

MINUTES
KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE
APRIL 19, 2007

IN ATTENDANCE

Members:

Frank Koehler, Bud Bates, Mel Blanchette, Jeff Jarvis, Ralph Paarlberg, Bill Bukowski, Chad Miller and Dave Bergdahl

Others:

Steve Blanchette, Mike Lammey, Erik Rayman and Sarah Billadeau, Kankakee County; Kathy Meltzer, Representative Dugan's office; Mayor Nugent, Manteno; Mayor Kent, Bradley; Ted Fultz and Duane Lukkari, IDOT; and Don Jakesch, TY Lin

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Koehler called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

MINUTES

Mr. Bergdahl moved approval of the February 15, 2007 Minutes, and Mr. Miller seconded. Unanimous vote.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Koehler asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

6000 N. ROAD INTERCHANGE AND CORRIDOR STUDY

Chairman Koehler introduced Mr. Ted Fultz, IDOT Location and Environmental Studies Engineer for District 3 in Ottawa, who introduced the project team for the 6000 N. Road Interchange project of Duane Lukkari, Studies and Plans Unit Chief for IDOT, and Don Jakesch, of TY Lin, the consultant selected for the project. He stated that the team was currently in the beginning stage of a Phase I Study, which would take 18 to 24 months to complete.

Mr. Fultz stated that the central issue of the study is the Interchange at 6000 N. Road, and whether it is shown to be warranted. He stated that the other issues concern the logical termini of the project, which are U.S. 45/52 and Illinois Route 50. He further stated that the current thinking for the design of the Interchange is a diamond design, and presented the three alternatives (attached to these Minutes) currently under study for the connection of 6000 N. Road to Illinois Route 50.

Mr. Bates stated that the alternative that solves the connection and does not involve an at-grade crossing of the Canadian National tracks is Alternative 3. Mr. Fultz then presented the preliminary cost estimates of each of the alternatives, which show Alternative #1 and #3 costing approximately \$123,600,000 in 2012 dollars, and Alternative #2 costing approximately \$68,500,000 in 2012 dollars.

Mr. Paarlberg stated that Alternative #3 impacts the citizens living on the south side of 6000 N. Road and east of Illinois Route 50 the most. Mr. Fultz stated that each of the alternatives presents some issues for 6000 N. Road east of the current Illinois Route 50 alignment, and these all will be studied in the Phase I study.

Mayor Kent asked about the timing of the studies and construction on the project, and Mr. Fultz stated that funding for any study past the Phase I study is not committed, and that funding for construction is not committed, either.

Chairman Koehler thanked IDOT for their presentation.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BROCHURE AND PROJECT MAP

Mr. Lammey stated that a suggestion from a Subcommittee member has led to the development of a Transportation Planning brochure, with a Project Map as its centerfold. He distributed a sample, and stated that work is being done to produce such a document.

COMMUTER TRANSIT

Mr. Lammey asked Subcommittee members to mark their calendars for a special event on the evening of May 31 from 5 to 7 PM. He stated that a "Town Meeting" on the Commuter Transit study will be held at the Quality Inn, and that further details would be forthcoming. He briefed the Subcommittee on the progress of the study.

AIRPORT

Mr. Jarvis asked about the status of Bult Field, a runway constructed within the footprint of the South Suburban Airport. He asked about the airspace issues raised by this runway. Chairman Koehler responded that IDOT has not inspected the runway to declare it open.

CORRIDOR PRESERVATION

Mr. Lammey stated that the staff was on hold, waiting for the consultant hired by the Highway Department to deliver a final report.

ILLIANA AND CRITICAL COMMERCE AND COMMUNICATIONS CORRIDOR

Chairman Koehler stated that the Governor of Indiana is taking an aggressive stance on the privatization of roadways, and that a ring road around Indianapolis and the extension of the proposed Illiana into Indiana were two of the projects planned for private participation. He further stated that the ring road around Indianapolis appears to be dropped from further consideration, but that the Illiana extension seems to still be in consideration. He stated that recent newspaper articles indicate that the location for a potential Illiana seems to be headed

south, due to the problems with the initial alignment being built in Indiana.

Mr. Lammey stated that Kankakee County continues to make presentations on the Critical Commerce and Communications Corridor located at the Will County/Kankakee County border as a logical location for an east-west connector of I-57 and I-65. He stated that Kankakee County is having discussions with Will County officials to discuss this alternative.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Ms. Billadeau reported that the program is underway, and that the School Travel Plan is being compiled. She stated that this portion of the study will be completed in time to give the School Districts at least two months to work on project applications.

TRAFFIC CRASH LOCATION REPORTING

Mr. Lammey stated that all of the crash reports have been gathered for the years 2004 through 2007, and that work will soon begin on the geocoding of those reports. He stated that some agreements among County departments need to be worked out. Mayor Nugent asked if this work will result in local jurisdictions knowing what their most serious crash locations are, and Mr. Lammey stated that this was one of the goals of the process.

WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey stated that the changes to the 2007 Work Program as a result of the three Illinois Tomorrow grant applications not being approved were made and shown to Mr. Van Mill. He stated that Mr. Van Mill requested that the work element on cooperative efforts for the Greater Kankakee Airport Authority be left on the Work Program, and that preliminary conversations had been held with Airport Authority personnel on accomplishing that effort.

NEXT MEETING

Chairman Koehler stated that the next meeting date would be June 21, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bergdahl moved adjournment, and Mr. Miller seconded. Chairman Koehler adjourned the meeting at 10:53 A.M.

Alternate 1 consists of a Diamond Interchange and a Realignment of Illinois Route 50

ALTERNATE 1

LEGEND:

- C - COMMERCIAL SITE (IMPACTED)
- CD - COMMERCIAL SITE (DISPLACED)
- R - RESIDENCE (IMPACTED)
- RD - RESIDENCE (DISPLACED)
- H - POTENTIAL HAZAROUS MATERIALS SITE
- HC - CERCLIS SITE
- W - WETLAND
- A - POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL / HISTORICAL SITE
- EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
- PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY

PRELIMINARY
NOT APPROVED



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