

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (K.A.T.S.)
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (M.P.O.)
MINUTES
January 25, 2006

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Paukovitz	Illinois Department of Transportation
Mr. Brooks	Aroma Park
Mr. Mayes	Bradley
Mr. Piekarczyk	Kankakee County
Mr. McBurney	Bourbonnais
Mr. Hoffmann	River Valley METRO

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Van Mill and Mr. Lammey, Kankakee County; Ms. Durbin, IDOT; Mayor Grimsley, Aroma Park; Mayor Green, Kankakee; Mr. DiPalma, FHWA; Mr. Thomas, ROC Net; Mr. Lang and Mr. Mestelle, IDOT; Mr. Boehmer, Journal; Mayor Latham and Mr. Regel, METRO.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Piekarczyk called the meeting to order at 10:32 A.M.

MINUTES

Mr. Paukovitz moved approval of the October 26, 2005 minutes. Mr. Mayes seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

AGENDA

Mr. Mayes moved approval of the Agenda, and Mr. Brooks seconded. Unanimous vote.

FY 2006 TIP AMENDMENTS

Mr. Lammey stated that there were no amendments at this time.

FY 2006 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT

Mr. Lammey stated that a staff member left the Planning Department in November, and that has necessitated an amendment to the FY 2006 UWP to shift responsibilities among staff members. He stated that the amendment is revenue neutral, and involves shifting funding between work elements only. Mr. Paukovitz moved that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend approval of the submitted amendment to the Policy Committee, and Mr. McBurney seconded. The vote was unanimous.

MPO – TRANSIT AGREEMENT

Mr. Lammey stated that the most recent review of the River Valley METRO Mass Transit District by the Federal Transit Administration found that there was no agreement between the

MPO and METRO, and asked that this situation be resolved. Mr. Lammey stated that the agreement distributed among members was modeled on the agreement in the Chicago area between the MPO (CATS) and the various transit agencies in the area. Mr. Hoffmann stated that he believed the proposed agreement would resolve the situation with the FTA. Mr. Mayes moved that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend approval of the proposed agreement to the Policy Committee, and Mr. Paukovitz seconded. The vote was unanimous.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey asked that Mr. DiPalma explain the recently adopted program to the Technical Advisory Committee. Mr. DiPalma stated that the recently passed SAFETEA-LU federal transportation legislation approved an earmarked program entitled “Safe Routes to Schools”, and that each state would designate a staff person responsible for that program. He stated that the responsibility for administering the program would be with each state.

Mr. Lammey distributed a program summary prepared by the League of Illinois Bicyclists, and stated that he would arrange a presentation by that group whenever the program details were announced.

INTRODUCTION OF IDOT PERSONNEL

Mr. Paukovitz introduced Mr. Mestelle, Bureau Chief of Program Development, and Mr. Lang, new Bureau Chief of Local Roads to the Technical Advisory Committee.

METRO WIRELESS INITIATIVE

Chairman Piekarczyk asked Mr. Regel of METRO to briefly explain the presentation that would be given to the Policy Committee. Mr. Regel stated that METRO became interested in the provision of internet capability for the commuter service to University Park, and had been exploring that issue. Any provision of any level of service would also create a starting point for the urbanized area to build from. This would allow services to not only benefit the riders of the transit district, but community members in general, public safety, public utilities, tourism and business concerns. He referenced the October 26 demonstration that was held in Bourbonnais.

He stated that METRO is seriously considering the commitment of funding to an engineering study to determine what would be needed to provide wireless internet, and has received a proposal from ROC Net to provide that engineering study. He briefly presented the benefits, to the transportation district, of a wireless umbrella over the routes that METRO runs as well as for the urbanized area under the influence of the MPO. He stated that ROC Net would make a presentation to the Policy Committee on the potentials of an urbanized wireless network, and its uses.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Brooks moved, on behalf of the City of Kankakee, that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend to the Policy Committee the request for a Phase I Preliminary Engineering study for the Interstate 57 Exit 312 area. Mr. Mayes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Chairman Piekarczyk stated that a Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for 11:00 A.M. He further stated that the next Technical Advisory Committee is now scheduled for March 22, 2006 at 10:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Piekarczyk adjourned the meeting at 10:55 A.M.