

**Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting**  
**Summary of Meeting Notes**  
**March 23, 2007 - 1:30 PM 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Rice-Eccles Stadium**

In Attendance:

Christopher Chestnut	Utah Transit Authority
Doug Hattery	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Ellen Reddick	Bonneville Hills Community Council
George Shaw	Salt Lake City Planning Division, Planning Director
Jake Green	U of U / Commuter Services / Bicycle Sub-Committee
Jennifer Reed	U of U / Administrative Support
Jim Jenkin	Howard Hughes Medical Institute @ U of U / TAB / GACC
Kevin Young	Salt Lake City, Transportation Division
Kris Peterson	Utah Department of Transportation, Traffic Operations
Mike Perez	U of U/ AVP Facilities Management
Norm Chambers	U of U/ AVP Auxiliary Services
Tom Bernstone	Foothill Resident Representative
Robin Carbaugh	Emigration District Coalition / YNC
Kristy Maple	Jewish Community Center
Steve Panish	Health Sciences Center

I.

Norm Chambers welcomed everyone. Each person introduced him/herself to the group. Norm asked those in attendance if there were any changes or suggestions to the January 19, 2007 meeting notes. They were approved and are posted on the committee website at: <http://www.parking.utah.edu/committees/TTC/index.html>.

II.

Christopher Chesnut, UTA, gave the attendees a presentation regarding the proposed UTA Salt Lake Bus Redesign scheduled to be implemented on August 26, 2007. The public comment phase will end on April 3, 2007 and planners will take the public feedback they have received into consideration and determine the final plan. The redesign will be introduced to the public in May 2007 through a massive education campaign. UTA planners expect a 12% increase in ridership due to the changes.

For details regarding the proposed changes, please refer to UTA's website: [www.rideuta.com](http://www.rideuta.com).

Robin Carbaugh and Ellen Reddick requested an extension for the public comment period, but Chris responded that there is no flexibility within the redesign timeline right now because of the considerable signage, schedule, and driver changes that are going to have to take place prior to August 26, 2007. Ellen also expressed concern that low income or disadvantaged individuals have not had ample time or a chance to give input.

The committee discussed the competition between TRAX, Commuter Rail and bus service dollars, and how it disadvantages those community members that are not near the rail lines.

### III.

Norm Chambers gave a report on the concern expressed by Jim Jenkin at the last meeting over the closure of the bus stop on 1<sup>st</sup> South (just before it makes a 90 degree turn and becomes North Campus Drive) due to construction. A meeting was held with concerned parties and those involved in the closure decision, and it was decided that the bus stop should be restored. Recently an asphalt walkway was installed to connect the bus stop with the existing pedestrian walkways. Later this spring, UDOT will paint doppler markings (hash marks) on the road leading to the crosswalks to draw more attention to them. UDOT's goal is to make automobile drivers more aware that they are approaching crosswalks.

### IV.

Kristy Maple, Jewish Community Center, questioned the committee about the closure of the crosswalk from the JCC to the Health Sciences Center. The crosswalk was closed due to the construction at the HSC. Rather than walking to the next crosswalk, people are jaywalking across and walking along the construction fence. Norm stated that he would follow-up with how the decision was made and what solutions if any are available for people who want to cross at that intersection.

Follow-Up Information: While the director of the U's Campus Design & Construction Department agrees that it is inconvenient for pedestrians from the JCC to access the hospital and buses by the designated safe route, the former crosswalk must remain out of service because people crossing at that location would be forced to walk east or west in the eastbound traffic lane of North Campus Drive while the construction is taking place. JCC was given notice of the decision at the time it was implemented. The hospital, CD&C personnel, along with Layton's managers, came to the conclusion that an inconvenient safe path was preferable to a more convenient, but dangerous one.

### V.

Mike Perez gave the committee an update on the progress of the Campus Master Plan, being drafted by Skidmore, Owens and Merrill (SOM) out of San Francisco. SOM and the University have begun the "Discovery Phase" of the project. Representatives have met and will continue to meet with a number of stakeholders in the master planning process. SOM will be attending the next Community Forum to introduce the project. It will take place on Wednesday, March 27, 2007 at 5:30pm in the conference room located at 540 Arapeen in Research Park. Approximately 700 mailers went out through the U's public relations office to advertise the event.

Follow-Up Information: At the March 27<sup>th</sup> Community Forum meeting a firm date was announced for the U's Campus Master Plan Workshop. It will be held on Thursday, May 17, 2007 at 6:00 pm, location to be announced.

#### VI.

Jim Jenkin reported on a meeting that he and Eric Jorgensen, (with the Avenues Community Council) had with UTA regarding the impact the Salt Lake City Bus Redesign will have on routes #1 and #3. The committee discussed the impact of decreased bus service in areas that are near the University of Utah and the process that UTA is following to implement the redesign.

#### VII.

Doug Hattery explained the status of the Foothill Corridor Study. DMJM out of Denver, CO, will be conducting the study on behalf of UDOT, the U of U, Salt Lake City, UTA and the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC). The study will focus on traffic and land use along Foothill Boulevard, particularly the transition at the south end from I-215 to Foothill. The contract is expected to be finalized in the near future and the study should begin sometime in April. It is expected to be completed in approximately one year. DMJM is planning on holding four workshops with stakeholders like local businesses, community members, the University of Utah, etc. There will also be two open houses held. The WFRC will be coordinating the study. Interested parties should get contact information to Doug Hattery, so that DMJM can begin to build a database of groups to contact when they are ready to set up meetings. Hal Johnson's U of U Urban Planning class will be assisting with the land use portion of the study.

#### VIII.

Norm Chambers briefed the committee on a study taking place regarding parking in the northwest quadrant of the U of U campus. Venues like Gardener Hall and Kingsbury Hall have struggled with lack of patron parking for years. The University of Utah is evaluating two potential sites to build a parking structure. The locations being evaluated include a site off of 100 South northeast of the Park Building and an underground site at the upper third of Presidents' Circle. The U's Commuter Services Department has hired a consultant to conduct a study regarding the parking needs and a cost analysis. Right now, it looks like approximately 650-800 spaces would cost approximately 20-25 million dollars. Funding is a major concern. It is anticipated that a donation in the range of \$5 to \$7 million may be necessary. Before a project can be started, it would require the approval of the U's Board of Trustees, the Board of Regents, the Legislature and the Governor. Norm will provide updates at future meetings.

#### IX.

Kevin Young reported on an innovative project that the City recently started. Two flashing yellow left-hand turn signals have been installed on Sunnyside Avenue (800 South and 1300 East intersection, and Sunnyside Avenue and Arapeen Drive). The purpose of the signals is to make high-traffic left-hand turn areas safer. Robin Carbaugh suggested that Kevin meet with the Yalecrest Community Council, members of which

use those intersections almost daily, and explain how to navigate the new signals. Some motorists seem to be confused when they approach them.

X.

Norm Chambers thanked everyone for coming. The next meeting is scheduled for 1:30pm, Friday, May 18, 2007 on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of Rice-Eccles Stadium Tower.