a big step forward for that project. Mr. Meyer reported on successful free fare days that took place February 28 and March 1, indicating that 96,000 pounds of net emissions were reduced during the free fare days. Chair Acerson asked if any board members received feedback from constituents regarding free fare days. Member Biskupski mentioned that more notice and advertising for free fare days would be useful.

Board of Trustees Report

UTA Board of Trustees Chair Carlton Christensen reported on some of the accomplishments and activities of the trustees during their first few months since their appointments. Trustee Christensen also spoke about a recent change in the organizational structure of the UTA.

Discussion Items

Mid-Valley Connector BRT Update

Mary DeLoretto, UTA Director of Capital Projects, presented an update with consultant Loretta Markham on the Mid-Valley Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project. The new BRT project will connect Murray Central TRAX/FrontRunner Station with the Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) Redwood Campus and West Valley Central TRAX Station and includes about 1.4 miles of exclusive bus lanes on 4500 South. Other features of the project include complete streets with enhanced bike and pedestrian facilities, new transit hub at SLCC, new shared-use path connecting the Jordan River Parkway Trail to the North Jordan Canal, and additional bus bays at Murray Central Station. Next steps for this project include adoption of the locally preferred alternative (LPA) by West Valley City, finalization of the funding plan, approval of the capital project plan by the advisory board, and approval by the UTA Board of Trustees. Questions regarding ridership and the impact of the BRT on local service were posed by the advisory board and answered by the presenters. Mayor Kristie Overson of Taylorsville expressed gratitude for the advisory board's support of this project and the advancement of east-west connections which are so important in the Salt Lake valley.

Coordinated Mobility

Eddy Cumins, UTA Chief Operating Officer, introduced the Coordinated Mobility Program and Ryan Taylor, UTA Coordinated Mobility Manager. Mr. Taylor explained that Coordinated Mobility aims to connect people with transportation solutions through collaborative partnerships. UTA, working in local coordinating councils and with local partners, has instituted innovative programs to bridge some of the gaps in transportation availability, including providing funding for accessible vehicles. Mr. Taylor thanked Senator Harper for his support of the program and for helping secure funds from the legislature to advance mobility efforts. Mr. Taylor reported that UTA is working to establish an overarching plan for a comprehensive solution to the problem of mobility limitations. Questions were posed by the advisory board and answered by Mr. Taylor regarding interface with flex routes, paratransit programs, and the percentage of the community mobility needs currently being filled.

AR2019-03-01 Approving Ogden Central, Midvale TRAX, and West Jordan City Center Station Area Plans

Ogden Central Station

Paul Drake, UTA Senior Manager of Real Estate and Transit-Oriented Development, accompanied by Kevin Leo, UTA Transit-Oriented Development Project Specialist, gave a brief introduction to the station area plans to be presented, emphasizing that approval of the plans does not constitute approval to move forward with development, rather approval of the vision of the plans for future consideration.

Greg Montgomery, Planner for Ogden City, spoke about Ogden's efforts to rebrand itself and revitalize the downtown area, explaining that students from Utah State University recently completed senior projects envisioning what could happen around the Ogden transit hub development. Mr. Drake presented details of the Ogden Central Station Area Plan, explaining that stakeholders engaged in an extensive public outreach effort to develop the plan, which includes mixed-use, multi-modal development. Other elements of the proposed plan include pedestrian accessibility, bike share, and integrated bike facilities. UTA controls 12 acres of the land under consideration for development near Ogden Central Station. Member Biskupski asked questions regarding housing possibilities and the potential to clean up the site to make it suitable for residential building. Mr. Drake explained the steps needed to make housing a possibility.

Midvale TRAX Station

Mr. Drake presented the Midvale Station Area Plans with Brian Berndt, Midvale Assistant City Manager, and consultant Christine Richmond. The Midvale Station Area Plans include two separate but partially overlapping sites with distinct plans (7200 South and Center Street). Both plans are the result of a robust community outreach process for master planning. Mr. Drake, explained that the vision for 7200 South includes a mixed-use urban core with high density residential housing and ground floor office space, elements designed for humans rather than automobiles, a focus on hotels and hospitality, and branding the area as a regional gateway to recreation. The Center Street Station Area Plan includes mixed-use office and retail space with transitions to high density residential housing, and a focus on branding the area as a village center and activity hub. Member Hale, Mayor of Midvale City, spoke about the benefits of UTA ski bus lines along the 7200 South corridor and emphasized that the plans would encourage visitors to utilize hotels along the corridor for easy access to canyon recreation.

West Jordan

Scott Langford, Development Services Director for West Jordan City, introduced the West Jordan City Center Station Area Plan and reported on some of the development that is already taking place near the development site. Jim Riding, West Jordan City Mayor, emphasized that this

location is ideal for increasing density because of its proximity to transit stops and other existing community resources such as the library and government offices. Mr. Drake presented details of the West Jordan plan including the vision for a mixed-use urban downtown with high density residential, commercial, and entertainment spaces that are pedestrian and bike friendly. Questions regarding Jordan School District participation and facilities were asked by advisory board members and answered by Mayor Riding.

Mr. Meyer commended the cities and other agencies for their collaborative efforts in creating the station area plans. Member Cronin asked for clarification regarding next steps and how the process for site selection flows through the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) System Analysis Tool previously presented to the advisory board. Mr. Drake addressed the question clarifying that voting in favor of these plans does not indicate they are selected to move forward to the development stage. Final selection of TOD sites will be made by the UTA Board of Trustees using results from the aforementioned TOD System Analysis Tool. Member Smith commented on the importance of the transportation elements of the plans as well as the need for funding to bring these plans to fruition.

Member Call moved to approve Resolution AR2019-03-01 Approving Ogden Central, Midvale TRAX, and West Jordan City Center Station Area Plans. Member Walker seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Trustee Retirement Benefits

Kim Ulibarri, UTA Chief People Officer, reminded the advisory board that during the January advisory board meeting, members identified concerns regarding the retirement benefit for trustees and asked for other options to consider. The concern is that a trustee serving a single term on the board (four years or less) would not have an opportunity for vesting in the UTA defined benefit plan, which requires 5 years of employment. Research performed by UTA staff found that the most common alternative to a defined benefit plan is an employer-paid defined contribution plan. Ms. Ulibarri presented data from comparable organizations indicating the percent of salary deposited by an employer into a defined contribution plan for an appointed employee as an alternative to a defined benefit. Of the organizations included in the comparison, the average defined contribution percentage was 15.2%. Questions regarding the pool of comparables and the current defined contribution plan were posed by the advisory board and answered by Ms. Ulibarri.

Member Walker made a motion to approve an employer-paid defined contribution for the members of the UTA Board of Trustees at 15.5%. Member Craythorne seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Other Business

The next meeting of the advisory board will be June 12, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m. with a motion by Member Smith, second by Member Biskupski, and a unanimous vote in favor.

Transcribed by Jana Ostler
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This document is not intended to serve as a full transcript as additional discussion may have taken place; please refer to the meeting materials, audio, or video located at <https://utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/notice/522373.html> for entire content.

This document along with the digital recording constitute the official minutes of this meeting.