

POLICY COMMITTEE
KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (K.A.T.S.)
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (M.P.O.)
MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2008

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Grimsley	Aroma Park
Mayor Green	Kankakee
Mayor Kent	Bradley
Mr. Paukovitz	Representing Illinois Department of Transportation
Mr. Kruse	Kankakee County
Mr. Hinderliter	River Valley METRO Mass Transit District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Scholl, Mr. Piekarczyk, Mr. Van Mill, Mr. Lammey, Mr. Martin and Mr. Greenstreet, Kankakee County; Mr. Videgar and Ms. Pillion, IDOT; Mr. Morgan; Dr. Gingerich, Bradley; Mr. Brooks, Aroma Park; Mr. McBurney, Bourbonnais; Jason Licon, Greater Kankakee Airport Authority; and Rob Hoffmann, River Valley METRO Mass Transit District

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kent called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

Mayor Grimsley moved approval of the October 24, 2007 minutes. Mr. Kruse seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

AGENDA

Mr. Lammey asked to add "Police Training" to New Business. Mr. Kruse moved approval of the proposed Agenda. Mayor Grimsley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey stated that a \$10,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation to the Kankakee County Highway Department for an accident location project needed to be amended into the **FY 2008 Transportation Improvement Program**. Mayor Green moved approval of the amendment, and Mayor Grimsley seconded. Unanimous vote.

AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2008 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey stated that funding needed to be transferred from one line item to another in the **FY 2008 Unified Work Program**. He further stated that the amendment was revenue neutral. Mayor Green moved approval of the amendment, and Mayor Grimsley seconded. Unanimous vote.

OBLIGATED PROJECTS LISTING

Mr. Lammey reviewed changes that had been suggested to the Obligated Projects Listing.

MPO PLANNING FUNDS

Mr. Van Mill reported that the Illinois Legislature had passed a funding package for MPOs in Illinois, and that Kankakee County had received \$45,700 in funding to be used for general planning issues. He stated that Planning Department staff suggested that the planning funds be used for projects approved by the MPO Policy Committee. He gave the suggested project rules, and answered questions from Policy Committee members.

Mayor Kent asked how projects were to be judged and approved, and suggested that the projects be judged on merit, rather than on membership in the MPO. Mayor Green made that motion, and Mayor Grimsley seconded. Unanimous vote. Mayor Green suggested that the 5 points suggested in the MPO Planning Funds memo be used as the basis of judging projects, and Mr. Kruse seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

Mayor Green moved that suggested projects for the first year (FY 08) come only from member communities of the MPO. Mayor Grimsley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Lammey stated that the proposed first project under the MPO Planning Funds would be a joint land use/economic development/transportation project for the Greater Kankakee Airport Authority, and that the City of Kankakee, Kankakee County and the Airport Authority were proposed partners in the study. He stated that the proposal is to fund the study with \$20,000 on MPO Planning Fund money, \$20,000 from the City of Kankakee, and \$5,000 each from Kankakee and from the Greater Kankakee Airport Authority. He stated that the Kankakee County Planning Department intends to staff the study and bill the MPO Planning Fund for that staff time.

MPO SIGNATURE POLICY

Mr. Lammey stated that other MPOs in Illinois have a policy that the Chairman of the Policy Committee can sign documents for all the members, and that he would encourage the Policy Committee to adopt such a policy, to avoid having all members sign every document. Mayor Grimsley moved that the Chairman of the Policy Committee, along with an Acting Secretary, be authorized to sign documents on behalf of the entire Policy Committee. Mayor Green seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CARDINAL DRIVE

Dr. Gingerich stated that there had been a public meeting on the project, and that a revised project report had been sent to IDOT. Mr. Videgar stated that the project timeline shows the target date of a bid letting in May, but that there would be no letting in May, so the project target letting is now June.

6000 N. ROAD

Mr. McBurney stated that the project had been delayed slightly due to survey issues.

BROOKMONT BOULEVARD VIADUCT

Mr. McBurney stated that the project had been delayed slightly due to survey issues.

RIVERFRONT TRAIL

Mr. McBurney stated that the project report is in progress.

IDOT REPORT

Mr. Paukovitz gave the report attached to these minutes.

UPDATE ON METRO

Mr. Hinderliter reported that METRO was giving free rides today, due to the weather conditions. He stated that the transit bill passage would mean increased service to all communities, and thanked Representative Dugan for her efforts toward the passage of the bill. He stated that the funding in the bill still needs to be appropriated for increased service to begin.

Mr. Paukovitz asked the implications of the free senior issue for METRO. Mr. Hinderliter stated that the bill provides for free senior rides on the fixed route system for all transit properties in Illinois, including METRO.

UPDATE ON THE COMMUTER RAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Mr. Lammey stated that the Task Force had approved the Phase II report at their December meeting. He stated that the next step in the process would be to apply for Alternatives Analysis funding, but that it had been decided to wait for at least a year before beginning that process.

TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey stated that crash data is being compiled for the years 2004 through 2007. He stated that the data has been turned over to the Highway Department for GIS application.

HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mr. Piekarczyk stated that the Technical Advisory Committee has more work to do on this subject before bringing it to the Policy Committee.

POLICE TRAINING

Mr. Greenstreet stated that the accident location effort has uncovered some issues with the accident report forms being filled out by local police. He stated that Planning Department staff has arranged with IDOT Bureau of Traffic Safety for training of local police on the accident forms, and that the training sessions will be held at the Sheriff's Department on four days in March, with two classes each day. He stated that invitation letters to local police departments will be going out in the near future.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Chairman Kent stated that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2008

at 11:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kruse moved adjournment, and Mr. Paukovitz seconded. Chairman Kent adjourned the meeting at 11:50 A.M.

IDOT PROJECT STATUS - KANKAKEE URBAN AREA

NOTE:

**Targeted contract lettings of projects cited below are
Contingent upon approval of the Governor and allocation
Of funds by the General Assembly**

1. Proposed I-57 interchange at 6000 N Road

The FHWA found the Access Justification Report satisfactory and thereby on April 19, 2006 granted concept approval for an interchange. Concept approval constitutes the FHWA's determination that the proposal is operationally acceptable. The FHWA's final approval of the access revision will be considered after approval of the Phase I engineering report and completion of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. The firm T.Y. Lyn International is the consultant selected to begin the phase I engineering study. Phase I engineering will take an estimated 18 to 24 months to complete. IDOT held a public information meeting on January 30, 2007. Two or three different at-grade railroad crossing designs will be presented to the ICC this spring.

2. Armour Road: US Route 45/52 to CNIC RR Bridge

The Phase II study for this project has been completed. This project cannot proceed until funding for land acquisition and construction becomes available. The village of Bourbonnais has given consideration in assuming jurisdiction of the road upon its improvement.

3. IL 17 & US 45/52:

Was on the August letting, traffic signals are to be improved at 17 different locations along state routes in the city of Kankakee. The modernization of signals includes new fiber optic, controllers, LED lighting, emergency pre-emption units, etc. Signal hardware has been ordered. Actual signal work will begin this spring.