



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

Wednesday, July 17, 2019, 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	Julie Fullmer
Jacqueline Biskupski	Robert Hale
Leonard Call	Clint Smith
Erik Craythorne	Troy Walker

**Advisory Council Members Excused/Not in Attendance:**

Karen Cronin

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

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**Welcome and Call to Order**

Chair Acerson welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. with six council members present. Members Fullmer and Biskupski joined the meeting at 1:10 p.m. and 1:19 p.m. respectively. Following Chair Acerson's opening remarks, the advisory council and meeting attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Safety Minute**

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

**Public Comment Period**

Claudia Johnson notified the council how impressed she is with the new UTA Board of Trustees. She feels they perform quality work, have learned their roles and responsibilities, and gained an understanding of the agency. Additionally, she appreciates that they ask questions and maintain a sense of family with one-another and staff. Ms. Johnson also expressed gratitude to staff for their rapport and communication with each other. She then noted a desire to see the council become an asset to UTA and encouraged them to look at the organization as a whole and not just at their individual part.

### **Approval of June 12, 2019 Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

A motion to approve the June 12, 2019 Advisory Council Meeting Minutes was made by Member Smith and seconded by Member Craythorne. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Advisory Council Chair Report**

Chair Acerson reported on the Transportation Interim Committee meeting. He informed the council members that Senator Wayne Harper asked him for a follow-up on what types of engagements the council members were having with the board and community stakeholders. Chair Acerson then requested that the council members send him highlights of their interactions with the board, as well as things they feel are going well or could be better. Chair Acerson shared Senator Harper's compliments of the board's engagement efforts with elected officials and communities in areas where UTA services are provided. He also conveyed Senator Harper's comments that things seem to be going well at UTA and that he has received fewer complaints than previously. Chair Acerson stated the transit-oriented development (TOD) limit set by legislators has been reached and he senses most community representatives would like the limit to either be increased or have the limit removed altogether.

### **Board of Trustees Report**

UTA Board of Trustees Chair Carlton Christensen conveyed the board's appreciation for the council and the work they do. He informed the council that the trustees met with the Governor and provided him with a highlights report outlining accomplishments over the past eight months. He reported the Governor is satisfied overall with the direction the board is taking and expressed concern related to community growth. Chair Christensen invited the council to share any comments, concerns or questions they may have regarding the report which was provided in the meeting packet. There were no comments.

Trustee Holbrook informed the council that the board met separately with both the Deseret News and Salt Lake Tribune editorial boards, and provided them with copies of the highlights report which includes the board's priorities, focuses, and long term goals. Trustee Holbrook said the questions and dialogue with the Deseret News were constructive. Micro-transit was a hot topic, and they wanted to know how the board was interacting with the council. She expressed similar sentiments with the Tribune and noted they specifically wanted to know if the board is really understanding the organization and able to deal with the growth issues. They also asked about TODs and what role the board would have in an ideal scenario.

Trustee Millington informed the council that Carolyn Gonot was hired to fill the Executive Director position at the agency and will begin work on August 19, 2019. He advised she has over twenty years of transit experience and is coming from the Valley Transportation Authority in San Jose, CA. He then notified the council of an upcoming Utah County Legislative tour of the Utah Valley Express (UVX) bus rapid transit (BRT) Line on August 22, 2019 and invited the council members to join.

Concluding, Trustee Holbrook added that a Transit Academy for local elected officials and stakeholders will be held on September 19, 2019 at UTA's Warm Springs facility.

## **Agency Report**

Steve Meyer, UTA Interim Executive Director, encouraged the council to take advantage of Trustee Millington's tour invitation. He then highlighted UTA's endorsement of Transit as its app for mobile trip planning. He explained that by downloading Transit, riders can see nearby bus and rail options and departure times. He pointed out that other modes of transportation such as Uber, Lyft, and the bike station locations are accessible on the app as well.

### **AR2019-07-01 Resolution Approving the MidValley Connector Bus Rapid Transit Project Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) Ogden Central Station**

Mary DeLoretto, UTA Director of Capital Projects was joined by Loretta Marcum of Jacobs Engineering. Ms. DeLoretto explained this resolution approves the locally preferred alternative (LPA) for the Mid-Valley BRT project. She noted the project will connect the Murray Central TRAX/FrontRunner stations to the Salt Lake Community College Redwood Campus (on 4700 S), and West Valley Central TRAX Station (via 2700 W). She informed the council there will be exclusive bus lanes on 4500/4700 S and it is a local project which followed the non-federal environmental process. She also pointed out that Taylorsville, West Valley and Murray cities have adopted the LPA and that it is included in the Wasatch Front Regional Council's 2019-2050 Regional Transportation Plan. Furthermore, she explained that funding commitments need to be finalized and the capital project plan needs to be approved for the project to proceed. There were no questions relating to this item.

A motion to approve was made by Member Walker and seconded by Member Call. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Consultation**

**Board Policy 4.1 Fare Policy** Monica Morton, UTA Fares Director, advised the purpose of the policy is to establish and maintain an effective fare system. She then explained the details of the policy, including fare pricing, base fare rates, discounts, fare media changes, contract negotiations, delegation of authority, and other policy items such as approving requests for sponsored, complimentary, or charter services.

Due to questions from the council, Ms. Morton clarified that the executive director will not be negotiating discounts but will keep the UTA Board of Trustees informed of contract negotiations for educational programs and bulk pass purchases over \$200,000.

A motion to approve was made by Member Smith and seconded by Member Walker. The motion carried unanimously.

**2019 Budget Amendment** Bob Biles, UTA Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the proposed budget amendments. He detailed the Salt Lake County 4<sup>th</sup> quarter capital projects and e-voucher software purchase. Mr. Biles then discussed revenue and expense budget amendments and noted the amendments are scheduled for approval by the board at the July 31, 2019 meeting. There were no questions relating to this item.

A motion to approve was made by Member Call, seconded by Member Hale. The motion carried unanimously.

**Service Choices Report Presentation** Laura Hanson, UTA Director of Planning, was joined by Alex Beim, UTA Strategic Planner III. Ms. Hanson stated the primary goal for this project is a budget and resource allocation prioritization. She reported that staff and the consultant, Jarrett Walker Associates, are looking for advice on how to best prioritize bus resources in the best and most appropriate way. She noted the three main goals of the engagement process were to gain a clear sense of the regional transit priorities, build public awareness, and strengthen partnerships. She reported they are at the fifty-percent point in the process and are asking the UTA Board of Trustees to adopt a statement that gives policy direction for the development of a bus network plan. Ms. Hanson told the council the presenters desired good dialogue and, advice for the Board of Trustees.

Consultant Jarrett Walker explained that UTA's Service Choices project aims to fully review and, if necessary, redesign the pattern of bus service across the network and set standards for future service changes. Mr. Walker then provided an extensive presentation and informed the council on the timelines associated with the project. He defined frequency and productivity and asked what the desired balance is between ridership and coverage for existing and new resources and what should be prioritized when designing coverage services. He reviewed UTA's services and how useful UTA's services are for each region and explained why density, walkability, linearity, and proximity are significant when designing for high ridership. Mr. Walker also informed the council of engagement efforts. Mr. Walker shared examples of how other agencies decided to address the balance between ridership and coverage and eliminate duplicative service.

Discussion ensued. Questions regarding examples of coverage vs. ridership cities, assessment of economic development and growth patterns, coverage details for disadvantaged communities/individuals or taxpayers desiring equal access, factors influencing the ridership-coverage balance, model to best improve air quality, addressing need for a dual focus in the transit system, creating walkability, and the value of transit investments vs. other types of investments in producing a reduced congestion outcome were posed by the council and answered by staff and Mr. Walker.

The council asked to postpone answering the Service Choices Decision Worksheet to allow for sharing and input from other mayors and key stakeholders. Chair Christensen indicated UTA Board wants to make the right decision and is willing to allow a bit more time. While the council members plan to share and obtain input, the table below references each member's initial voiced opinion for percentages of ridership/coverage of existing and future services, as well as prioritization of coverage:

<b>Advisory Council Member</b>	<b>UTA Service Area</b>	<b>With existing resources, UTA's bus service should be:</b>	<b>With future resources, UTA's bus service should be:</b>	<b>UTA's coverage resources should focus on (ordered 1-3)*</b>
Clint Smith	Central	60/40	30/70	2, 1, 3
Troy Walker	Central	80/20	30/70	2, 1, 3
Robert Hale	Central	60/40	45/55	1, 2, 3
Jacqueline Biskupski	Central	60/40	60/40	1, 2, 3
Leonard Call	North	40/60	40/60	1, 3, 2
Erik Craythorne	North	50/50	50/50	
Julie Fullmer	South	60/40	40/60	
Jeff Acerson	South			

\*Questions associated with prioritizing coverage:

1. Service for people with no transportation alternative.
2. Service responding to growth or new development.
3. Service to all taxpayers.

### **Other Business**

The next meeting of the advisory council will be September 25, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m. with a motion by Member Biskupski, second by Member Walker, 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.*