

**ARCHES HOTSPOT REGION COORDINATING COMMITTEE
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 7, 2020**

The Arches Hotspot Region Coordinating Committee held its Public Engagement Meeting on the above date. Consistent with provisions of the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act, Utah Code Ann. § 54-2-207(4), the Arches Hotspot Region Coordinating Committee Chair has issued written determinations supporting the decision to convene electronic meetings of the Committee without a physical anchor location. Due to the health and safety risks related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and considering public health orders limiting in-person gatherings, the Arches Hotspot Coordinating Committee will continue to hold meetings by electronic means. An anchor location was not provided. An audio recording of the meeting is archived at <http://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html>. A video recording is archived at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI00z0Zgdmz4y1FoI0l7CJA>.

Regular Meeting—Call to Order and Attendance: Committee Chair Curtis Wells called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:06 PM. Participating remotely were Committee Members Curtis Wells, Karen Guzman-Newton, Wes Shannon, Evan Clapper, Kalen Jones, and Mike Duncan. Committee Member Jaylyn Hawks was absent. City staff participating remotely were Assistant City Manager Carly Castle, City Engineer Chuck Williams, City Recorder Sommar Johnson, and Deputy Recorder Kerri Kirk. County Staff participating remotely was Planning & Zoning Director Mila Dunbar-Irwin. Four members of the public participated remotely.

00:14

Introduction and Overview of Hotspot Process

Committee Chair Wells reviewed the history of the Recreational Hotspot Program and the funding criteria. He also reviewed the history of the initial stakeholder committee which selected the downtown parking structure project, dispersed parking, and a bypass concept study. He outlined the creation of the Arches Hotspot Region Coordinating Committee and the collaboration with UDOT that has led to the current potential projects. He said the Committee will finish the initial project selection in the next two weeks, and the final project package will be submitted to the Utah Transportation Commission.

03:18

Presentation of Off-Main Street and Dispersed Parking Concept

City Engineer Williams summarized the off-Main Street dispersed parking project. He said these are concept-level designs. He explained the driveway accesses, median parking, and parallel parking. He said UDOT has agreed that 6% of the budget can be designated for landscaping. He outlined the Emma Boulevard dispersed parking project, and the cost estimates for both projects.

13:54

Presentation of Transit Shuttle Concept

Committee Member Guzman-Newton shared a brief overview of the transit shuttle concept. She reviewed the two potential types of transit: a hotel hopper and a local valley loop. She discussed the transit program concerns and possible solutions. She outlined the timeline and goals for presenting the project to the Utah Transportation Commission.

22:06

Presentation of Spanish Valley Trail Concept

County Planning & Zoning Director Dunbar-Irwin presented the Spanish Valley Trail story map. She reviewed the health and environmental benefits of the trail and the alternative path designs. There was discussion about permitting e-bikes to use the trail and the concerns regarding the low public turnout for this meeting.

Arches Hotspot Region Coordinating Committee Transportation Concept Ideas

Judy Powers said she hoped the meeting would be postponed which would have increased public attendance. She said e-bikes are controversial, so she would not assume that everyone feels the same way. She said she is thrilled about the transit possibility. She said we absolutely need something south of town that is safe for bikes, pedestrians, and equestrians.

Committee Member Duncan said a good effort was made to encourage public engagement for this meeting. Committee Member Jones said there will be a second in-person public engagement meeting and there is a survey for people to provide input as well.

Ms. Powers said the ideas are great and she is thrilled that the Committee is open to hearing ideas. Committee Member Shannon inquired if Ms. Powers had any input on the downtown dispersed parking area. She said she missed the first part of the meeting, but she could comment on the information she saw from previous meetings. She said she really likes the medians and the idea of slowing down traffic. She said she likes making things more pedestrian and bike-friendly. She inquired about RV parking in the double medians. Committee Member Duncan said there were several reasons why it is not included. Ms. Powers asked if there was somewhere else for RV parking. Committee Member Guzman-Newton said the transit project could encourage people to park their RV's and use the transit system instead.

Ms. Powers inquired if the dispersed parking projects have changed much since the meeting two or three weeks ago. Committee Member Guzman-Newton said the plans have not changed much since then. She said it is an opportunity to slow traffic down on the side streets, offer shade and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists, and to enhance economic development.

Ms. Powers asked about the debate regarding trees in the median. Committee Member Duncan said there might be areas for trees to be placed away from sewer and water lines. Ms. Powers asked how the trees would be watered.

Matt Hancock said the parallel parking might have space for oversized parking if Council will permit certain types of vehicles to park in that space.

Ms. Powers said Rotary Park has a very bizarre parking lot down in the bottom. She said it made her realize that signage might be helpful.

Committee Chair Wells requested a review of the public engagement efforts schedule. Assistant City Manager Castle said the survey is still open until a week from Friday. She said there is an in-person town hall scheduled for next Wednesday at 6 PM and there will be another Committee meeting next week. She said City Council would like to have a meeting about the Committee's progress. She said the joint City Council and County Commission meeting will take place either on the week of October 20 or October 26. Committee Chair Wells said he wants to see the results of the in-person town hall next week.

Ms. Powers inquired about the survey. Assistant City Manager Castle said one survey has already been completed; the current survey was released last Friday and is available on the City website under the Hotspot Committee webpage. Ms. Powers asked if the survey has the plans available for each project. Assistant City Manager Castle said there are a lot of questions about each project on the survey. She said, if more specific information is needed, the Committee can make that available.

Ms. Powers inquired if there is enough money for all three projects. Committee Chair Wells said the Committee will not know the total amount of funding until after the projects have been vetted by UDOT staff and leadership and then recommended to the Utah Transportation Commission. Ms. Powers asked if all three projects can be presented. Committee Chair Wells said yes. He said the parking project should be a savings versus the original parking structure. He said the amount for all three projects will be very close to the number of funds that were awarded last time. Ms. Powers thanked everyone for doing all this work because the garage was horrific.

Committee Member Guzman-Newton said she emailed the survey to Ms. Powers. Committee Chair Wells said next week's meeting will finalize discussion on the multi-use pathway, and there will be an action item to approve the project concept package and the priority list of projects. He reviewed the upcoming meetings and the next steps.

Adjournment: Committee Chair Wells adjourned the meeting at 6:55 PM.