

## GACC September 7, 2022 Community Meeting Minutes

Gwen opened the meeting by announcing September is Transportation Month. In observance, the meeting this evening will focus on transportation issues. Jon Larsen, the Director of Transportation, attended on Zoom and Joe Taylor, the Transportation Master Plan Project Manager, attended in person to tell us about Salt Lake City's Transportation Master Plan. Dave Alderman, the GACC Representative to the Transportation Advisory Board, moderated the presentation. Gwen asked for questions to be handwritten or in the chat. Joe explained the Transportation Department is responsible for the design and management of right of way, defined as sidewalk to sidewalk. SLC Engineering designs the specific infrastructure. SLC Streets does the striping and resurfacing. Salt Lake City works with UDOT as a partner on the state roads, such as 700 East, State Street, Redwood, and Foothill. They also work with UTA, which pays taxes into the SLC system and runs the buses and trains. Transportation does the long-range and strategic planning. The City wrote the current master plan in 1996, and it is time for an update. The new plan is not a laundry list of projects. It is the goals and values of the City and the public. They try to take advantage of futuristic things like scooters and rides on demand, but they do not let them control the plan. The plan is not focused on vehicles and is not driven by executives. They want the plan to be community-driven and policy-focused. They now have a 9-person paid advisory committee representing the community. They focus on equity, active transportation, safety, parking, technology, mobility, street design, right of way, sustainability, air quality, storm water, east-west connection, and land use. Joe hopes to have a draft out by early winter. Jon said there are a lot of partnerships involved in transportation, and they work closely with regional partners, like the Wasatch Front Regional Council, which does long-range planning for the whole area. They work with federal partners for funding opportunities.

### Questions:

- When will the GACC see the Master Plan and be able to provide community input? Go to the website to review all the work done and sign up for update emails.
- What is the best way to advocate for parking and pedestrian, motorcycles, and scooter safety? Advocate for yourself by emailing that website. They are willing to work with the community to make customized changes to meet the needs of an area.
- Who is responsible for maintaining the sidewalks? The property owner. But the plan does discuss the sidewalks.
- What is Livable Streets, and when is it coming to the Avenues? The City is currently working on the traffic calming plan for Capitol Hill, which was determined to have the highest need. They just received funding for a traffic calming staff of 4 people. Current hiring now so they can be responsive to needs and increase safety. They are testing some things like circular concrete planters. Go to [livablestreets.com](http://livablestreets.com) for the toolbox plan.
- What is happening with the 20 mph speed limits? Not on our major streets such as Virginia, I, E, and 11th. The hope is this will bring down speed on residential streets. A driver caught going 40 MPH will be charged going double the speed limit and could lose his/her license.
- What is happening with the Virginia Street Reconstruction? The City did an online survey in the spring with a good response. They are reviewing that information now. The project will go out for bid in 2023 and construction in 2024. They will share information with the GACC as they develop the plans.
- Will there be a Hawk Light on Butler? Yes, the City will put in that pedestrian light soon.
- There were several questions about the UTA buses rerouting. Jon explained that the City has nothing to do with UTA routes.
- What is the difference between the Community Advisory Board and the Transportation Advisory Board? The Transportation Advisory Board is volunteer, and the Community Advisory Board members are paid so it can be a better cross-section of residents.

- What is the City doing about the Gondola? Because it is not in Salt Lake City, there is nothing they can do about it.

### **Announcements:**

- The Avenues Street Fair will be this Saturday, September 10, on 2nd Ave between G and L from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Details are on our Website, Facebook, and Instagram. Hopefully, you are already signed up for a volunteer shift. Stop by the GACC Booth to say hello. We will be on the south side of 2nd Avenue between J and K.
- The Chair has received a lot of complaints about dogs off-leash. Salt Lake County requires dogs to be on a six-foot leash, unless otherwise noted, like in off-lease dog parks. Salt Lake County Animal Services enforce these laws, and owners failing to keep their dogs on leash may face a civil citation or a Class B misdemeanor. It's always best to assume your dog needs to be on a leash unless you see signage saying otherwise or you are on your private property. Salt Lake City has 19 off-lease dog parks.

**GACC Nomination Committee Report** – Chair Dave Alderman and committee, Danial Gaffin, Robyn Christensen & Phil Carroll. Their task is to prepare a slate of candidates for the November GACC election. This year the chair-elect resigned, so they had to find a replacement. They have selected Merrilee Morgan as the chair-elect for 2023 and Jurphy as the nominee for the chair-elect for 2023. The committee is still looking for a secretary and additional board members. Let Dave know if you want to be on the board.

**Salt Lake City Trail Community Engagement** – Tyler Fonarow from SLC Trails and Dave Foster from Alta Planning and Design gave a presentation about how the community can provide feedback on the Trailhead Infrastructure Improvement Projects. They just started the survey regarding what amenities people want to see at the trailheads, such as benches, restrooms, signage, and bike parking. Go to <https://www.slc.gov/parks/slc-foothills-trail-system-plan-trailhead-improvements-phase-i-design-phase> to take the survey until September 30. Tyler announced they are working with Public Utilities to create a Letter of Understanding regarding the I Street Bike Park. <https://www.slc.gov/parks/i-street-bike-park-guidelines/>. They will establish a Shareholders Working Group to create a plan to manage the park. The question was asked about the timeline for trailhead improvements. Tyler explained the construction will happen in 2023 because it will be part of the 2023 budget.

### **Community Reports:**

- **Captain Scott Winkler, Fire Department Report**, came with his crew from station #4 on 11th Avenue. He reported a below-average number of wildfires in the foothills this year. There is another month of fire season, so they are monitoring closely. There has been an uptick in hiker rescues, some caused by dehydration, but they have not had any house fires. They are doing individual home assessments. You can schedule one at [www.slc.gov/fire](http://www.slc.gov/fire). The first week of Oct is Fire Prevention Week. There will be an open house at fire station #7, at 273 North 1000 West, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm on Oct 6.
- **Jen Dailey-Provost, State House District 24 (soon to be 22)** - There is currently a proposal for a new state flag design. Go to [flag.utah.gov](http://flag.utah.gov) to see the 19 finalists. Voting is open through October. Elections are two months from tomorrow. Remember to vote for the whole ballot. Jen asked everyone to remember to drive 20 MPH. Jen responded to the earlier question about the Gondola. There will be a \$50 million request to the Legislature for the Gondola. Jen will be voting in opposition. Jen is involved in Revenue and Taxation, Health and Human Services, and Government Operation (Election Law). She serves on the state Medical Cannabis Working Group as a patient advocate. Jen is looking at ways to improve the state's mental health care crisis intervention plan, so police do not have to respond to mental health crises. She was working on a bill for abortion modifications regarding police reporting, air quality, support for skilled trades,

funding for the behavior response commission, insurance for adults with disabilities, and homelessness prevention. Question about how the Labor Commission handles work discrimination complaints? The Legislature has no state oversight at the Department of Labor. Is looking forward to seeing everyone at the Street Fair.

- **Katherine Kennedy - SLC School Board** – The board has been in the news because of the ongoing issues with the superintendent. They are currently in a closed-door mediation session with him. The board is almost unified, with six people supporting the policies. Kathrine believes the School Board does not discriminate against people of color. They hired the superintendent for diversity. Please remember school is in session and to slow down.
- **Mayor's Office Liaison - Hannah Barton** – There is a new outreach strategy for the Community Outreach Team to connect with the community. Hannah is going to 11th Avenue Park on September 13. She will have a booth at the Street Fair.
- **Library - Mary Maloney** – The library will also have a booth at the Street Fair. They are excited to talk to people about the library. They are also happy in-person programs for children such as Book Babies have resumed. They are celebrating the Freedom to Read during Banned Book Week.
- **LDS Hospital** – See the newsletter for information about the Free Drive-Thru Flu Shot Clinic on October 12 and the Active Shooter Drill on Oct.17.

#### **Open Forum:**

- **Ashley Anderson, School Board Candidate** - Ashley announced the other candidate withdrew, so she will likely be the elected school board member.
- **Phil Carroll**- Announced the residents of Canyon Road are doing a small cleanup event of the area around the entrance to Memory Grove in October.
- **Scott Carrier** - Lives on 9th and J along the new 209 UTA Route 209 and thinks it is a severe problem. The buses are empty. He spoke with Eric Callison at UTA and Jon Larsen at the City, and they agreed to an interview. Scott is a reporter, and he wanted to uncover the history of the changes. The biggest problem is that 6th Avenue is not compliant with ADA rules. It would take a lot of funds and time to bring it to compliance. During the comment period, riders were against the new changes. They liked the #6 because it took them to the hospital and the university. Ninety percent were firmly against the change. He believes a possible solution is to bring back #6. If it is an established route, it does not need to meet ADA compliance. Please send emails to UTA and Chris Wharton.
- **Peggy Battin** – She does not like the 209 on her street because it is noisy, frequent, and starts at 4:15 am. Once she saw four passengers, but she has never seen more than that. Route 6 took thousands of people to the hospital and thousands of students to the U. The new route is nonfunctional and uses tax dollars. She believes there was very little communication with the public.
- **Carol Fudyma** – The critical issue now is the noise of the large empty buses running every 15 minutes. She can hear the brakes and the computer-generated voice announcing stops. Her house shakes, she can't sleep, and she can't open her windows. It is affecting her mental health. Carol believes we need electric buses that run less frequently and for fewer hours. Carol is frustrated because UTA is not listening to the resident, and they give no response to complaints.
- **David Berg** – He lives one block away and can hear the noise of the buses. He believes they are dangerous. He is concerned about safety, mainly when snow is on the street. David would like to see the #6 reinstated or the bus on demand started on the Avenues. He believes this would be a better solution than large one-passenger buses.