

**MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, July 16, 2003 – 2:30 p.m. – Room 129 State Capitol

Members Present:

Rep. Joseph G. Murray, House Chair
Sen. John W. Hickman
Sen. Sheldon Killpack
Sen. Ed P. Mayne
Rep. Calvin G. Bird
Rep. Don E. Bush
Rep. David Clark
Rep. Marda Dillree
Rep. John Dougall
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
Rep. James A. Dunnigan
Rep. James A. Ferrin
Rep. Brad King

Staff Present:

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen, Policy Analyst
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 2:53 p.m. Sen. Eastman and Rep. Ferrin asked to be excused from the meeting.

MOTION: Rep. Bush moved to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2003 meeting. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Hickman, Rep. Clark, and Rep. Dillree absent for the vote.

2. Transportation Planning Task Force Update

Rep. Lockhart distributed "Progress Report of the Transportation Planning Task Force." She indicated that under current revenues, the Centennial Highway Fund will have a balance of \$1.4 billion instead of \$1.9 million at the end of FY 2007 and will be paid out by FY 2017 instead of FY 2007. She invited committee members to participate in task force meetings and to give any suggestions on any of the issues of the Task Force.

3. Fuel Taxes for Alternatively Fueled Vehicles (draft legislation)

Mr. Christensen gave an electronic presentation "Fuel Taxes for Alternatively Fueled Vehicles" and distributed a copy of his presentation. He summarized draft legislation "Fuel Tax Provisions for Clean Fueled Vehicles" that was included in the mailing packet. This legislation would administer the tax at the retail level rather than requiring alternative vehicle owners to purchase an annual permit. He also distributed "Alternative Fuel Vehicle Incentives in Utah."

Mr. Rod Marrelli and Mr. Brad Conover, Utah State Tax Commission, stated that payments are currently made at distributor level. They recommended the tax be paid at the time of fuel purchase as provided in the draft legislation.

Mr. Bernell Loveridge, Utah Energy Office, responded to questions, provided examples of alternative fuels, and summarized their advantages. He suggested setting up references in the legislation to apply to new fuels as they are developed.

Mr. Ruland Gill, Questar, stated that Questar was preparing a response they would like to present to the Committee at a future meeting.

Mr. Jim Olsen, Retail Merchants Association, and the Food Industry Association, suggested collecting taxes similar to the method used for gas and diesel fuel.

4. Electronic Traffic Enforcement Options

Ms. Halverson gave an electronic presentation "Automated Enforcement Options" summarizing the status of photo radar, red light cameras, and other electronic traffic enforcement options. She distributed copies of her presentation.

Mr. John R. Njord, and Mr. Dave Miles, UDOT (Utah Department of Transportation), stressed that the role of UDOT is to move vehicles and not traffic enforcement. They recommended not changing UDOT's role with respect to the use of the Traffic Operation Center and its facilities.

5. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Bird moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Hickman, Sen. Mayne, and Rep. Dougall absent for the vote. Chair Murray adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.