

TRCC Advisory Board  
May 7, 2009  
Salt Lake County Government Center, N2003  
12:30 pm

Minutes

**Citizen input:** none

**Approval of minutes from last meeting**

**Reports for board members:** none

**Discussion of by-laws & terms of appointment:**

The board confirmed that COG had reappointed the Mayors on January 8, 2009, for another two years. The board requested the Council reappoint Visilios Priskos for another two-year term.

**Election of chair & vice-chair:**

Mayor Cullimore was nominated for the position of chair, and the board approved unanimously. Mayor Wall was nominated for the position of vice-chair, and the board approved unanimously.

**Report on the TRCC fund and projections for 2010 and 2011:**

Darrin Casper presented the updated fund projections. Revenue projections are substantially lower than previously projected. Even though the Utah economy continues to fare better than the national economy and Salt Lake County's economy is being bolstered by a number of large private and public construction projects, car rental and transient room taxes are highly dependent on the national economy and thus volatile. The revenue change between 2007 & 2009 is -\$2.57 million. The revised projection for car rental tax is -\$2.5 million, the same level it was in 2005. Additionally, two expense items were added since the last presentation, the Sandy amphitheater contribution & Cultural Celebration Center contribution.

Revenue projections through 2012 should be viewed as realistic, but aggressive. Darrin projects that over the next 3 to 4 years, the tax will rise back to the 1% annual growth line, though this could be hampered by lower rental rates. Transient room tax is projected to follow a similar trajectory. Restaurant tax revenue is holding steady and Darrin projects a continuation of the historical 5% growth rate, assuming no changes to the tax. Assuming the projections are correct, we will begin to see a \$2 million per year structural surplus in the fund between 2012 & 2014. In 2015, a significant amount of debt service drops off, increasing the surplus to \$8 million per year.

Until 2012, the fund is structurally unbalanced and will require further budget adjustments, which will primarily be seen in changes to the fund balance transfers. Previous reductions in transfers to the Center for the Arts and Salt Palace were intended to continue the parks & recreation transfer to the General Fund, which is in trouble. It is possible that due to additional budget cuts, the transfers may be even less for 2010.

During the presentation, it was discussed that because TRCC funds were used to purchase the properties for the Capital Theater expansion, the rents from the Benihana and Blue Iguana should be in the TRCC fund. Darrin agreed that the rents should be included in the revenue figures for the TRCC fund. The County is in the process of getting this on the market this year, as Facilities is not comfortable managing the property and there is concern about it being a potential liability. Several board members indicated a possible desire to keep the property for other uses and Visilios Priskos was asked to prepare a proposal to keep the property.

Mayor Cullimore suggested there are two ways the board could approach the 2010 budget question, 1) a proactive approach where the board outlines their priorities or 2) wait until the County has taken a first cut and then respond. Because there are no additional discretionary funds for projects until 2012, Mayor Cullimore suggested the board focus on weighing in on the necessary adjustments to balance the fund and look at the future recommendation process (weighing new projects vs. maintenance of existing assets). There was a consensus opinion that more focus was needed on maintenance of existing assets. The board generally agreed to wait and see the County's proposal.

**Presentation of process-related elements of the Cultural Facilities Master Plan:**

Appointed Mayor Seghini and Visilios Priskos to the Cultural Facilities Task Force  
Presentation forwarded to the next meeting

**Begin discussion of methods for recommending TRCC projects:**

Discussion forwarded to the next meeting

Meeting adjourned.