

(Draft - Awaiting Formal Approval)
**MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, June 20, 2012 – 9:00 a.m. – Room 30 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell, Senate Chair
Rep. Bradley M. Daw, House Chair
Sen. Scott K. Jenkins
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher
Rep. Stewart Barlow
Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards
Rep. Craig A. Frank
Rep. Stephen G. Handy
Rep. Lynn N. Hemingway
Rep. Todd E. Kiser
Rep. Bradley G. Last

Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Rep. Val L. Peterson
Rep. Kraig Powell
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion

Members Absent:

Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Rep. Janice M. Fisher

Staff Present:

Mr. Leif G. Elder, Policy Analyst
Ms. Shannon C. Halverson, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Tracey Fredman, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Daw called the meeting to order at 8:14 a.m. and excused Sen. Knudson and Rep. Fisher.

MOTION: Rep. Frank moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2012 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jenkins, Sen. Thatcher, Rep. Edwards, Rep. Handy, and Rep. Last were absent for the vote.

2. UTA Customer Information

Mr. Bruce Jones, General Counsel, Utah Transit Authority (UTA), stated that UTA has been receiving customer information requests under the Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA), which UTA believes violates the expectation of privacy. Mr. Jones referred to a provision of 2011 General Session H.B. 26, "High Occupancy Toll Lane Customer Information," which provides that information given by people when purchasing High Occupancy Vehicle lane transponders remains private under GRAMA. He asked the committee to consider legislation to provide the same protection under GRAMA for UTA customers.

MOTION: Sen. Van Tassell moved that the committee open a bill file to provide a similar exemption for UTA as 2011 General Session H.B. 26, "High Occupancy Toll Lane Customer Information," provided for the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), so that customer information collected by UTA will not be subject to GRAMA. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jenkins and Rep. Handy were absent for the vote.

3. Railroad Safety

Mr. Jones briefed committee members about UTA's safety concerns at railroad crossings and requested support by the committee for new legislation to clarify terms and definitions as provided by 2012 General Session S.B. 195, "Transportation Safety Revisions." Mr. Jones indicated that UTA has prepared draft language for the proposed legislation.

Committee discussion followed.

Mr. David Goeres, Chief Safety Officer, UTA, addressed UTA responses to public safety concerns and responded to committee members' questions.

Sen. Mayne commented on the importance of refining the language of 2012 General Session S.B. 195, "Transportation Safety Revisions," and educating citizens on how to be safe around public transit.

MOTION: Sen. Mayne moved that the committee open a bill file utilizing the proposed language provided by UTA related to public safety at railroad crossings. The motion failed with Sen. Van Tassell, Rep. Hemingway, Rep. Moss, and Rep. Powell voting in favor.

4. Yield to Buses

Sen. Mayne briefed the committee on draft legislation that would require vehicles to yield to buses so they may reenter traffic following a curbside stop.

Mr. Doug Sappie, employee, UTA, distributed "Driving Behavior 2008-2009," and commented on his experience as an instructor and bus operator. Mr. Sappie spoke in support of the draft legislation, and responded to committee members' questions.

Committee discussion followed.

5. (was #2) UTA Update

Mr. Michael Allegra, General Manager, UTA, presented "UTA Front Lines 2015" and updated the committee on UTA's ridership, contributions to the local economy, responses to the 2011 Legislative Audit, construction, and future planning.

6. Annual State Highway System Changes

Ms. Linda Hull, Director, Legislative and Government Affairs, UDOT, distributed and reviewed "Proposed Additions To Or Deletions From the State Highway System Annual Report to the Transportation Interim Committee" and "Exhibit A."

7. Rule Governing Prioritization of New Transportation Capacity Projects

Mr. Cory Pope, Director, Systems Planning and Programming, UDOT, distributed and presented "Draft of R940-6 Prioritization of New Transportation Capacity Projects." Mr. Pope said the changes reflect modifications to prioritization of new Transportation Capacity Projects.

Mr. Elder briefed committee members on the statutory requirement that the changes to administrative rule R940-6 be reviewed by the Transportation Interim Committee before the rule goes into effect.

8. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Van Tassell moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jenkins was absent for the vote.

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Chair Daw adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.