
SRTMC OPERATING BOARD MEETING NOTIFICATION

WHEN: Wednesday, June 17, 2020

TIME: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

WHERE: Skype Meeting

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS (Attached):

February Meeting Minutes

February-May Activity Reports

February-May Expenditure Summaries

OPERATING BOARD MEETING AGENDA

- 1) **Call to Order:** 1:02 PM
- 2) **Roll Call / Record of Attendance:** Frank Bezemer (STA), Jeremy Clark (CoSV), Harley Dobson (County), Ryan Kipp (CoSV), Ken Knutson (City), Ryan Medenwaldt (SRTMC), Steve Milatz (SRTMC), Eve McMenamy (SRTC), Becky Spangle (SRTMC), Nate Thompson (County), Glenn Wagemann (WSDOT), Kathleen Weinand (STA)
- 3) **Action – Consent Agenda**
 - a) **February meeting Minutes**
 - b) **February-May Activity Report**
 - c) **February-May Expenditures**

Action items a-c motioned by Glenn Wagemann seconded by Frank Bezemer.

- 4) **SRTMC Staff Updates**

- a) **IT Update** **15 Minutes – Steve & Ryan**

Steve and Ryan have been teleworking since COVID-19 outbreak. They coordinated with Mike Kress to setup backup TMC workstation at the WSDOT Eastern Region HQ building. Steve has been generating new documentation and configuration for IP schemes related to upcoming ramp meter projects. He also assisted WSDOT signals to generate IP configuration for ramp meter test equipment. Lastly, Steve worked on completion of mandatory WSDOT training. Ryan and Steve have been working with WSDOT Signals and Becky Spangle to resolve TDA data issues which has required coordination with ATMS vendor Parsons and PeMS vendor Iteris to ensure data is being exported and imported accurately across systems. SRTMC is currently in communication with WSDOT traffic analysis staff on TDA data ingestion from SRTMC's ATMS system. Ryan mentioned that the SRTMC



has been working with Parsons on an ATMS patch related to correcting the binning process for TDA devices. They are also coordinating with Parsons on a new ATMS build which will incorporate new video player software to support video playback with other browsers such as Chrome. An additional software patch for the FLIR IPVMS system was deployed to incorporate new features and workstation client stability. Ryan anticipates to have more information to share at the next upcoming Operations Board meeting.

b) Operations Update 15 Minutes – Mike / Becky

As briefly touched on earlier, a backup TMC workstation was setup at the Eastern Region HQ office due to safety concerns related to potential civil unrest in the downtown Spokane area. The backup system will allow TMC operations to continue at near full capability. With current circumstances surrounding the pandemic, the SRTMC has continued 24/7 operations, but has reduced staffing to 1 person on site at a given time. The SRTMC is additionally seeking to bring 1 IT staff member and 1 Ops supervisor/manager on site while maintaining social distancing. IT will alternate with 1 staff member on site per week to fill support needs for any upcoming projects. Becky made the announcement that Jeremy Clark was selected as the new City of Spokane Valley traffic engineer and welcomed him as the newest member of the SRTMC Operations board.

5) Information & Discussion

a) Budget update 15 Minutes

The SRTMC is awaiting invoicing from Iteris as a part of the migration to the latest version of the platform. The charges are estimated at ~\$60K. Additionally, there are allocated FLIR support charges that are on hold due to impacts/delays related to the pandemic. The support will be related to software installs, training, and integration efforts. Currently, there is \$55K reserved for ATMS maintenance costs which will be depleted once invoicing has been processed. The QF4595 STP grant is over extended ~\$30K, but this is projected to level out over the coming months. Steve, Ryan, and Becky are charging hours to SRTMC Equipment Replacement funds to help reduce financial impact. With current impacts to the state budget, there is a spending freeze that adds some extra steps and approval or exemption permission for spending from WSDOT project funds. The partner funds and equipment grant are currently underspent, and there are some additional pending charges related to equipment purchases.

b) Work Plan update 15 Minutes

Manage Arterial Data collection data site – Becky has been providing weekly or monthly reports to partner agencies, governor’s office, and media. Currently, the numbers are growing particularly near US-2, and I-90 at Appleway / Sprague which is speculated to be due to lack of travel to the airport and local businesses in the areas. When compared to last year’s data, other areas are reporting traffic volumes are still reduced between 8% -18%.

Research Data Management System for operations data – ongoing strategy and priority project for the region for 2019-2021 biennium, currently progress has been slowed due to the pandemic.

Equipment Replacement project design phase – design phase was to start in February 2020 and continue through 2021. The money did not become available until late April 2020 but work is now underway.



Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures – ongoing, delay due to maintenance staff in telework status. The crew has recently returned to the office and will resume working full-time in the field to continue data collection equipment installs.

VMS travel times – SRTMC staff currently actively reviewing TDA device data accuracy and have observed higher speed data reliability with Wavetronix devices specifically. The RTMS are currently being replaced with Wavetronix devices as a part of project funding. Once the conversion has been completed, staff will begin review of the ATMS' travel time capabilities to ensure the data is reporting accurately.

Develop hardware replacement plan and asset management plan – this goal is anticipated to be pushed into 2021 due to current spending limitations.

Plan for SRTMC relocation – open to continue consideration of any and all potential opportunities, but no immediate plans for relocation. While still in the early stages, Glenn provided an update that WSDOT has a potential project which would be used to help cover expenses for relocating.

SRTMC participation with data integration for SRTC Data project – still a 2020 priority, but no further updates at this time.

c) COVID & Protest Impacts 20 Minutes

County campus was closed one day due to protest activity.

STA had non-essential personnel issued laptops to begin teleworking. Staff has since return to office two weeks ago. Temp checks are mandatory for all staff every day at least until mid-July timeframe. STA bus routes were impacted by the protests which required coordination with SPD for establishing shuttle boundaries which required detours to be established. STA has been using para-transit services to assist passengers near exclusion zones.

SRTC staff are still operating remotely and all meetings are being performing virtually utilizing platforms such as Zoom. City maintenance staff are now using PPE equipment and monitoring temperature readings.

SRTMC has reduced staffing on-site at SRTMC to minimize risk of spreading the virus.

d) Traffic & Congestion Look 10 Minutes

The TMC has been coordinating with the State for PSA messaging related to COVID-19 such as “minimize travel, obey speed limit, and stay safe”. There are current plans for a new PSA message to be posted on the signs next week.

CoSV has suspended vehicle counts in March for use in development studies. They are working to develop a protocol for developers as to how they will complete their analysis. The valley is open to incorporate any feedback or guidance from other agencies'.

The City has been making adjustments to signal timing on an as-needed basis. Traffic analysis is currently a complex challenge surrounding traffic fluctuations due to the pandemic. Signal technicians have returned to the office, but are working staggered shifts last 6-8 weeks.

County continues to perform counts and provide data to the state to reflect impacts related to the pandemic.



6) Agency Updates

CoSV - Appleway trail is close to opening in next 1-2 weeks. The final section of the trail is from Evergreen to Sullivan. The trail will utilize FLIR infrared technology to detect pedestrians at crossing. The Indiana project is expected to be completed in early July.

STA – STA has software that aggregates bus run times which may be useful to help measure congestion over time on major corridors. STA is open to share this data with any of the partner agencies at no cost.

WSDOT – contracted work started for the new ramp meter project(s) in mid-May which will add ramp meters at the following sites: I-90 / Walnut, I-90 / Monroe, and I-90 / Hamilton. This will be followed by two additional ramp meters at Division EB and Division WB. The US-195 ramp meter was disabled at the start of the pandemic, but has since been re-activated ~2 weeks ago due to observed platooning on the ramps, and reduced gaps between vehicles.

City – Staff was working remotely last 6-7 weeks, with exception to signal technicians that remained on staggered shifts. There has been preparation of potential EOC activation to help cover regional needs in event of spread of illness affecting staff availability. Believe there will be more support for Data collection projects due to events surrounding pandemic and protests. All staff has returned to normal signal operations.

County – Maintenance crews and projects not impacted by pandemic, but county staff were offered the ability for teleworking where applicable. On-going traffic revisions pending due to impacts related to pandemic. Bigelow Gulch project anticipated to be complete by end of August. The 2nd phase of the Geiger project is expected to start soon.

SRTC – Sabrina and Eve met with Monica Harwood (WSDOT) and Jim Peterson (DKS) to implement a statewide TSMO plan. This is anticipated to have some impact on current policies and operations of TMCs across the regions. US-195 / Division Connect Study underway and SRTC is looking to different ways to engage the public. A new grant has been submitted to develop more electrification stations for the Spokane region. Federal funding obligations anticipated to be used on Bigelow gulch project by July 31st.

7) Future Agenda Items

- a) Next Executive Meeting, July 15, 2020. Reviewing possibility of different platform such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom to host the session. **Following the meeting, the date for the Executive Board meeting was changed to August 19th due to Furlough requirements in July.**

8) Adjournment: 2:25 PM