

MINUTES
KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 13, 2003

IN ATTENDANCE

Members:

Frank Koehler, Dave Bergdahl, Rich Howell, Ralph Paarlberg, Dennis Peters, and Lisa Dugan

Others:

Mike Van Mill and Mike Lammey, Kankakee County; and Dave Tyson, Tyson Engineering.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Koehler called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

MINUTES

Mr. Bergdahl moved approval of the September 9, 2003 Minutes, and Mr. Howell seconded. Unanimous vote.

**CORRIDOR STUDY – 6000 N ROAD/WARNER BRIDGE
ROAD/CORRIDOR PRESERVATION STUDY**

Mr. Lammey stated that the presentations are being made to local Planning Commissions, and that those already completed include Manteno, Bourbonnais, Herscher, and Bradley. He stated that a presentation to Kankakee will be made next week, and that arrangements are being made to make presentations to Rockville and Manteno Townships. He stated that the general impression is that the Planning Commissions were in favor of both concepts, but were unsure as to how the mechanics of the letter of support would be arranged.

Chairman Koehler asked staff to provide a copy of a draft letter of support, so that he could show his Planning Commission the form of support desired. Mr. Bergdahl stated that the reception from Manteno was very positive.

Mr. Van Mill stated that the reception from Bradley was mixed, in that they were indifferent to the 6000 N. Road Corridor Study, and hesitant to buy into the concept of preserving right-of-way in the manner we were discussing.

Chairman Koehler stated that the Corridor Preservation concept is a very new concept, relating setbacks to individual roadways, not to the zoning classification, and that this difference is

somewhat difficult to grasp. He also stated that support from local governments was a positive, but that the County Board is the ultimate authority.

EXTENSION OF CORRIDOR STUDY CONTRACT FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PRESERVATION

Mr. Lammey stated that staff had received a proposal from Bernardin – Lochmueller for a number of different combinations to perform the surveys needed for the four areas in question to preserve right-of-way. Mr. Van Mill stated that issues raised at the Bradley Planning Commission meeting have led him to want to discuss the matter further with legal counsel. Chairman Koehler suggested a meeting with the engineers for the Village of Bradley to discuss the issue with their staff might be the best way to proceed.

AIRPORT UPDATE

Mr. Van Mill reported that he was arranging a panel discussion on the South Suburban Airport for the November 25, 2003 Regional Planning Commission meeting, and discussed the potential invitees. He stated that IDOT was committed to the meeting, and Chairman Koehler suggested that Ed Paisel from the South Suburban Mayors and Managers group would be a good person to invite. Mr. Van Mill stated that he wanted a local point of view, as well. The Subcommittee stated that Consumers Illinois Water should be invited as well.

Mr. Van Mill stated that a Public Scoping meeting on the Tier 2 Environmental Impact Statement for the South Suburban Airport, for the construction of the actual airport, on December 3, 2003, at Governors State University. He stated that the meeting may end up being more about who will be in charge of the Airport.

Mr. Van Mill stated that the Regional Planning Commission meeting on November 25 would be an appropriate forum for a position to be taken for presentation to the Public Scoping meeting.

METRA FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE

Mr. Lammey stated that the Task Force had interviewed four consultants, and that the staff recommendations had been distributed to the Task Force for action at their November 18, 2003 meeting. Chairman Koehler stated that all four of the consultants were excellent, and that he could support the staff recommendation. He stated that Parsons brought up more than one point that no one else had raised, and that their potential connection with the LaSalle Street station in Chicago was an excellent point. Mr. Van Mill stated that Will County has given more than \$10,000 toward the local share for the study.

WILL COUNTY PRESENTATION

Mr. Lammey reported that the staff person who would have made the presentation has been transferred in Will County, and no one has been named to replace her. As soon as such a replacement has been named, and is up to speed, we will schedule a presentation again.

2004 WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey stated that the Work Program will be attached to the Agenda for this Subcommittee, so that we do not lose sight of the Work Program. Chairman Koehler stated that a sub area of work under the Long-Range Plan was to “Investigate and Recommend Future Corridor Study Opportunities”.

PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS FOR ILLINOIS TOMORROW CORRIDOR APPLICATION

Mr. Lammey stated the a representative from IDOT informed staff that the applications for the fourth year of applications were not very good, and had encouraged staff to submit an application for the fifth year. He stated that the focus had shifted slightly to economic development issues, not necessarily straight transportation projects. Chairman Koehler encouraged members of the Subcommittee to echo the Governor’s thoughts on connections to Hopkins Park, and the economic opportunities that would present.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Lammey stated that meeting dates would be distributed at the Regional Planning Commission meeting on November 25, 2003.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Howell moved adjournment, Mr. Peters seconded, and the vote was unanimous. Chairman Koehler adjourned the meeting at 11:05 A.M.