

**MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, September 21, 2016 – 8:30 a.m. – Room 210 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. Wayne A. Harper, 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. Brad L. Dee
Rep. Justin L. Fawson
Rep. Rep. Michael S. Kennedy

Rep. Brian King
Rep. David E. Lifferth
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Dean Sanpei
Rep. Mike Schultz

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex R. Janak, Policy Analyst
Mr. Kurt P. Gasser, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Shannon C. Halverson, Associate General Counsel
Mr. Joshua M. Weber, Legislative Assistant

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 Harper called the meeting to order at 8:42 a.m.

MOTION: Sen. Van Tassell moved to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2016, meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Hinkins, Sen. Mayne, and Rep. Moss were absent for the vote.

2. Mountain Accord Update

Mr. Dana Meier, Parsons Brinckerhoff, and Ms. Laynee Jones, program director, Mountain Accord, presented "Mountain Accord." They discussed Mountain Accord and some of their upcoming projects. They reviewed the transportation problems that Wasatch Front ski areas are facing and the immediate, mid-term, and long-term solutions they are working to implement. They responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Carlos Braceras, Executive Director, Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), provided additional answers to questions from the committee.

Mr. George Chapman, resident, Salt Lake City, discussed his concerns with Mountain Accord, including its decision making process and the level of government involved.

3. Motor Carrier Size and Weight Restrictions

Ms. Linda Hull, Director of Policy and Legislative Services, UDOT, presented "Motor Carrier Size and Weight Restrictions." She briefly discussed her work with a working group created during the June committee meeting tasked with identifying sections of the Utah Code related to motor carriers that need to be updated. She detailed the sections and gave the working groups suggestions for updating the Utah Code. She responded to questions from the committee.

4. A Performance Audit of the Utah Department of Transportation

Mr. Brian Dean, Audit Manager, Office of the Legislative Auditor General, and Mr. Matt Harvey, Audit Supervisor, Office of the Legislative Auditor General, presented "A Performance Audit of the Utah Department of Transportation." They gave suggestions as to how UDOT's bidding practices can be improved. They also discussed what UDOT must do to comply with state statutes regarding performance audits. They responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Carlos Braceras addressed the committee on behalf of UDOT by responding to the recommendations made in the audit. He also responded to questions from the committee.

5. An In-depth Budget Review of the Utah Department of Transportation

Mr. Brian Dean, Audit Manager, Office of Legislative Auditor General, and Mr. August Lehman, Audit Supervisor, Office of the Legislative Auditor, presented "An In-depth Budget Review of the Utah Department of Transportation." They outlined budgeting and accounting concerns and discussed ways for UDOT to improve. They also discussed the issues surrounding UDOT's use of consultants instead of permanent staff in some areas and the associated costs and benefits. They responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Braceras addressed the committee on behalf of UDOT by responding to the recommendations made in the audit. He also responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Mayne moved to open a committee bill file to address the recommendations made in the UDOT performance audit and the UDOT budget review audit. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Adams, Sen. Hinkins, Rep. Anderegg, and Rep. Sanpei were absent for the vote.

6. Utah Transit Authority Governance Structure

The presentation prepared by Utah Transit Authority was moved to the October interim committee meeting due to time constraints.

7. Committee Business/ Adjourn

Mr. Jerry Benson, Chief Executive Officer, Utah Transit Authority, introduced himself to the committee as the new Chief Executive Office and briefly discussed his experience working in multiple positions in Utah Transit Authority, including Interim Chief Executive Officer.

MOTION: Rep. Lifferth moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Adams, Sen. Mayne, and Rep. Schultz were absent for the vote.

Chair Harper adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.