

Policy Committee
Kankakee Area Transportation Study (K.A.T.S.)
Metropolitan Planning Organization (M.P.O.)
Minutes
March 30, 2016

Policy Committee Members Present:

Mayor Epstein	Kankakee
Mr. Magolan	Illinois Department of Transportation
Chairman Bossert	Kankakee County
Mayor Nugent	Manteno
Mr. Allen	River Valley METRO

Others Present:

Mr. Olson, Kankakee County; Mr. Caldwell, Mr. Blakely, and Mr. Lindenmier, IDOT; Mr. Stone, Manteno; Mr. Koning, METRO; Mr. Clevenger, Aroma Park; Mr. McBurney, Bourbonnais.

Call to Order

Chairwoman Epstein called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M.

Public Comment

None.

Minutes

Chairwoman Epstein asked for any changes or corrections the minutes from the January 27, 2016 meeting and if none a motion to approve them. Chairman Bossert motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Fowler seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

Approval of Proposed Agenda

Chairwoman Epstein asked for any changes to the proposed agenda. Mr. Magolan commented that on the agenda the IDOT Update should be from him instead of Mr. Paukovtiz as listed. Chairwoman Epstein ask for approval of the agenda, including that change. Chairman Bossert motioned approval of the Agenda. Mayor Fowler seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

FY 2016 TIP Amendment

Mr. Olson stated there was one amendment. IDOT requested a project be added for intermittent milling and resurfacing on Interstate 57 from the Iroquois County Line to south of I-57 Exit 315. The cost of the project is \$1,035,000 funding by National Highway Performance Program and \$115,000 to be funded by IDOT. Chairman Bossert motioned to approve the amendment. Mr. Allen seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

FY 2016 UWP Amendment

Mr. Olson stated he found an error in the previous FY 2016 Unified Work Program amendment. He explained that in the spreadsheet used to track staff hours, a billing period did not get included in the total

number of hours when the Planning Directors funds were updated. Mr. Olson explained that the proper hours were billed so the correction only pertained to the programmed dollar amounts, which the amendment corrects. Mayor Fowler motioned to approve the amended document, seconded by Mr. Allen. Unanimous vote.

Adoption of the Draft FY 2017 Unified Work Program

Mr. Olson presented the committee with a draft Unified Work Program for Fiscal Year 2017. He said it follows the same work elements as years past with two new sheets at the back. He explained that IDOT has required the inclusion of an indirect cost plan in order to provide documentation on how overhead costs are calculated. Mr. Olson said the Federal Transit Administration has also required a cost allocation breakdown showing how FTA funds have been programmed to be spent by MPOs.

Mr. Donovan explained that FHWA maintains a list of executive directors of each MPO and asked if there were any plans to hire a new planning director. Mr. Olson stated he was unaware of any plans on hiring that position and programmed the dollar amounts as \$0. He explained that it can be amended at any time when the position is filled. Chairman Bossert also stated that the County has been looking for a potential candidate for the position but has not found one yet. Mr. Donovan asked if the planning director would also work for the Economic Alliance. Chairman Bossert answered the planning director would work in both offices as the previous planning director did.

Chairwoman Epstein asked for a motion to approve the Draft FY 2017 Unified Work Program. Mayor Fowler made a motion to approve the document, seconded by Mr. Allen. Unanimous vote.

Travel Time Survey

Mr. Olson said the Spring 2016 Travel Time Survey had been completed and gave a presentation showing the results of the data collected. He stated the data was not available at the time of the mailing but there were printed summary sheets available with the meeting materials at the back of the room. He said he would also send the data and results via e-mail to members.

Mr. Olson's presentation showed the summarized results for each road corridor for the morning, mid-day, and afternoon peak periods. In the charts showing the travel durations of each corridor, Mr. Olson explained he used what he called efficiency which is the average travel speed of the corridor divided by the average speed limit and to use it to provide a sense of congestion. Chairwoman Epstein asked if the efficiency percentage was a meaningful statistic in address the amount of congestion. Mr. Olson explained that as of right now it simply showed the flow of traffic relative to the speed limit. If the efficiency were 100 percent that would indicate traffic was moving at the speed limit and not to stop or slow down along the way.

Also shown were the comparisons between peak periods of the overall surveys and how date for each corridor has fluctuated over the four surveys completed. Mr. Olson stated that if staff were available, he would consider having three samples per corridor which has three periods during each peak period. The collection method would provide more data samples and provide better precision of when the peak travel periods are. He also said the results indicated there have not been any significant changes in travel times.

State Metro Funding & Letters of Support

Mr. Olson referred everyone to a memo regarding the Comprehensive Regional Planning Fund that was sent out to in the mailing. He said in January, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) hosted an MPO Advisory meeting and explained the Comprehensive Regional Planning Fund and that they were pursuing the reinstatement of those funds. Mr. Olson said at one time the fund had come from the general revenue fund and was later switched to IDOT's appropriation, although the overall funding levels remained the same. The current legislation would change the planning fund back to the general revenue fund and provide a continuing appropriation to ensure the flow of funds in times of a budget impasse. The MPOs were asked to send letters of support to their state legislators to help indicate the use and need for the funding source. Mr. Olson drafted a letter and sent copies to the legislators that represent Kankakee County. Mr. Olson said he had spoken with Chairwoman Epstein and Chairman Bossert about the letter and both felt it was appropriate to send.

Mr. Olson referred to the memo which showed the previous transportation work that was able to be done with those additional planning funds. He said a traffic safety audit was in place to be done in FY 2015 when the funding was cut. In prior years, studies included work for the Village of Bradley, the City of Kankakee, and River Valley METRO. Chairwoman Epstein asked how the fund gets distributed and if the KATS MPO would receive funds. Mr. Olson explained that 70 percent goes directly to CMAP and the rest is distributed to the rest of the MPOs as well as rural planning organization. Mr. Olson asked if any of the members had any objection to the letter of support. There were no objections.

Policy Committee Starting Time

Chairwoman Epstein thought the Policy Committee starting time listed on the agenda may have been confusing to members. However, she said due to quickness of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings, it would work out well if the Policy Committee started five minutes after the TAC Adjourned. Mr. Olson said he felt it was necessary to have a start time on the agenda and decided to make it the same time as the TAC meeting. That would help ensure Policy Committee members would be in attendance when the TAC meeting adjourned. Chairwoman Epstein said with three of the members absent, it would be discussed again at the next meeting.

METRO Update

Mr. Allen informed the committee that METRO is proceeding with a comprehensive transit study that will analyze each route and look to improve service and efficiency. This is the first time METRO has done a study of this type.

IDOT District 3 Update

Mr. Magolan explained the IDOT construction report, attached to these minutes. He said the resurfacing project on Interstate 57, just amended to the TIP, would have its letting in June 2016. He also said IDOT's Multi-Year Program of Projects would be published in late April.

IDOT Urban Planning Update

Mr. Caldwell said there were no updates.

FHWA Update

Mr. Donovan stated that FHWA and FTA have been directly reimbursing the MPOs in Illinois due to the budget impasse. The agreement was intended to be only temporary, but it looks as though the agreement may need to be renewed for FY 2017. He said it may be difficult to renew the agreement but is optimistic it will be.

Mr. Donovan stated that performance measures from MAP-21 regarding safety have had a final rule making, he hadn't had a chance to become familiar with the changes that had been made yet. Mr. Olson added that he was aware of an additional separate performance measure that monitors the combined total number of fatalities and A-injuries for pedestrians and bicyclists. Mr. Donovan said the final rulemakings for additional performance measures of MAP-21 will be available soon.

Safety Committee Update

Mr. Olson stated the Safety Committee and Crash Analysis Subcommittee have been working toward identifying crash locations that could be eligible for a Highway Safety Improvement Program grant application. The committees decided to analyze the intersections of Illinois Route 102 at 3000W Road and 5000W Road. Mr. Olson said a working group performed a road safety review of the two locations. He explained that the team identified some potential safety concerns and that low cost safety improvements were available. Due to the low crash rates at the locations the group did not think an application would rank well compared to other submissions. Mr. Olson said he is currently working on the write up.

Brookmont Boulevard Update

Mr. McBurney said they were applying for a TIGER grant as well as a FAST Lane grant, which is a new grant available. Mr. Blakley asked if there was a 10-year expiration on the grants funds already received for the project. Mr. McBurney said there was only two or three hundred thousand dollars left of the grant. Mr. Blakley asked if the whole grant award amount would have to be returned if it expired. Mr. Donovan stated that it's rare for FHWA to pursue the return of grant funds, particularly on large projects that can take a long time collect all the funds needed and to complete. He said the most important thing is be making a good faith effort on continuing the project. Typically the return of funds is only pursued when a project sits dormant and there is no attempt to continue it.

Riverfront Trail Update

Mr. McBurney said construction is expected to begin in August 2016. They are working on amending the permits with the Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources.

Industrial Drive Update

Dr. Gingerich said there were no updates.

Old Business

There was no old business

New Business

Mr. Olson informed everyone that each year IDOT has a Consolidated Vehicle Procurement (CVP) program that social services agencies can apply for buses to provide transportation. He explained that part of the application process for agencies looking to provide service in the urban area will need their application to be approved by the Policy Committee. Mr. Olson said he is wanted everyone to be aware of that possibly being on a future agenda, but he did not know if any agencies would submitting applications.

Mr. Bossert asked if anyone knew if the MPO had any jurisdiction over the possibility of a new green grass railroad being constructed within the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). Mr. Olson said the most recent map he had seen showed the proposed route along the northern boundary of the MPA. Mr.

Caldwell said he was not sure about any jurisdiction and Mr. Donovan said the MPO would have some input about a new railroad coming into the MPA.

Next Scheduled Meeting

Chairwoman Epstein said that the next Policy Committee meeting will be on May 11, 2016 and would start after the adjournment of the Technical Advisory Committee.

Adjournment

Mayor Fowler motioned for adjournment and Mr. Allen seconded. Unanimous vote. Chairwoman Epstein adjourned the meeting at 4:08 P.M.

IDOT DISTRICT 3 PROJECT STATUS – KANKAKEE URBAN AREA March 30, 2016

Note: Targeted contract lettings of projects cited below are contingent upon approval of the Governor and allocation of funds by the General Assembly

1. **I-57 at 6000N Road (Bourbonnais Parkway) New Interchange** – Storm sewer work is on-going. Box culvert work on 6000N Road and US 45/52 is underway. Embankments for the new ramps will continue to be built, pending weather conditions. New ramp construction along I-57 is underway with shoulder removal and addition of acceleration/deceleration lanes. 6000N Road between US 45/52 and IL 50 will be closed for the duration of the project. The agreement with the Illinois Central Railroad is executed and reconstruction of the grade crossings may be implemented later this construction season. Signal work will be implemented in 2017 due to stage construction of the roadway.
2. **IL 17 from west of S5000W Road to 0.3 miles east of W175 Road in Kankakee – New Two Way Left Turn Lane** – the majority of construction operations are complete except for entrance paving, raised reflective pavement markings and seeding, which will be accomplished in the spring/summer 2016. Remedial action will be taken on the westbound lane at the east end of the project due to the roughness of the new HMA pavement. All work by the Norfolk Southern Railway at the IL 17-Norfolk Southern Railway grade crossing is complete.
3. **I-57 at IL 17 (Court Street) - Interchange Reconstruction** in Kankakee – Phase I engineering is on-going and a public hearing is planned for the summer 2016 to present the proposed scope of work.
4. **I-57 over the Kankakee River, south of IL 17 - Bridge Replacements** – The bridge deck is scheduled to be completed in two separate pours in April. Shaping and grading of ditches on the east side is ongoing. Anticipating the northbound bridge being open to traffic by July 4th with overall completion by August 1.
5. **IL 102 over Rock Creek Bridge – Bridge Replacement** – The road is closed and the bridge has been demolished. Pier construction is ongoing. State park access will continue to be provided on the Bourbonnais side. Reopening the road to traffic is currently planned for September 2016.
6. **Southbound IL 50 (Indiana Ave.) at the KB&S RR crossing** – this project involves new signal circuitry, cantilever LED flashing light signals (gates will not be installed), reconstruction of the grade crossing and highway approach work. This project will not go to a letting. The railroad or their contractors will perform the work. Grade crossing reconstruction and signal work is anticipated to be complete this construction season. The railroad agreement is in Springfield pending execution.
7. **I-57 Iroquois County Line to South of the IL 50 Interchange in Bourbonnais** – this project involves intermittent resurfacing at various locations within the subject project limits. Approval action for this project to be amended into the KATS TIP scheduled for KATS MPO Policy Committee meeting on 3/30/16.