

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (K.A.T.S.)**  
**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (M.P.O.)**  
**MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 22, 2003**

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Piekarczyk	Kankakee County
Mr. Tyson	Kankakee
Mr. Gingerich	Bourbonnais
Mr. Paukovitz	Illinois Department of Transportation
Mr. Noble	Aroma Park
Mr. Prior	<i>METRO</i>

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Lammey, Delbert Skimerhorn, and Eric Sadler, Kankakee County; Mr. Evers, IDOT; Mr. Marty, URS; Ms. McElroy, Herald; and Mayor Grimsley, Aroma Park.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Piekarczyk called the meeting to order at 2:35 P.M.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the July 23, 2003 and September 24, 2003 Minutes, and Mr. Paukovitz seconded. Unanimous vote.

**AGENDA**

Mr. Noble moved approval of the proposed Agenda, and Mr. Gingerich seconded. Unanimous vote.

**WASHINGTON AVENUE CORRIDOR STUDY**

Mr. Lammey stated that this subject is scheduled for a presentation by Mr. Marty at the Policy Committee, and stated that it was placed on the Technical Advisory Committee Agenda in case any Technical Advisory Committee member had questions that could be resolved before the Policy Committee meeting. Chairman Piekarczyk asked if there were any questions about the draft report, and there were none.

**CORRIDOR STUDY AND CORRIDOR PRESERVATION ISSUES**

Mr. Lammey reported that the Regional Planning Commission had requested that these two studies be presented to all of the local Planning Commissions in the County, to request their support for the projects at the time of action by the Kankakee County Board. Mr. Lammey reported that a presentation had already been made to the Manteno Planning Commission, and that future presentations were scheduled in Bourbonnais, Herscher, Bradley, and Kankakee.

## **LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION STUDY UPDATE**

Mr. Lammey stated that a consultant had been selected for the project (HNTB), and that a contract between Kankakee County and HNTB was on the verge of being signed. He stated that there does not appear to be a signed contract between Kankakee County and IDOT, who is funding 90% of the study, and that this issue must be resolved before the study can begin. Mr. Evers stated that he has a copy of the contract signed by Kankakee County, and will hand carry the contract back to Springfield to speed the process along.

Chairman Piekarczyk asked if this was an Illinois Tomorrow Grant, and Mr. Lammey replied that it was, and carried the 80% federal, 10% state, and 10% local funding issues, and that Kankakee County was the sole source of local funding. Chairman Piekarczyk asked if this grant would be going through the MPO, and Mr. Lammey stated that the oversight body for the grant would be the Regional Planning Commission, through the Land Use Subcommittee. Mr. Lammey stated that the Technical Advisory Committee would be advised of the study progress, as the interface between the member agencies and the County is a critical part of the study.

## **METRA FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE**

Mr. Lammey stated that the project had progressed to the consultant selection phase, and that interviews were held with four consultants on October 21, 2003. Chairman Piekarczyk asked who the funding agency was for the study, and Mr. Lammey stated that the Public Transportation section of IDOT had funded the study, at a 50% federal funding level, and that Kankakee County was responsible for the remaining funding, although Will County had elected to participate.

## **EXTENSION OF TEA-21**

Mr. Evers stated that the federal transportation funding bill has been extended for six months, and that progress continues toward a new bill. Chairman Piekarczyk stated that there are three versions (House, Senate, and Administration) in existence, and that only the House version contains the funding necessary to address the infrastructure problems faced by the transportation industry, but funding sources are still very much in the air. Mr. Paukovitz stated that IDOT must gauge their existing spending on a conservative plane, until the six-year bill is adopted.

Mr. Noble asked when was the time to try to place individual projects into the new transportation bill, and was informed that the right time for such a lobbying effort was now, and that there were influential legislators from our district and from Illinois in general who could be approached.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE**

Mr. Lammey stated that he had placed the item on the Agenda because of an IDOT communication that distributed the State program. Chairman Piekarczyk and Mr. Paukovitz stated that future justification of projects will be influenced by this directive.

## **2003 TRAFFIC COUNTING PROGRAM**

Mr. Skimerhorn distributed a table showing 2003 traffic count information from every local segment on the classified system as proposed on the new Classified System map approved by the Policy Committee and submitted to IDOT.

## **ENHANCED TRAFFIC COUNTING CAPABILITY**

Mr. Skimerhorn displayed the two new types of traffic counters recently purchased by the Planning Department, and discussed their capabilities. He distributed a standard report format from a traffic count done recently. Chairman Piekarczyk stated his assumption that the Planning Department would be available for traffic counting projects, and Mr. Skimerhorn stated that those requests should be made to Mr. Van Mill.

## **TRUCK TRAFFIC ISSUES**

Mr. Lammey stated that there has been a recent perception that truck traffic has increased in the Illinois Route 113 corridor, and that the traffic information gathered recently is an attempt to gather baseline information about those truck movements. Chairman Piekarczyk stated that certain roads have been designated and built by IDOT to carry truck movements, and that Route 113 is one of those roadways. He stated that this state system is the backbone of the truck route system in Kankakee County, since local governments have no source of funding identified to solve this potential problem.

## **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

Chairman Piekarczyk stated that the next meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee would be on November 19, 2003 at 10:00 A.M., and that a schedule of the meetings for next year would be prepared around December 1, 2003.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Tyson moved adjournment, and Mr. Gingerich seconded. Chairman Piekarczyk adjourned the meeting at 3:05 P.M.