

**Policy Committee**  
Kankakee Area Transportation Study (K.A.T.S.)  
Metropolitan Planning Organization (M.P.O.)  
**Minutes**  
**January 27, 2021**

**Policy Committee Members Present**

Mayor Tim Nugent, Chairman	Village of Manteno
Chairman Andrew Wheeler, Vice-Chairman	County of Kankakee
Mayor Paul Schore	Village of Bourbonnais
Mayor Brian Stump	Village of Aroma Park
Mayor Mike Watson	Village of Bradley
Mayor Chasity Wells-Armstrong	City of Kankakee
Mr. Lindenmier	IDOT District 3
Mr. Tom Caldwell	IDOT Office of Planning and Programming
Mr. John Donovan	Federal Highway Administration

**Others Present:**

Marta Perales, Keith Mulholland, Bryan Welch, Barbi Brewer-Watson, Roger Blakely, Jim Hanley, Mark Rogers, Dave Tyson, Mike Gingerich, Joel Greer, Cortney Koning, Neil Piggush, Mike Mergenthaler, Geoff Olson, Delbert Skimerhorn, Dave Tyson, Ben Wilson.

**Open Meeting**

Chairman Nugent opened the meeting at 3:07 P.M.

**Roll Call**

Chairman Nugent asked for a roll call. A quorum was present.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Watson motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting of October 28, 2020 as presented. Mayor Wells-Armstrong seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Wheeler motioned to approve the agenda, as presented, and Mayor Watson seconded. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

## **FY 2021 Unified Work Program Amendments**

Mr. Wilson explained there was an amendment to the FY 2021 Unified Work Program and that it was primarily an adjustment of staff hours from the long range plan work element to the planning services work element. He added that the amendment was cost neutral. Mr. Rogers said the Technical Advisory Committee reviewed the amendment and recommended approval of the FY 2021 Unified Work Program amendment. Mayor Schore motioned to approve the FY 2021 Unified Work Program amendment. Mayor Watson seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

## **Approval of Draft FY 2022 Unified Work Program**

Mr. Wilson stated a draft FY 2022 Unified Work Program was created, which closely followed the FY 2021 Unified Work Program. He said some work such as the Greenways and Trails Plan update may extend beyond fiscal year 2021 and may need a future adjustment to the document. Mr. Rogers said the Technical Advisory Committee reviewed the amendment and recommended approval of the FY 2022 Unified Work Program. Chairman Wheeler motioned to approve the Draft FY 2022 Unified Work Program. Mayor Schore seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

## **FY 2021 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments**

Mr. Wilson stated there were two amendments to the FY 2021 Transportation Improvement Program. The first was requested by IDOT District 3 and was to add a new project to the State Highway Project Section of the FY 2021 program year. The project was HIL-20-003, Interstate 57 at the Manteno interchange. The amendment was to carryover preliminary engineering phase 2 from fiscal year 2020 to fiscal year 2021. The project had a total cost of \$1,415,000 and was funded by national highway performance program (NHPP) for \$1,274,000 and a local match of state funds for \$141,000.

The other amendment request was by the Kankakee County Highway Department and was for project HRR-21-001, Norfolk Southern Railroad at N 4000E Road (IDOT Crossing #534381S), for railroad crossing safety improvements. The project included the installation of new automatic flashing light signals and gates and new constant warning time circuitry with event recorder and remote monitor. The project costs were \$270,000 from the Federal Railway/Highway Safety Program (Section 130) and a local match of \$30,000 from the Norfolk Southern Railroad for a total cost of \$300,000.

Mr. Rogers stated the Technical Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended the amendments to the FY 2021 Transportation Improvement Program for approval.

Mayor Schore motioned to approve the FY 2021 TIP Amendment. Mayor Stump seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

## **Safety Performance Measures**

Mr. Olson gave a presentation on safety performance measures for 2020. He informed everyone that IDOT set statewide targets at the end of August 2020 and MPOs had 180 days to either accept and support statewide targets or develop separate targets. He said IDOT chose to maintain a two percent reduction for all five FAST Act categories. He noted that the KATS Safety Committee, at their November 4, 2020 meeting, recommended accepting and supporting the statewide targets. Mr. Rogers stated the Technical Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended KATS adopt the statewide targets of a two percent reduction across all categories.

Mayor Schore motion to accept and support IDOT statewide targets. Chairman Wheeler seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

## **Infrastructure Condition Performance Measures**

Mr. Mergenthaler gave a presentation on the infrastructure condition performance measures. He explained that IDOT adjusted the statewide targets and that MPOs had 180 to either accept and support the statewide targets or establish their own. For the performance measures, IDOT reduced the 2022 targets for the percent of interstate pavement in 'Good' condition to 61 percent, the percent of interstate pavement in 'Poor' condition to 2 percent, the percent of non-interstate national highway system pavement in 'Good' condition to 21 percent, the percent of non-interstate national highway system pavement in 'Poor' condition to 9 percent, the percent of national highway system bridges in 'Good' condition to 23.5 percent, the percent of national highway system bridges in 'Poor' condition to 15.5 percent. He said KATS was currently meeting all targets except the percent of national highway system pavement in 'Poor' condition which was 9.69 percent in 2020 and the percent of national highway system bridges in 'Poor' condition which was 15.69 percent in 2020.

Mr. Mergenthaler explained that KATS was also currently meeting the 2022 statewide targets for the percent of person-miles traveled on the interstate that are reliable, the percent of person-miles on the non-interstate national highway system that are reliable, and the truck travel time reliability index.

Mr. Rogers stated the Technical Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended adopting all IDOT performance measures.

Mayor Schore motioned to accept and support the IDOT statewide targets. Mayor Stump seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

## **Safety Committee Membership**

Mr. Olson explained the Safety Committee was having difficulty achieving a quorum because there are about thirty-nine members. He said there are about nine members that actively attend and participate at the meetings. Chairman Wheeler asked what the bylaws for the committee were. Mr. Olson stated the meeting rules to follow Roberts Rules of Order and were

set by the Policy Committee when the Safety Committee was established. Chairman Wheeler asked for a list of current members to be sent to Policy Committee members for review.

## **Greenways and Trails Plan Update**

Mr. Mergenthaler gave a presentation on the status of the greenways and trails plan update that included some information about bike ridership in the county. Chairman Wheeler asked if the survey results had any leading ideas. Mr. Mergenthaler said highest ranked idea was to expand the infrastructure network.

## **Project Allocation Limits**

Mr. Wilson said a draft resolution was put together that would memorialize the project funding process for future projects. He said the main points of the resolution were that phase 1 and phase 2 engineering would not be funded with the MPOs annual allocation of funds, that the sequence of projects would follow the order of projects scored from highest to lowest according to the evaluation criteria, and that if a situation arose that a member requested funding for a project that wasn't aligned with the resolution that it would require a two-thirds vote of the Policy Committee to be approved.

The committee discussed the draft resolution and requested an updated draft be presented at the next meeting that would have options for either a 3-year or 4-year funding allocation and whether a two-thirds vote would be required to fund a project that doesn't follow the policy of the resolution.

## **Kankakee County Update**

Chairman Wheeler said IDOT District 3 provided a drawing for the IL-50 and Armour Road intersection. He said all directions will have 2 dedicated left turn lanes and a right turn lane. Mr. Wilson applauded IDOT District 3 for all the work they have done for the intersection project. He said he was working on making sure the project would meet the expectations of everyone who is participating in the project. He said there may be up to \$500,000 in costs for elements of the project that IDOT would not cover but that the current MPO allocation balance would be able to provide funding for both the IL-50 at Armour Road intersection and Hobbie Avenue.

## **METRO**

Mr. Koning said he did not have a ridership update but they are going out to bid on the new transfer center and the bids were to be opened in about a week.

## **IDOT District 3 Update**

Mr. Lindenmier informed everyone the March letting would include the milling and resurfacing of I-57 from the Iroquois County Line to the Kankakee River. He said state construction projects in the KATS area were either complete or had minor items remaining to be completed. He added that District 3 received their FY 2022-2027 Multi-Year Program funding targets and they

were in the process of developing the next program, which would consist of preliminary engineering, land acquisition, utility line items, and regular construction projects. He noted that it was too early to identify a publication date.

## **IDOT Urban Planning Update**

None.

## **FHWA Update**

Mr. Donovan said Secretary of Transportation Nominee Pete Buttigieg had received a Senate vote and would likely be confirmed by the end of the week. Mr. Donovan said the new administration was promising a reauthorization of the FAST Act in the next month. He noted that the confirmation hearings held had new ideas discussed. Mr. Donovan said the KATS 4-year review would likely be held on March 31 and that it would be in a virtual format due to COVID-19.

## **Safety Committee Update**

Mr. Tyson said there was not update and the next meeting was scheduled for February 3, 2021 at 9:30 A.M.

## **Brookmont Boulevard Update**

Mr. Piggush the scope would be expanded to cover noise and storm drainage because they were not considered in phase 1 engineering.

## **Hobbie Avenue**

Mr. Piggush said there would be a public meeting on February 4 at 6:30 P.M. to explain the project scope. He noted that phase 1 engineering was nearing completion and would hopefully begin phase 2 engineering soon and construction early next year.

Mr. Welch gave a presentation about the project which illustrated the planned future road configuration. He said there would be some temporary and permanent land acquisition as part of the project and that an adjustment for northbound trucks turning right from Hobbie Avenue to Pioneer Park would require federal approval. He said they were expecting a de-minimus impact, which would mean it could be constructed as planned. The public comment period began on January 20, 2021 and was scheduled to end on February 18, 2021.

Mr. Wilson asked how long land acquisition would take. Mr. Piggush said he didn't know. Mr. Wilson also asked if there was consideration to widen the street to separate bike lanes from truck traffic. Mr. Piggush said the configuration complied with the IDOT manual and the City of Kankakee Master Bike Plan. Mr. Welch noted that it was considered in phase 1 engineering but the right-of-way was too narrow.

## **Kankakee Valley Airport Authority Update**

None.

## **Updates from Transportation and Development Division Manager**

None.

## **New Business**

None.

## **Old Business**

Mr. Wilson said six traffic counters were purchased and staff were becoming familiar with them. He said staff was working on a policy that could be used to determine how to schedule requests for traffic counts by members.

Chairman Wheeler said he appreciated the presentation on Hobbie Avenue and wasn't aware of some of the changes between the 2014 TIP sheet that was submitted and the updated TIP sheet in the FY 2021 TIP. Members discussed the cost increase approved at the January 29, 2020 meeting. Members of the committee confirmed that the previous project was approved but wanted to see the detailed costs for that project, not the additional elements. Chairman Nugent asked if a project cost update for the original scope of the project could be provided to members at the next meeting and that staff get together with Mr. Rogers and Mr. Piggush to go over the costs.

## **Next Scheduled Meeting:**

Chairman Nugent stated the next KATS Technical Advisory Committee was scheduled for March 31, 2021 at 2:30 PM. The next Policy Committee meeting would be scheduled for March 31, 2021 at 3:00 PM.

## **Adjournment:**

Mayor Schore motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mayor Wells-Armstrong seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried. Chairman Nugent adjourned the meeting at 4:53 P.M.