Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting
Summary of Meeting Notes
November 17, 2006-1:30 PM 6th Floor Rice-Eccles Stadium

In Attendance:

Steve Alder         Sunnyside East Community Council
Alma Allred         U of U/Commuter Services
Robin Carbaugh      Emigration District Coalition
Tami Cleveland      University Facilities Planning
Matthew Dahl        “This Is The Place” Heritage Park
Jake Green          U of U/Commuter Services
Dave Huber          Utah Transit Authority
Michael Lemmert     VA Medical Center
Mike Perez          U of U/AVP Facilities Management
Joe Perrin          University of Utah/Transportation Advisory Board
Ellen Reddick       Bonneville Hills Community Council
Jennifer Reed       U of U/Administrative Support
Hal Johnson         Utah Transit Authority
Rick James          U of U/University Student Apartments
Jim Jenkin          Howard Hughes Medical Institute @ U of U
Gary Poll           LDS Institute
Kevin Young         Salt Lake City, Transportation Division
Kris Peterson       Utah Department of Transportation, Traffic Operations
Norm Chambers       U of U/AVP Auxiliary Services
Shaina Miron        Utah Transit Authority, Rideshare Coordinator
John Vermaan        U of U/U. Student Apartments Resident Council

I.
Norm Chambers welcomed everyone. Each person introduced him/herself to the group. Norm asked those in attendance if there were any changes or suggestions to the September 15, 2006 meeting notes. They were approved and are posted on the committee website at: http://www.parking.utah.edu/committees/TTC/index.html.

II.
Michael Lemmert reported on the VA’s plans for the development of its property. The VA has entered into a ground lease agreement with the Boyer Company for the development if its property on the west side of Foothill at the intersection with Wakara Way. The development will consist of an office building and research center for rehabilitation for veterans with artificial limbs. A federal grant was received for the new research center. In addition, the Dialysis unit that is currently located in the main hospital, will be moved to the new building. The upper two floors will be allocated to office space. The VA anticipates that there will not be any increase in the total population of the VA complex, because the majority of services and office space in the new facility
already exists in the complex. Boyer would like to include a bank and restaurant in the development. There are no details yet, except that the restaurant will not be a fast-food chain and Boyer has not been able to get any commitments yet. Construction could begin as early as March 2007, and could be completed as early as 2008, or as late as 2010.

III.
Kevin Young, Salt Lake City Transportation, gave the group an update on the traffic analysis they conducted on key intersections in Research Park. At Wakara and Arapeen, traffic counts are up, but have not reached the level to warrant the installation of a traffic signal. During rush hour, the traffic is significant, and close to meeting the criteria. They plan to take a look at the area again in the future. The Chipeta and Wakara Way intersection also did not meet criteria for a signaled intersection, (the numbers were less than at Wakara and Arapeen). Kevin proposed that the city and Research Park look at the option of installing round-a-bouts at these intersections. The group discussed the viability of that proposal. At this time, the City has no plans to rebuild roads in Research Park for the next 20 years. Therefore, there is no funding available that could tie into a construction project to install the roundabouts. Kevin estimates that each roundabout will cost approximately $300k. Kevin also discussed a new signal concept that the city and UDOT are considering for the intersection at Sunnyside and Arapeen that may help to reduce traffic congestion at peak hours. The committee will receive updates as plans are made to test this new system on a corridor in the city. The timing of the current signal has been modified to allow longer periods of time for motorists to make a left hand turn into Research Park off of Sunnyside Avenue.

IV.
Mike Perez updated the group on the Campus Master Plan. Skidmore, Owens, & Merrill (SOM), out of San Francisco, have been selected to complete the project. In January, a kick-off meeting with the Steering Committee and SOM will take place. Mike fully intends that the plan will interface with the Traffic & Transportation Planning group, the Community Forum, and other groups on campus to develop a comprehensive plan for campus growth that speaks to both the academic and business strategies.

V.
Hal Johnson updated the committee on the progress of the Foothill Corridor Study. The study will focus on Foothill Boulevard between Parley’s Way and the University of Utah. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is near completion and scheduled to be ready by the end of November. The RFP will most likely be issued in January or February. The selection will be completed by March 2007. The next step is to put together an interagency agreement between the parties (UTA, Salt Lake City, UDOT, UofU and the WFRC). Hal will update the committee on the progress in January, 2007.

VI.
Mike Perez informed the group that the University’s President, Michael Young, recently met with community members. In the meeting, the community members urged him to
support the development of mass transit in the east bench of Salt Lake City. President Young has sent letters to both John Inglish of UTA, and Mayor Rocky Anderson to encourage this development and express his support.

VII.
Norm Chambers thanked everyone for coming. The next meeting is scheduled for 1:30pm, Friday, January 19, 2007 on the 6th floor of Rice-Eccles Stadium Tower.