

MINUTES
KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMISSION
LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Kankakee County Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room,
189 E. Court Street, Kankakee, IL 60901

October 22, 2015, 10:30 AM

IN ATTENDANCE

Members:

Mr. Paarlberg, Mr. Miller, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Bayston, Ms. Cowhig, and Mr. Blanchette.

Others:

Mr. Van Mill, Mr. Lammey, Mr. Greenstreet, and Mr. Olson, Kankakee County.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Blanchette moved to approve the August 20, 2015 minutes, seconded by Mr. Bayston.
Motion carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Paarlberg nominated Mr. Miller as Chairman and Mr. Washington as Vice-Chairman. Seconded by Mr. Bayston. Nominations were closed and they were elected unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF TRAVEL TIME SURVEY

Mr. Olson gave a presentation concerning the fall 2015 travel time survey that was conducted by staff. The reason for the travel time survey is to develop base-line data for future comparisons as federal regulations for performance measures will address congestion management. The exact performance measures that will be required are as yet unknown, but by having this data, the measurements can show the same corridors after various roadway improvements over time and document improved or worsened conditions. Mr. Olson presented six maps to show the corridors studied and the times for the survey. Traffic signals were indicated on the maps showing if they were green or red for the trip. Also shown were the elapsed time for the corridor and the average speed of the vehicle for the trip. Mr. Olson explained the supplemental spreadsheets of data averages for each corridor, which showed a calculation of efficiency for the roadway segment. The data collected over the last year shows traffic congestion to be remaining fairly steady.

DISCUSSION OF ADDING NEW MEMBERS

Chairman Miller stated he had picked up applications from the County Administration Office for appointment to the Regional Planning Commission, since the Commission and this Subcommittee are short of members. He has some potential prospects in mind and asked if other members knew of anyone who might be interested in volunteering. Mr. Jarvis pointed out that as new and younger people come onto the Commission and the Subcommittee, there may be need to move the meeting time to late afternoon to better accommodate new members who have day jobs.

DISCUSSION OF LUT SUBCOMMITTEE DIRECTION

This Subcommittee had previously worked on the County Solid Waste Plan, but does not do that anymore. It has worked primarily with transportation issues such as the Long Range Transportation Plan that was just completed this year and the County's Comprehensive Plan, which needs to be redone in about three years. Mr. Van Mill stated that now would be a good time to begin a review of the current Comprehensive Plan to see what areas need further study and revision. In the past, the municipalities have given presentations on their comprehensive plans and goals for their communities. That could be done again at future meetings. Mr. Van Mill explained that there are some new projects coming that this Subcommittee will need to be involved with.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department is acquiring a large amount of acreage in Iroquois County that is adjacent to Kankakee County. They may acquire land in Kankakee County as well, for a wildlife refuge. They will need to create a land protection plan.

The Frank Patton project proposal to create a new railroad ring around the Chicago area to reduce congestion and conflicts at rail-to-rail-crossings in Chicago and seems to be making progress. Such a railroad bypass would conceivably pass north of the Kankakee County line, but would have available the option to place spur lines south into Kankakee County for commercial and industrial growth. A rail component was suggested with the east /west Illiana Expressway.

Tourism and Recreation needs and the River Round Table discussions could be continued by the Subcommittee. Development of the area northeast of the new I-57 Interchange at 6000 N Road can be studied.

Mr. Van Mill stated that the Subcommittee can have someone from Fish and Wildlife, Frank Patton, Mayors or other representatives of municipalities invited to future meetings to give presentations.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Land Use/Transportation Subcommittee is December 17, 2015 at 10:30 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bayston moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Paarlberg. Chairman Miller adjourned the meeting at 11:44 AM.