

MINUTES
KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE
JULY 20, 2006

IN ATTENDANCE

Members:

Frank Koehler, Dave Bergdahl, Ralph Paarlberg, Chad Miller, Mel Blanchette, Lisa Dugan, Dennis Peters, Bud Bates and Jeff Jarvis

Others:

Mike Lammey, Sarah Billadeau, Erik Rayman and Kaylee Gamble, Kankakee County

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Koehler called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

INTRODUCTIONS

All members of the Subcommittee and staff introduced themselves.

MINUTES

Mr. Miller moved approval of the May 18, 2006 Minutes, and Mr. Bergdahl seconded. Unanimous vote.

FY 2007 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey gave a presentation on the document, explaining the purpose and detailing the projects listed in the document. Mr. Koehler explained the projects for the Village of Bourbonnais. Mr. Jarvis gave an explanation for the bikeway project in the document. Chairman Koehler stated that the MPO should consider a press release detailing the highlights of the document so that the information could be given a broader release than just in the document.

SAFETEA-LU BRIEFING

Mr. Lammey presented the highlights of the new federal transportation bill, and discussed some of the areas in which MPO staff would be active in the coming years.

ITS PRESENTATION

Ms. Billadeau gave a presentation on the Intelligent Transportation Systems program, and detailed the work to be done in the coming year in this area. A number of questions on eligible projects and discussion was held.

6000 N. ROAD INTERCHANGE

Mr. Lammey stated that the project will soon be in Preliminary Engineering Phase I, and that the County Planning Department staff were making suggestions to IDOT on ways to become more involved in this phase of the study than had been the case for the Access Justification Report. He gave a brief history of the project thus far.

6000 N. ROAD CORRIDOR PLAN

Mr. Lammey stated that staff had made a field trip to the corridor in the past week. He stated that a development was under consideration at the far western end of 6000 N. Road, at 4150 W. Road, and that a portion of 6000 N. Road that is not currently constructed would be built by that development.

I-57 CORRIDOR STUDIES

Mr. Lammey stated that he was not aware of any activity in this area.

AIRPORT

Chairman Koehler stated that with the exception of advertisements, nothing much is happening now. He expressed some concern about what activity had occurred in the state legislature, and Ms. Dugan stated that there were two different levels of activity. The first revolved around control of the airport site, and has not been resolved. She stated that the second level of activity revolved around economic benefit from development around the airport, and that the Illinois State Senate had taken action to approve the economic district around the airport. She stated that the Illinois House of Representatives had not taken action as yet.

COMMUTER RAIL

Mr. Lammey stated that the contract between IDOT and Kankakee County was now signed and official, and that the contract between Kankakee County and Earth Tech has been signed. He stated that the next Task Force meeting will be on August 15, and that members of the Subcommittee are invited.

ILLIANA DISCUSSION

Chairman Koehler referenced the article that appeared in the Journal in the past two weeks, and stated that action is being taken on this subject. He wanted to confirm that Kankakee County still has an active application for Illinois Tomorrow Corridor Study funding for an east-west corridor at the northern edge of Kankakee County from I-57 to I-65. He stated that the map in the paper was a creation of the Mayor of Crete, and did not represent any activity on the part of any group.

WORK PROGRAM

Chairman Koehler reviewed the items on the work program. A question was asked on the standards for bike trails by Mr. Bergdahl, and Mr. Lammey stated that new standards had been published by IDOT, and that a review of those standards was being performed. Mr. Bergdahl stated that bike trails are being considered around Manteno in areas that were not considered in the 1999 Greenways and Trails plan, and he wondered if activity should be started to amend that

Plan. Mr. Lammey stated that he would bring the subject up with staff.

NEXT MEETING

Chairman Koehler stated that the next meeting date would be September 21, 2006 at 10:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paarlberg moved adjournment, and Mr. Bergdahl seconded. Chairman Koehler adjourned the meeting at 11:15 A.M.