

MINUTES

KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Kankakee County Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room,
189 E. Court Street, Kankakee, IL 60901

April 17, 2014

IN ATTENDANCE

Members:

Mr. Washington, Mr. Howell, Mr. Paarlberg, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Bayston, Ms. Cowhig, Mr. Stejkowski, Mr. Payton, Mr. M. Blanchette, Mr. Bergdahl, Mr. C. Blanchette

Others:

Mr. Lammey, Mr. Greenstreet, and Mr. Olson, Kankakee County; and Mr. Meyer, URS

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Howell was interim chairman in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Stejkowski moved to approve the December 12, 2013 minutes, seconded by Mr. Payton. Motion carried. Mr. Payton moved to approve the February 12, 2014 minutes, seconded by Mr. Bayston. Motion carried.

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mr. Meyer gave an update on the current status of the Long Range Transportation Plan. URS Corp. is currently preparing a draft of the existing conditions analysis and future year (2040) conditions analysis. He also said input from the Riverfront Trails Committee and Metro Transit would be used in the Long Range Plan. He encouraged promoting non-motorized modes of transportation to be considered for the Long Range Plan and also reminded the subcommittee that future projects receiving federal funding would have to be included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and will also need to be in the Long Range Transportation Plan. He also mentioned that Kankakee would become an independent region in the state for an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture study. Also, as a part of congestion management, travel time surveys will be performed to address peak hour congestion in the region.

Mr. Howell mentioned that the bridge of Larry Power Rd. has the planned multi-use path on the wrong side of the road to be convenient for trail users and that the current condition of the pathway at the IL-50 and I-57 interchange doesn't have convenient access, either. Mr. Stejkowski also expressed concern for the safety for the current bicyclists and pedestrians on Larry Power Rd. Mr. Greenstreet reminded everyone that the pathway at the I-57 interchange was part of the IDOT project and that Bradley hasn't been awarded the funding to complete the trail on either side of the interchange project, but that they should be proceeding soon. Mr. Washington raised concern about the new LED traffic signals because they cannot generate enough heat to melt any snow accumulation that obscures the traffic lights.

Mr. Meyer's presentation mentioned capitalizing on the Illiana Expressway project to enhance economic development in Kankakee County. Mr. Howell asked if there was a Plan B for truck traffic if the Illiana Expressway project did not come to fruition. Mr. Bergdahl also posed questions regarding County Highway 9 (9000N Rd.) with continued access to Wilmington in Will County and if there was an alternate route for IL-102 planned with the construction of the Illiana Expressway. Mr. Bergdahl also asked if Will County was considering another bridge over the Kankakee River between Warner Bridge and IL-102. Mr. Meyer responded that URS Corp. is also working with Will County on their Long Range Plan and may be able to answer those questions in the future.

Mr. Meyer passed out current and future land use maps and asked for input on future land use and issues. In 2005 Kankakee County passed a comprehensive plan that future development in the county must be connected to municipal water and sewer. This ordinance guides future development closer to the urbanized area. While discussing future population growth, Mr. Jarvis said he expects many future residents to move to the county will be from the north and that is the area that will see more population growth. Mr. Howell said land use projections and issues have not likely changed since the 2030 Land Use Plan was created, but the new interchange at I-57 and 6000N Rd. may have an effect on that plan.

Mr. Lammey said there has not been a plan created yet that addresses the construction of the Illiana Expressway and how it will affect land use. Mr. Meyer reminded everyone that even though the Long Range Transportation Plan only covers the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA), that it should take the region as a whole into consideration. On the future land use maps shown, it was asked if Grant Park was expecting as much single dwelling residential land use in the future. Mr. Skimerhorn answered that the current growth is about 10 acres per year and that the current future land use projection was from the 1980s and overestimated. The Village is also currently completing a new Future Land Use Plan.

Mr. Meyer talked about the public input survey for the Long Range Transportation Plan. Everyone was asked to spread the word that the survey is available at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KATS2040MTP> and that everyone should complete it. The survey is not intended to be statistically valid, but to allow the public to share their thoughts and experiences regarding the County's transportation system. Mr. Meyer said there will be another survey in the fall when the Long Range Plan has advanced into further stages.

Mr. Meyer addressed the topic of non-motorized transportation by passing out maps showing existing and future trails and asked if the subcommittee could provide input on where there

might be important transportation connections and hindrances. He asked the subcommittee to provide input by drawing on the maps and to return them to him. Mr. Howell expressed concern that there are not enough places to make non-motorized transportation accessible or even possible because of the limited right of way and configuration of many of the arterial roadways in the area.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Land Use/Transportation Subcommittee is June 5, 2014 at 10:00 AM and will have the public hearing FY2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Long Range Transportation Plan Session #6.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Howell moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Paarlberg. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.