

**MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, April 16, 2003 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 129 State Capitol

Members Present:

Rep. Joseph G. Murray, House Chair
Sen. John W. Hickman
Sen. Ed P. Mayne
Rep. Calvin G. Bird
Rep. Don E. Bush
Rep. David Clark
Rep. Marda Dillree
Rep. John Dougall
Rep. James A. Dunningan
Rep. James A. Ferrin
Rep. Neil A. Hansen
Rep. Todd E. Kiser
Rep. Rebecca Lockhart
Rep. Ty McCartney

Members Absent:

Sen. Dan R. Eastman, Senate Chair
President Al Mansell
Sen. David H. Steele
Rep. Brad King

Staff Present:

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen, Policy Analyst
Ms. M. Gay Taylor, General Counsel
Ms. Shannon C. Halverson, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Jennifer Markham, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of materials can be found at <http://www.image.le.state.ut.us/imaging/history.asp> or by contacting the committee secretary, Jennifer Markham, at 538-1032.

1. Committee Business

Chair Murray called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m.

Mr. Christensen discussed "Transportation-Related Bill Summaries Passed During the 2003 General Session" and "2003 Potential Transportation-Related Study Items" that were included in the mailing packet. He said that the chairs would like the committee members to prioritize the study items and return the form to the chairs or a committee staff person at the end of the meeting.

2. Centennial Highway Fund Program and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Update

Mr. John R. Njord, UDOT (Utah Department of Transportation), made a presentation and distributed the following handouts to the Committee: "Take Care of What We Have," "Strategic Goals," "Priority Projects List," and "Centennial Highway Fund Detail." He told the Committee that the originally planned funding for the 10-year Centennial Highway Fund Program has been reduced by \$581 million over the life of the program.

3. Studded Snow Tires on Highways

Ms. Halverson gave an electronic presentation on studded tire use and distributed a handout of the presentation "Studded Tire Use." She identified problems and benefits of using studded tires on Utah highways, gave a summary of what other states do, and presented policy options for the Committee to consider.

Mr. David Miles, UDOT, discussed the study on studded tires done by the state of Washington. Mr. Miles stated that UDOT's preference would be to eliminate the use of studded tires. If studded snow tires were not eliminated, he stated UDOT would like the season shortened or restrict the use to lightweight studs.

MOTION: Rep. Ferrin moved to go to the next agenda item. A straw vote was taken due to a lack of quorum in the Senate, and the Committee agreed to go to the next item.

4. HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) Lanes

Mr. Christensen gave an electronic presentation on HOV Lanes and distributed a handout of the presentation "HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) Lanes." He told the Committee that authorization must be received from the Federal Highway Administration in order for the state to sell permits allowing single occupant vehicles to use the HOV lane. He added that there may be a need to reconcile the state and federal law for clean fuel vehicles in the HOV lane.

Mr. Carlos Braceras, UDOT, summarized research study results on the use of HOV lanes. He indicated time is still needed to allow the HOV system to mature in the state.

5. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Lockhart moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Mayne and Rep. Dougall absent for the vote. Chair Murray adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.