

POLICY COMMITTEE
KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (K.A.T.S.)
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (M.P.O.)
MINUTES
OCTOBER 22, 2008

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Gingerich	Aroma Park
Mr. Tyson	Representing Kankakee
Mayor Kent	Bradley
Mr. Lang	Representing Illinois Department of Transportation
Mr. Piekarczyk	Representing Kankakee County
Ms. Cyr	Representing Bourbonnais

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Piekarczyk, Mr. Lammey and Mr. Greenstreet, Kankakee County; Mr. Kelso and Mr. Blakeley, IDOT; Mr. Morgan; Dr. Gingerich, Bradley; Mr. Ligas; Mr. Stevenson, FHWA; Officer Trudeau, Village of Bradley, and Ms. Clumpner, Robinson Engineering

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kent called the meeting to order at 11:06 A.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

Mayor Grimsley moved approval of the August 27, 2008 minutes. Mr. Piekarczyk seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

AGENDA

Mr. Piekarczyk moved approval of the Agenda, and Mayor Grimsley seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2009 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey stated that there were none.

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mr. Ligas discussed the schedule for the Long-Range Plan, being a 30 year Plan that is redone at least every 5 years, and the federal legislation that governs the Long-Range Plan, and the TIP and UWP documents that flow from the Long-Range Plan. He stated that there are 8 goals specified through the federal legislation, and that it is the responsibility of each MPO to localize

those 8 goals. He stated that the Plan needs to be adopted by October, 2009, and that a Public Meeting (likely to be held on December 9, 2008) is being scheduled on the Plan.

Mr. Ligas stated that two major elements that need to be briefly addressed in the Plan are the South Suburban Airport and the potential connection between I-65 and the Prairie Parkway. He stated that these are huge issues, but that our Plan will likely not cover the final conclusion of either issue.

STPU FUNDING ISSUE

Mr. Piekarczyk stated that the Technical Advisory Committee recommends to the Policy Committee that funding for the Cardinal Drive project be set at 80% of the project cost funded through STPU funds. He stated that the project is a good project, with logical termini, and that increasing construction costs have necessitated this change. Mayor Grimsley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. General discussion indicated that after the scope of a future project has been agreed upon, there is now an implication of higher funding levels through STPU.

CARDINAL DRIVE

Dr. Gingerich stated that the Cardinal Drive project is now hoped for a January letting, which might require a December 17 MPO meeting.

6000 N. ROAD

Mr. McBurney stated that comments have been received from their project report, and were being reviewed.

BROOKMONT BOULEVARD VIADUCT

Mr. McBurney stated that a meeting with the Canadian National Railroad has occurred, and that the project was progressing.

RIVERFRONT TRAIL

Mr. McBurney stated that the project report has been submitted to IDOT.

IDOT REPORT

Mr. Lang gave the report attached to these minutes.

UPDATE ON METRO

Mr. Lammey reported that the ridership on METRO in the past three months has topped 50,000 rides each month. Mayor Grimsley asked if the funding for the Downstate Operating Assistance Program is still an issue, and Mr. Lammey stated that he believed it was.

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

Dr. Gingerich stated that approval for the engineering agreement is in progress on both projects.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS – AROMA PARK

Mr. McBurney stated that the engineering agreement has been authorized.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL – KANKAKEE COUNTY

Mr. Piekarczyk stated that a local letting for the project will be held on December 11.

ILLINOIS PLANNING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Mr. Lammey stated that no new applications for projects have been received.

MEETING TIME

Mr. Piekarczyk stated that a previous request had been made to change meeting times to afternoon, but out of deference to the federal and state representatives who have to travel long distances to attend the meetings, the meetings were scheduled during the days. Mr. Piekarczyk moved that the meeting times stay at 10 and 11 AM for the Technical Advisory and Policy Committee meetings. Mayor Grimsley seconded the motion. The motion passed, with one no vote.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Chairman Kent stated that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2009 at 11:00 A.M, unless a special meeting is required on December 17, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Piekarczyk moved adjournment, and Mr. Tyson seconded. Chairman Kent adjourned the meeting at 11:40 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.