

POLICY COMMITTEE
KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (K.A.T.S.)
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (M.P.O.)
MINUTES
AUGUST 27, 2008

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Piggush	Representing Aroma Park
Mr. Tyson	Representing Kankakee
Mayor Kent	Bradley
Ms. Pillion	Representing Illinois Department of Transportation
Mr. Kruse	Kankakee County
Mr. McBurney	Representing Bourbonnais

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Piekarczyk, Mr. Lammey and Mr. Greenstreet, Kankakee County; Mr. Kelso, IDOT; Mr. Morgan; Dr. Gingerich, Bradley; Mr. Ligas; Mr. Stevenson, FHWA; Ms. Peralas; Ms. Cyr, Village of Bourbonnais; Officer Trudeau, Village of Bradley, and Ms. Marcotte

CALL TO ORDER

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

INTRODUCTION

Chairman Kent asked Mr. Stevenson from FHWA to introduce himself to the Policy Committee, and welcomed him.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

Mr. Kruse moved approval of the June 25, 2008 minutes. Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2009 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Piekarczyk stated that Kankakee County had been successful in an application for railroad crossing safety funding, and that the project required amendment to the **FY 2009 Transportation Improvement Program**, since it was within the Urbanized Area. Mr. Piekarczyk stated that the Technical Advisory Committee recommended the approval of the amendment. Mr. Kruse moved amending the **FY 2009 Transportation Improvement Program** to include the Pipeline Road/Norfolk Southern Railroad crossing gate project. Mr. McBurney seconded, and the amendment passed unanimously.

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mr. Lammey stated that the **FY 2009 Unified Work Program** had funding budgeted for consultant assistance in the preparation of the Long Range Transportation Plan, due to be adopted by October of 2009. He stated that Mr. Ligas was currently under contract to Kankakee County for that assistance. Chairman Kent stated that Mr. Ligas qualifications were certainly exemplary. Mr. Piekarczyk stated that Technical Advisory Committee recommends the affirmation of the retention of Mr. Ligas. Mr. Tyson moved affirmation, and Mr. McBurney seconded. Unanimous vote.

OBLIGATED PROJECTS LISTING

Mr. Stevenson stated the legal requirement for this document from the SAFETEA-LU legislation, and explained that the document was to be useful to the general public in determining what transportation projects had federal funding obligated for them. Mr. Stevenson stated that a question had been raised at the Technical Advisory Committee meeting on the Brookmont Boulevard project not being on the list, and stated that he would check this issue.

CARDINAL DRIVE

Dr. Gingerich stated that the bids for the Cardinal Drive project were much higher than the estimate for the project, and that the Village of Bradley had rejected the bids. He stated that the Village intends to rebid the project in March, and that IDOT had been informed of their intention. He stated that the August letting had the highest prices for asphalt ever seen in the State of Illinois, and the hope is that prices will be lower in the spring.

Chairman Kent stated his intention to bring the subject of the amount of STPU funding dedicated to a project up at the October Policy Committee meetings, in light of the escalating price of projects. He stated that the amount of State and Federal funding available for projects is an issue, but not one that local agencies can much influence, and that the amount of STPU funding dedicated to individual projects is an issue that he believes can be addressed by the local agencies. Mr. Lammey stated that this subject would be placed on the Agenda for the October 22 meeting.

6000 N. ROAD

Mr. McBurney stated that the Intersection Design Studies for the project have taken longer than expected. .

BROOKMONT BOULEVARD VIADUCT

Mr. McBurney stated that a delay has occurred in setting a meeting with the Canadian National Railroad.

RIVERFRONT TRAIL

Mr. McBurney stated that the project is on schedule.

IDOT REPORT

Ms. Pillion gave the report attached to these minutes.

UPDATE ON METRO

Mr. Lammey reported that the ridership on METRO in the fiscal year ending on June 30 was 520,000 rides, a new record for METRO. He stated that record ridership had been achieved in the month of July at over 56,000 rides. He stated that Sunday and holiday service began on July 20, and that expansion had occurred in a number of areas in Kankakee, and that service had begun in Manteno as well.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS – BRADLEY (BROADWAY & SCHUYLER AND BROADWAY UNDERPASS)

Dr. Gingerich stated that an engineering agreement has been submitted.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS – AROMA PARK

Mr. McBurney stated that the engineering agreement for the project has been forwarded to IDOT.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL – KANKAKEE COUNTY

Mr. Piekarczyk stated that a local letting is being proposed for this project.

ILLINOIS PLANNING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Mr. Lammey stated that funding was received for the rural areas of Kankakee County for FY 08, and that notice was received that funding for the total program would be decreased by 3% for FY 09.

Mr. Lammey states that an application has been received from the Village of Bradley for the Industrial Drive transportation and land use project. Mr. Tyson moved approval of the Industrial Drive project, and Mr. Kruse seconded. Mr. Lammey stated that this project would utilize the remaining FY 08 funding, and new funding from FY 09. Unanimous vote.

Mr. Lammey stated that an application had been received from the Village of Bourbonnais for an economic development, land use and transportation project for the area around the proposed 6000 N. Road Interchange. Mr. Tyson moved approval of the application, and Mr. McBurney seconded.

2004 CRASH DATA

Mr. Lammey stated that the coding of 2004 crash data had been completed, and that crash reports for 2004 were being scanned, so that they would appear on screen when requested. He stated that this activity would continue.

MEETING TIME

Chairman Kent stated that the issue of meeting times should be discussed when more members of the Policy Committee were in attendance, and requested that this subject be placed on the Agenda for the October Policy Committee meeting.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Chairman Kent stated that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2008

at 11:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kruse moved adjournment, and Ms. Pillion seconded. Chairman Kent adjourned the meeting at 11:36 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. IDOT met with local planners and public officials on May 28, 2008 to review and discuss the three different at-grade railroad crossing designs that were presented to the ICC last spring.

8-26-08 Update: Working on Environmental Assessment. EA needs to be done before public hearing can be held.

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 2007 letting. Traffic signals are being 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. The signal work is underway.

4. IL 17 at the Kankakee River:

Was on the state's June letting. Project consists of repairing both the east and westbound structures.

8-26-08 Update: This project has started with an anticipated completion date of structure work this year with minor work in 2009.