



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
**Advisory Council of the Utah Transit Authority**

Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 1:00 p.m.  
Utah Transit Authority (UTA) Headquarters  
669 West 200 South, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Golden Spike Conference Rooms

**UTA Advisory Council Members Present:**

Jeff Acerson  
Erin Mendenhall  
Leonard Call  
Erik Craythorne  
Karen Cronin

Julie Fullmer  
Robert Hale  
Clint Smith  
Troy Walker

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

**Welcome and Call to Order**

Chair Jeff Acerson welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. with six council members present. Following Chair Acerson's opening remarks, the advisory council and meeting attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Members Walker and Mendenhall arrived shortly after the start of the meeting.

**Safety Minute**

Chair Acerson yielded the floor to Sheldon Shaw, UTA Director of Safety & Security, for a brief safety message.

**Public Comment Period**

George Chapman informed the council he does not believe UTA is functioning in a good manner. He stated the agency needs to focus on increased service and higher pay for drivers in order to mitigate the 50% turnover seen within the first year for that position.

**Oath of Office**

Cathie Griffiths performed the oath of office for new Advisory Council Member Salt Lake City Mayor Erin Mendenhall.

**Approval of November 20, 2019 Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

A motion to approve the November 20, 2019 Advisory Council Meeting Minutes was made by Member Karen and seconded by Member Hale. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Fullmer joined the meeting at 1:19 p.m.

### **Board of Trustees Report**

Carlton Christensen, UTA Board of Trustees Chair, was joined by Trustees Kent Millington and Beth Holbrook. Together they informed the council that March 3, 2020 officially marks the 50-Year anniversary for UTA as a transit authority. They also presented a PowerPoint itemizing highlights and milestones they accomplished as a board in 2019. Andrea Packer, UTA Communications Director, reviewed plans to commemorate UTA's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. She noted a celebration event on March 3, 2020 at Transit Day on the Hill amongst others that will occur throughout the year. Shule Bishop, UTA Government Relations Director provided a summary of Senate Bill 150 (SB150) - Transportation Governance and Funding Amendments sponsored by Senator Wayne Harper. He also reported that the Infrastructure & General Government (IGG) Subcommittee just prioritized their appropriations list which currently shows the Cottonwood Canyons Ski Bus Traffic Bypass Pilot Program as #6, the Point of the Mountain (POTM) Transit Study as #7, and SB92 -Statewide Comprehensive Rail Plan from Senator Jake Anderegg is #28. Questions on whether tier 3 gasoline applies to the bus system, if there have been discussions to get tier 3 gasoline into the fleet, when and where transit service began 50 years ago, what U.S. Representatives Curtis and McAdams are working on at the federal level, further explanation of SB92 and the extent of collaboration UTA has had with Senator Anderegg, and what the status of final funds is for the POTM alternative analysis were posed by the council and answered by the trustees.

### **Agency Report**

Carolyn Gonot, UTA Executive Director was joined by Jaron Robertson, UTA Director of Innovative Mobility Solutions. Mr. Robertson provided a brief update on the microtransit pilot. He stated the trial is currently in month 3 of the 12-month pilot. He reviewed rider counts which were mainly first/last mile related. He also summarized trip counts and noted the average ranking per trip is 4.8. Ms. Gonot provided an update on the service choices initiative. She reported that a draft bus network plan focusing on ridership scenarios designed by Jarrett Walker and Associates is currently being reviewed by staff and anticipated at the next Local Advisory Council meeting. She also reported public outreach efforts will occur over the coming summer with formal adoption presentations planned for September of 2020. Ms. Gonot concluded by noting that microtransit discussions maybe considered as part of the service choices plan. Questions on what limitations and/or funding problems UTA anticipates with microtransit if ridership continues to grow and what the fare payment by type graphic on page 4 of the evaluation report provided in the council's packet means were posed by the council and answered by staff. Chair Acerson suggested it would be helpful to have statistics on new ridership generated by the microtransit pilot.

### **Audit Committee Update**

Chair Acerson and Member Walker reported on the December 9, 2019 and February 10, 2020 Audit Committee meetings where they were updated on internal audits as well as the external risk assessment performed by Crowe LLP.

**AR2020-02-01 Resolution Appointing Advisory Council Officers for the Year 2020.** Chair Acerson opened the item up for discussion. A brief dialogue ensued regarding rotation of members through the officer positions.

Member Walker moved to approve resolution AR2020-02-01 appointing Troy Walker as Chair, Karen Cronin as Vice-Chair, and Clint Smith as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair of the Advisory Council for the 2020 Year with an amendment that officers rotate up through the offices and that the 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-chair be elected annually in the future. Member Craythorne seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Member Walker left the meeting at 1:56 p.m.

### **Consultation and Recommendation**

**Approval and Recommendation to Adopt the Woods Cross Station Area Plan - Resolution AR2020-02-02.** Paul Drake, UTA Senior Manager of Real Estate and Transit-Oriented Development was joined by Kevin Leo, UTA Transit Oriented Development Project Specialist I. Together they overviewed the Woods Cross station area plan. They briefed the council on the study area, public outreach, change scenarios, preferred scenario, and recommendations for implementing the plan. Discussion ensued. Questions on the potential housing near the Holly Refinery, whether the proposed commercial space can be supported by the current density, what pedestrian access and costs the project has, what the council's role is with the particulars of the plan, who is proposing the preferred option, what discussion there has been regarding the pedestrian/bike bridge, if the city has a small area plan, whether there has been any discussion of UTA funding portion(s) of the plan, the uniqueness of the plan, and whether the city is ready or if this process is premature were posed by the council and answered by staff.

Member Call moved to approve resolution AR2020-02-02 adopting the Woods Cross Station Area Plan with an amendment that priority be given to residential density and the creation of the pedestrian/bike bridge. Member Cronin seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

**Consultation on Amendment Number 1 to the 2020 Budget.** Bob Biles, UTA Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the proposed operating and capital budget changes. He indicated the operating budget changes include increased sales tax revenues of \$479,000 which staff is proposing be allocated to fund the carryover of four planning studies from 2019 as well as increased funding expenses. Mr. Biles noted that adjustments are also being made to the capital budget for the purposes of carrying over funds from projects not completed in 2019, incorporating funding contributions by third parties, and/or reallocating funds from contingency. He informed the council the amendments are scheduled to be heard by the board of trustees at their February 26, 2020 meeting.

**Discussion Item: Wasatch Choice 2050 Vision.** Together, Andrew Gruber, Executive Director Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC), and Shawn Seager, Director of Regional Planning Mountainland Association of Government (MAG), provided an overview of the Wasatch Choice 2050 Vision. He explained the vision addresses growth and development issues such as mobility, air quality, strong economy, and quality of life. He also advised the council that the vision is the collective work of many stakeholders around the region and demonstrated ways to use the interactive map located on WFRC's website: <https://wfr.org/>. Mr. Gruber noted the map is a combination of what is in place today and the priority investments that need to be made between now and the year 2050. Mr. Seager described the legislator's idea to have one regional map of Utah, Salt Lake, Davis, Weber, and Box Elder counties as well as WFRC/MAG's consistent approach. Together, Mr. Gruber and Mr. Seager concluded by demonstrating other items including transportation, land use, economic development, and recreation accessible on the interactive map.

### **Other Business**

The next meeting of the advisory council will be Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Chair Acerson informed the council if they have a need to participate electronically in a meeting or if they wish to have their alternate sit in for them in a meeting, to please give the board office and chair 24-hours' notice.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 p.m. with a motion by Member Mendenhall, second by Member Craythorne, and a unanimous vote in favor.

Transcribed by Angie Olsen  
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*This document along with the digital recording constitute the official minutes of this meeting.*