

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

**Minutes**

**March 31, 2021**

**Policy Committee Members Present**

Mayor Tim Nugent, Chairman	Village of Manteno
Chairman Andrew Wheeler, Vice-Chairman	County of Kankakee
Mr. George Ryan Jr. (Proxy)	Kankakee Valley Airport Authority
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, Betsy Tracy, Mike Gingerich, Nick Spence, Joel Greer, Keith Mulholland, Jim Hanley, Mark Rogers, Dave Tyson, Cortney Koning, Neil Piggush, Mike Mergenthaler, Geoff Olson, Delbert Skimerhorn, Ben Wilson.

**Open Meeting**

Chairman Nugent opened the meeting at 3:00 P.M.

**Roll Call**

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

**Public Comment**

Marta Perales stated she wanted to understand the MPO process locally and said she thought the level of public participation could be increased.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Schore motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting of February 24, 2021 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 Stump seconded. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

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

None.

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

Mr. Wilson stated the FY 2022 Unified Work Program was substantially similar to the existing work program. Mr. Rogers said the Technical Advisory Committee recommended the FY 2022 Unified Work Program for approval.

Mayor Schore motioned to approve the draft FY 2022 Unified Work Program as presented. Chairman Wheeler seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Wilson explained the amendment to the FY 2021 Transportation Improvement Program for the intersection project at IL-50 and Armour Road. The amendment to the project was to add local additions to the existing project, which included lighting, sidewalk, shared use path, and sanitary sewer. The amendment programmed \$257,000 of KATS allocated Surface Transportation Block Grant – Urban funds for lighting, with a local match of \$171,000. The sidewalk, shared use path, and sanitary sewer were to be funded entirely by local funds with a combined amount of \$283,000. There were no changes to the previously programmed STP-Urban, NHPP, and IDOT funds. Mayor Schore asked who else was contributing funds. Mr. Rogers said Bourbonnais Township, Village of Bradley, and Kankakee County. Dr. Gingerich motioned to recommend and forward the FY 2021 TIP Amendment for approval by the Policy Committee. Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Rogers stated the Technical Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended the amendment to the FY 2021 – FY 2024 Transportation Improvement Program for approval.

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

## **End of Year Report for FY 2020**

Mr. Wilson explained the end of year report documents the work performed during the program year as it relates to the Unified Work Program. He noted that the last page showed funds spent for the program year.

## **Fall 2020 Travel Time Survey Presentation**

Mr. Mergenthaler gave a presentation on the Fall TTS results. He explained the data collection process and noted it was the second time Bourbonnais Pkwy data was collected since it reopened. He noted that efficiency is the metric that staff gives the most attention. North St was the most efficient and Armour Rd was the least efficient. The afternoon times were less efficient than morning and mid-day, which were generally similar. Bourbonnais Pkwy was less

efficient compared to before the interchange, but that wasn't not a surprise because of the addition of new traffic signals.

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

Mr. Wilson explained the amendment to the FY 2021 Transportation Improvement Program for

### **Safety Committee Membership**

Mr. Wilson said a memo was given to members regarding the Safety Committee membership. The Safety Committee provided a recommendation for membership. He listed the members proposed by the Safety Committee. Mr. Ryan asked if the updated list was creating a formula for membership. Mayor Nugent said yes.

Mr. Ryan motioned to approve the proposed list of members.

Chairman Wheeler clarified that approval was for the agencies and that they agencies would determine their representative.

Mr. Ryan amended the motion to include Chairman Wheelers comments. Mayor Watson seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

### **Greenways and Trails Plan Update**

Mr. Mergenthaler informed everyone that Steering Committee met and the update was continuing.

### **Approval of Project Allocation Limits**

Mr. Wilson referred everyone to the draft resolution that would establish how MPO STBG funds would be programmed in the future.

Chairman Wheeler said he did not prefer the 2/3 majority to change a project and that a simple majority should suffice because the difference is only one vote and asked make a motion to amend it to change a simple majority of the members present at the meeting. Mayor Watson seconded the motion. Mayor Schore asked if it needs to say the member or their designee? Mr. Wilson said it includes designated proxies. Remote Zoom would be considered as present under current OMA rules. For 4 years of funding up to 80%. Unanimous vote to approve the amendment to the resolution.

Mayor Watson said he wanted to make a motion with Section 4 about Tier 1 and asked that either project elevation be removed or change the language allow all Tier 1 projects to be eligible.

Mayor Watson motioned to eliminate language of the highest scoring project be given priority out of section 4. Mayor Wells-Armstrong asked for clarification if the amendment meant the amendment would allow all Tier 1 projects to be eligible as the "next" project.

Mr. Wilson explained that project scores are part of the performance driven project selection process. Chairman Nugent said with the change all tier 1 projects with all pre-construction work being completed would be eligible.

Chairman Wheeler commented that FHWA would like to see a performance-measure-driven approach to project selection.

Mr. Donovan explained that FHWA has an expectation that priorities should be defined and the selected projects should meet those priorities. He added that in a situation with two projects that have very similar scores, the decision would be made by the Policy Committee. He asked if the change would still have scoring projects to establish a band of projects to be selected from. He noted that grouping projects may not work as cleanly and asked what the purpose would be for removing the scoring for project selection.

Chairman Wheeler said Section 6 allows any project in Tier 1 to be selected for unexpected project changes or needs.

Mr. Wilson said there were 19 projects in Tier 1 and not all of the address performance measures evenly, which was why some projects scored higher.

Mayor Watson said he would like to see a decision to be made for all Tier 1 projects.

Mayor Watson withdrew his motion and created a new motion that actual project score shall be considered along with other non-technical considerations when selecting projects for use with STBG funds. The motion was not seconded. Motion failed.

Nugent asked if there were any more changes to the resolution to consider. Watson said the score prioritizes all Tier 1 projects. Chairman Wheeler said Section 6 allows for changes.

Mr. Wilson said the scores reflect the performance measures.

Mr. Piggush asked how often would projects be rescored?

Mr. Wilson said projects can be rescored annually and that the evaluation criteria could change to reflect federal requirements and local priorities.

Chairman Nugent asked if there were any other amendments. Mayor Wells-Armstrong asked if the only amendment was to change the previously approved amendment. Chairman Nugent said yes.

Mayor Schore motioned to approve the amended resolution. Mayor Wells-Armstrong seconded the motion.

Roll Call

Ayes: Chairman Nugent, Mr. Ryan, Mayor Schore, Mayor Stump, Mayor Watson, Chairman Wheeler, Mayor Wells-Armstrong

Nays: None.

Abstained: Mr. Lindenmier

Motion Carried.

## **Kankakee County Update**

None.

## **METRO**

None.

## **IDOT District 3 Update**

Mr. Lindenmier said the FY 2022 0 FY 2025 Multi-Year Program has been submitted and was being reviewed.

## **IDOT Urban Planning Update**

None.

## **FHWA Update**

Mr. Donovan said FHWA staff met with KATS and IDOT staff earlier to conduct a review of the KATS MPO planning process, which is done every four years. He said they would be preparing a report of their findings and noted that he's been pleased with the status of the KATS MPO.

## **Safety Committee Update**

Mr. Tyson said the only update was about committee membership.

## **Brookmont Boulevard Update**

Mr. Piggush said plans for the retaining wall were submitted to CN and design work was performed for a storm event.

## **Hobbie Avenue**

Mr. Piggush said a PDR was submitted to IDOT for approval and after it's approved phase 2 engineering will begin.

## **Kankakee Valley Airport Authority Update**

None.

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

Mr. Wilson said the travel demand model was getting closer to completion and it will allow staff to better predict future traffic volumes.

## **New Business**

None.

## **Old Business**

Mr. Wilson said the counters are in and a segment will be done next week. IDOT is collecting volumes for local roads.

Mr. Wilson said the last meeting staff and Mr. Rogers were asked to review Hobbie Ave project unit costs. The costs were reviewed and applied to the 2014 project and reduced the project scope. The current project with lighting was \$7.2M and the 2014 project was \$5.487M.

Mr. Rogers thanks Mr. Piggush for providing the information.

Mr. Wilson said a TIP amendment would be needed to reflect the costs for the 2014 approved project.

Chairman Wheeler asked about contingencies for Lowe Rd and thought Aroma Park was required to pay for extra costs. Mr. Piggush said 4% was for design and 7% was for construction contingencies.

Mr. Rogers: Lowe Rd was from when the MPO would only allow 2 years of funding to a project and the project only had about \$2.6 M and the final cost was over \$4M. The County and Village and had to pay for the extra costs.

Mayor Wells Armstrong asked if the percentages were customary.

Mr. Rogers said he thought the estimate for Lowe Rd was the estimate, with no contingencies. The County paid for all engineering costs.

Chairman Wheeler suggested discussing it at the next meeting with more information about knowledge.

Design contingencies includes changes that affect construction that are discovered during design phase.

Chairman Wheeler said he didn't know if contingencies were approved or if it was just an amount.

Chairman Nugent said he thought it was just an amount.

Dr. Gingerich said he didn't think contingencies were explained because projects had a funding cap.

Mr. Wilson said the number going into the TIP would be needed.

Chairman Nugent asked if the state includes contingencies?

Mr. Lindenmier said typically a 10% difference between bid amount and actual. Once a project goes into design and a final design is completed and final cost is determined. Quantities are not always known during phase 1 and phase 2 engineering.

Dr. Gingerich said a project almost always went over, which made the percent of STP funds less than 80% because funds were capped.

Mr. Rogers said even working with IDOT on Armour & IL50, funds have been established as a percent and not to exceed a specific funding amount.

Chairman Wheeler said the Committee should honor what was agreed to when it was approved, but was concerned about the 11%.

## **Next Scheduled Meeting**

Chairman Nugent stated the next KATS Technical Advisory Committee was scheduled for May 5, 2021 at 2:30 PM. The next Policy Committee meeting would be scheduled for May 5, 2021 at 3:00 PM.

## **Adjournment**

Mayor Wells-Armstrong motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mayor Watson seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried. Chairman Nugent adjourned the meeting at 4:06 P.M.