

POLICY COMMITTEE
KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (K.A.T.S.)
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (M.P.O.)
MINUTES
OCTOBER 26, 2005

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Grimsley	Aroma Park
Mr. McBurney	Representing Bourbonnais
Mayor Green	Kankakee
Mayor Kent	Bradley
Mr. Paukovitz	Representing Illinois Department of Transportation
Chairman Kruse	Kankakee County
Mr. Best	River Valley METRO Mass Transit District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Piekarczyk, Mr. Van Mill and Mr. Lammey, Kankakee County; Ms. Durbin, IDOT; Mr. Tyson, Kankakee; Mr. Mayes, Bradley; Mr. Brooks, Aroma Park; Mr. Franco and Mr. Tobey.

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

Mayor Kent moved approval of the June 22, 2005 minutes. Mayor Green seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

AGENDA

Mr. Piekarczyk moved approval of the Agenda. Mayor Kent seconded. Unanimous vote.

ROADWAY CONNECTIVITY ISSUES

Mayor Kent summarized a planning session held between the Village of Bradley and Kankakee County staff. He stated that there are some section line gaps in the transportation system east and north of the Village of Bradley, currently under the jurisdiction of Kankakee County, and that the meeting discussed these gaps and the best methods of providing transportation continuity in those areas.

Mayor Kent further stated that the goal of the exercise is to have a plan for the area that will be reflected on the plans of both jurisdictions. Mr. Van Mill stated that the same kind of exercise is possible for all of the jurisdictions of the MPO, and that County staff is available for any such effort.

FY 2006 TIP AMENDMENTS

Mr. Lammey stated that the City of Kankakee has received funding for a Lighting and Streetscape project for East Court Street in the amount of \$1.9 million. Mr. Tyson stated that the funding source for the funds was the State of Illinois. Mr. Piekarczyk stated that staff will add this project to the **FY 2006 TIP**, as no federal funding is involved which would require formal Policy Committee action.

2006 MEETING SCHEDULE

Mayor Green moved acceptance of the 2006 meeting schedule as mailed, and Mayor Kent seconded. Unanimous vote.

UPDATE ON LOWE ROAD

Mr. Brooks reported that the comments from the draft Project Development Report submittal to IDOT were received and addressed, and that the Pre-Final Project Development Report will be submitted to IDOT this week. He stated that a Public Open House for the project was set for November 15, 2005 at the Aroma Park Village Hall. Storm sewer layout and calculations are 90% complete. Plan and profiles are 80% complete. Final Project Development Report will be submitted to IDOT in December. Approval of the Project Development Report by FHWA is anticipated to occur in March 2006. Right-of-way acquisition and final plans cannot be done until the Project Development Report is approved by FHWA. He stated that Tyson will attempt to have the plans ready by July 2006. The project will require a full construction season. Construction should begin in spring 2007 to avoid a winter shut down.

UPDATE ON BURNS ROAD

Mr. McBurney reported that the storm sewer layout and calculations are 80% complete, and the profile is 70% complete. The Environmental Survey Report has been submitted to IDOT. The draft Project Development Report is 50% complete. The draft Project Development Report will be submitted to IDOT in late November or early December. A public open house will be scheduled for early spring 2006. The final Project Development Report will be submitted to IDOT one month after the open house. FHWA approval of the Project Development Report will be approximately 3 months after submittal to IDOT. It would be very aggressive to have plans ready by July 2006. The plan is to attempt to have plans ready by September 2006.

Mayor Kent asked about the timing of the projects, and Mr. Piekarczyk stated that the projects are currently on schedule for all local projects currently in the **FY 2006 TIP** to be completed in the time frame originally envisioned.

UPDATE ON METRO

Mr. Best stated that the system continues to run some 60% ahead of the previous year in passengers, and that the month of August had just under 30,000 passengers. He stated that SB 321 (the full implementation bill) had been pulled by Senator Halverson, and that he was still checking to determine if SB 1620 would accomplish the same objective. He stated that efforts are underway to obtain a direct federal line item in the next transportation bill of \$5,000,000 for a maintenance and administration center.

IDOT REPORT

Mr. Paukovitz gave the report attached to these minutes.

UPDATE ON THE LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Mr. Van Mill reported that the draft update of the Comprehensive Plan had been recommended out of the PZA Committee, and would be on the November 8, 2005 County Board Agenda. He stated that after approval of the Plan, his office could begin joint land use planning with the various jurisdictions around the County, but that a vacancy in staff in his office would slow the process down somewhat.

UPDATE ON THE COMMUTER RAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Mr. Lammey reported that the application for the Phase II Study was being prepared, and that the member jurisdictions of the Commuter Rail Task Force were each preparing Letters of Support for the project. He stated that the area legislators were also being asked for Letters of Support, and that progress was being made. Mr. Piekarczyk stated that the Technical Advisory Committee recommends that the Policy Committee prepare a Letter of Support for the project. Mayor Kent moved approval of the concept, and Mayor Green seconded. Unanimous vote. Mr. Lammey stated that a Letter of Support would be drafted and delivered to Mayor Grimsley for his signature.

ILLINOIS TOMORROW GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey distributed the program brochure for the Illinois Tomorrow Grant Program, and stated that the area had made three previous submissions and had received funding each time. Mr. Van Mill stated that the program goals were stated as easing of traffic congestion and economic development. Mr. Lammey stated that three potential candidate projects were being discussed.

Mr. Tyson discussed the planning for the bikepath to connect the waterpark with the State Park, and stated that a multi-jurisdictional effort was already underway. Mr. Lammey stated that a joint application for Will and Kankakee Counties for an east-west roadway at the County line to ease truck traffic already using Kankakee County as a bypass for the Chicago area was being discussed.

Chairman Kruse stated that a potential project for the area of the Greater Kankakee Airport was being discussed as an economic development project, particularly for the Federal Marshall program at the airport. Mayor Green stated that the City of Kankakee was extremely interested in this project, and asked the Mr. Tyson be contacted. Mr. Franco stated that the Airport Authority would no doubt be interested, and asked that Airport staff be involved, as well as himself.

Mayor Green moved that all three projects move forward in planning for the application phase, and Chairman Kruse seconded. Unanimous vote.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Chairman Grimsley stated that the next Policy Committee meeting is now scheduled for January 25, 2006 at 11:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kent moved adjournment, and Mayor Green seconded. Chairman Grimsley adjourned the meeting at 11:39 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**
At the request of the FHWA revisions and/or additional information in Access Justification Report have been made. The revised report is being submitted next to the FHWA for additional review. If access is found to be justified, preliminary engineering I would follow.
2. **Illinois Route 113: Route 17 to Riverside Hospital**
All pavement work is completed. Traffic signals are also now operating. Some miscellaneous sidewalk work and landscaping is still pending.
3. **Illinois Route 113: From 0.30 mile south to 0.65 mile north of Tower Road**
Curve correction to existing highway alignment. Base course pavement is down and vehicles should be utilizing the new alignment within a month providing weather does not delay the progress of work.
4. **Illinois Route 17 at Lowe Road** – Message boards have been placed on the east and west legs of Route 17 advising motorists of the operating traffic signals. Speed limit on Route 17 has been lowered to 50 mph. Permanent flashing advance warning beacons will also be installed.
5. **Armour Road: US Route 45/52 to CNIC RR Bridge**
Preliminary engineering I has been completed. Chamlin & Associates was selected to begin Phase II engineering in June 2005. This work continues.
6. **Illinois Route 102: Bridge replacement at Davis Creek** – Construction of the box culvert This project is completed.
7. **Northbound Illinois Route 50 (Harrison Ave.) at Soldiers Creek** – This project is completed.