

POLICY COMMITTEE
KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (K.A.T.S.)
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (M.P.O.)
MINUTES
MAY 24, 2006

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. Hoffmann	Representing River Valley METRO Mass Transit District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Piekarczyk, Mr. Van Mill, and Mr. Lammey, Kankakee County; Mr. Smith, IDOT; Mr. Tyson, Kankakee; Mr. Mayes, Bradley; Mr. Donovan, FHWA; and Mr. Morgan

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

Mayor Kent moved approval of the March 22, 2006 minutes. Mayor Green seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

AGENDA

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

FY 2006 TIP AMENDMENTS

Mr. Lammey stated that there were no amendments.

FINAL FY 2007 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Piekarczyk stated that the Technical Advisory Committee has reviewed the **FY 2007 Unified Work** Program, and has recommended it for Policy Committee approval. Mayor Kent moved approval, and Mayor Green seconded. Unanimous vote.

LETTER ON STPU ISSUE

Mr. Piekarczyk stated that the STPU issue raised at the March 22 MPO meetings, and subsequent questions from member agencies, had prompted him to forward a letter to IDOT seeking clarification of issues that had been raised. He stated that the letter was forwarded by IDOT District 3 to IDOT Central Bureau, and that he hoped a reply could be received prior to the next MPO meetings. Mr. Paukovitz stated that that he would relay that timing concern.

Chairman Grimsley stated that he supported the letter, and that the issue was stated very clearly.

DRAFT FY 2007 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Piekarczyk stated that the Technical Advisory Committee had recommended, with amendments, the movement of the draft **FY 2007 Transportation Improvement Program** into a public comment phase.

Mayor Green asked why the Village of Bradley had been slated as the next project after the Aroma Park/Kankakee and Bourbonnais projects. Mayor Kent asked a question about the project order, and Mr. Tyson stated that every jurisdiction will have had two projects after the Aroma Park/Kankakee and Bourbonnais projects. Mr. Piekarczyk indicated a history of past projects could be made available at the next meeting.

Mayor Kent stated that the Village of Bradley's final support of the **FY 2007 Transportation Improvement Program** may change pending response from IDOT on the STPU funding issue.

Mayor Green moved that the draft **FY 2007 Transportation Improvement Program** be moved into the public comment phase. Chairman Kruse seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

EXIT 312

Mayor Green stated that Exit 312 was a substandard interchange and needs to be addressed, particularly since the other interchanges in the County were being addressed. He stated that the interchange is a safety issue, and that it has economic impact on a large portion of the County, particularly the eastern communities. Chairman Grimsley supported this view.

Mr. Van Mill stated that the material being distributed was a response to a letter from IDOT that stated an agenda for a meeting on Exit 312 should be determined. Mr. Tyson stated that a number of meetings with IDOT have been held, but nothing has been done. He stated that PE I should be started on this Interchange redesign.

Mayor Green stated that IDOT is allocating funds for the roadway redesign north of Kankakee County, and why not here? Chairman Grimsley asked what the next step would be with this request.

Mayor Green moved that the Exit 312 issue be placed on the Agenda for the next Policy Committee meeting. Chairman Kruse seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Paukovitz asked if a workshop on the issue prior to the next Policy Committee meeting would be a good idea, and the group agreed that it would be.

UPDATE ON LOWE ROAD

Mr. Brooks reported: Final Project Development Report was submitted to IDOT and was approved in January. Storm sewer layout and calculations are 100% complete. Plan and profiles are 90% complete. Right-of-way plats are begun. The acquisition process will begin shortly. We will submit final plans to IDOT in mid June. This 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: Storm sewer layout and calculations are 90% complete. Profile is 80% complete. The intersection design study comments were received from IDOT and we are 50% complete with requested changes. The intersection design study will be resubmitted to IDOT the first week of June. The final Project Development Report will be submitted to IDOT after approval of the intersection design study. FHWA approval of the Project Development Report will be approximately 3 months after the submittal to IDOT. We will attempt to have plans ready by September 2006.

UPDATE ON METRO

Mr. Hoffmann reported that 297,000 rides had been provided by the end of April, and that the projected number of rides for the fiscal year would be 350,000. He stated that a cost estimate to purchase the land for a Transfer Center in downtown Kankakee had been provided by the CN Railroad, and that project may have an even better alternative south of the train station. Mayor Green asked about the ridership to University Park, and Mr. Hoffmann stated that it remained around 1,000 rides per month. He stated that it is difficult to advertise the service to University Park. Mayor Green stated that the City of Kankakee would be willing to allow advertisements for the service to be placed in utility bills. Mr. Hoffmann stated that service will begin in Manteno on July 1.

IDOT REPORT

Mr. Paukovitz gave the report attached to these minutes.

UPDATE ON THE COMMUTER RAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Mr. Lammey reported that the funding for the Phase II Study had been approved by IDOT. He stated that a consultant has been selected for the project, and that contract negotiations were underway.

UPDATE ON 6000 N ROAD INTERCHANGE

Mr. Van Mill stated that conditional approval had been awarded for the Interchange at 6000 N. Road. Mr. Paukovitz stated that local funding would be necessary for the section of 6000 N. Road between U.S. Route 45/52 and Illinois Route 50.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Kent stated that the Village of Bradley will be sending a request to change their Technical Advisory Committee representative to Dr. Michael Gingerich.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Chairman Grimsley stated that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2006 at 11:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kent moved adjournment, and Mr. Paukovitz seconded. Chairman Grimsley adjourned the meeting at 11:50 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. Selection of a consultant is scheduled for this fall to begin the Phase I engineering study. Phase I engineering will take an estimated 18 to 24 months to complete.

2. Illinois Route 113: Route 17 to Riverside Hospital

This project is completed.

3. Illinois Route 113: From 0.30 mile south to 0.65 mile north of Tower Road

This project involves curve correction to existing highway alignment. Resurfacing is completed. Landscaping and striping are the last work items to be accomplished prior to completion of this project.

4. 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.