

**MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, May 20, 2015 – 2:30 p.m. – Senate Room 210

Members Present:

Sen. Alvin B. Jackson, Senate Chair
Rep. Johnny Anderson, House Chair
Sen. J. Stuart Adams
Sen. David P. Hinkins
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell
Rep. Jacob L. Anderegg
Rep. Stewart Barlow
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson
Rep. Jon Cox
Rep. Brad L. Dee

Rep. Justin L. Fawson
Rep. Michael S. Kennedy
Rep. Brad King
Rep. David E. Lifferth
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Dean Sanpei

Staff Present:

Mr. Arthur Hunsaker, Policy Analyst
Ms. Shannon Halverson, Associate General
Counsel
Mr. Timothy J. Barber, 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.leg.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

MOTION: Sen. Van Tassell moved to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2014, meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Anderegg was absent for the vote.

2. Long Term Planning Briefings

Ms. Nannette Rolfe Director, Driver License Division, and Mr. Chris Caras, Deputy Director, Driver License Division, presented "Driver License Division Update" and discussed the areas in which their division is seeking to improve its service.

Rep. Kennedy questioned whether the division's requirement for registration of unconventional vehicles is necessary.

Ms. Rolfe replied that safety of everyone on the road is the division's goal, but the division is waiting to see how drivers use these new kinds of vehicles.

Rep. Fawson asked what measures are in place to detect potential false Social Security number use.

Mr. Caras replied that staff is thoroughly trained on how to recognize a wide variety of identification documents and possible counterfeits and that prosecuting individuals who attempt to use counterfeit identification is not a high priority for law enforcement.

MOTION: Sen. Jackson moved that the committee further study the need for legislation to address the use of unconventional vehicles on Utah roads. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Anderegg was absent for the vote. Sen. Mayne and Rep. Barlow volunteered to study the issue on behalf of the committee.

Mr. David Kallas, Senior Advisor, Office of the General Manager, Utah Transit Authority (UTA), presented "UTA Long Range Planning and Emerging Issues" and discussed his agency's goals to increase ridership and pursue transit-oriented development.

Sen. Jackson asked about revenue projections for a local option sales tax and if there are plans to extend more UTA service to the developing business cluster in northern Utah County.

Mr. Kallas responded that current projections for local option sales taxes are around \$45 to \$50 million annually. He said that funding has not yet been approved for extending light rail lines into northern Utah County. UTA is in constant contact with businesses in that area to coordinate potential future development.

Sen. Van Tassell asked how long it takes to evaluate the effectiveness of a new route.

Mr. Kallas replied that it is typically 12 months, but it could be more or less.

Mr. Carlos Braceras, Executive Director, Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), presented "UDOT Long Term Planning Briefings" and discussed the agency's efforts to reduce fatalities on the roads, improve aging infrastructure, and effectively plan for a growing population.

Rep. Christofferson asked if any free market solutions, including privatization and outsourcing, are being utilized by UDOT to improve service.

Mr. Braceras replied that UDOT contracted with private companies for maintenance in the past, but costs came out higher than expected. However, he said the agency continues to weigh all options to improve service.

3. Implementation and Impacts of 2015 General Session Transportation Funding Revisions

Mr. Braceras presented "UDOT Implementation and Impacts of 2015 General Session Transportation Funding" and reported on the expected impacts of additional funding from the 2015 General Session.

4. Transportation Commission Prioritization Process Review

Mr. Braceras and Ms. Meghan Holbrook, Commissioner, Utah Transportation Commission, presented "Transportation Commission Prioritization Review." Ms. Holbrook presented background on the transportation project prioritization review process and the membership of the Utah Transportation Commission.

Rep. Cox asked what role human judgement plays in what is considered to be a primarily data driven process.

Ms. Holbrook replied that the commission is adaptable and uses the data to inform the Commission's decision making. She said the commission also takes public input into account before making a final decision in project prioritization during the Commission's monthly meetings.

5. Committee Business/Adjourn

Chair Anderson adjourned the meeting at 4:59 p.m.