



Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2009 McCloskey Conference Room 135, City Hall

Technical Advisory Committee minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings are on file with the City of Bloomington Planning Department.

Attendance

Technical Advisory Committee: David Butts (INDOT), John Carter (Monroe Co. Community School Corp.), Jason Eakin (Monroe Co. Planning), Jane Fleig (CBU), Connie Griffin (Ellettsville Planning), Laura Haley (Bloomington GIS), Jerry Halpern (INDOT), Perry Maull (IU Campus Bus), Lew May (Bloomington Transit), Jay Mitchell (INDOT), Doug Norton (Rural Transit), Janice Osadczuk (FHWA), Adrian Reid (Bloomington Engineering), Andrea Roberts (Bloomington Public Works), Jim Ude (INDOT), Dave Williams (Bloomington Parks), and Gregg Zody (Monroe Co. Planning)

Others: Josh Desmond (MPO Staff), Raymond Hess (MPO Staff), Mary Jo Hamman (consultant: Michael Baker, Jr.), Nate Nickel (Bloomington Planning staff) and Jane Weiser (MPO Staff)

- I. Call to Order**—Adrian Reid called the meeting to order.
- II. Approval of Minutes:**
 - A. February 4, 2008**—Jim Ude moved approval of the minutes. Dave Williams seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.
- III. Communications from the Chair** – There was no report.
- IV. Reports from Officers and/or Committees**

Adrian Reid said the Henderson St. Safe Routes to School project is still on track for a May letting.
- V. Reports from the MPO Staff**
 - A. Progress Report (FY 2009 – 2nd Quarter)**—Raymond Hess explained some details about this report. The report now includes a breakdown for the LPAs as to where they are with their contracts.
 - B. FY 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program Development** – We will be issuing a call for projects within the next week or so. Staff is designing a standardized format to facilitate compliance to the Complete Streets policy.
- VI. Old Business** – There was no old business
- VII. New Business**
 - A. Census Tract Boundary Delineation** –Nate Nickel of the City Planning Department reported that staff is participating in the Census Bureau’s Participant Statistical Areas Program. They hope to have Census Tract and Census Boundary Group Boundaries conform to their guidelines. This is an opportunity for local government entities to review what the Census Bureau has on file and offer recommendations as to how to change Tract and Block Group Boundaries to conform. The Census Bureau has the final say as to those boundaries.

Recommendations must be submitted by March 25. Anyone wanting to comment or review the maps may do so through the City Planning Department. Staff has met with Monroe County Planning Department staff. Most of the areas needing attention are either in the city or the county. Only one area involves Ellettsville.

B. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

a. I-69 Hardship right-of-way acquisition (1 parcel) - INDOT

Recommendation Requested

Josh Desmond reported that the property owner at 3301 W. Tapp Rd. relocated out of state several years ago and has been unable to sell her property due to issues related to I-69. INDOT wishes to acquire the property for I-69 under their hardship acquisition procedures. The purchase price is \$150,000. Staff is recommending approval. Tom Micuda asked what the process would be should the Policy Committee approve this amendment. David Butts of INDOT said they would negotiate a price, demo the house and maintain the property as grass. Mr. Micuda asked if it was likely that there would be other hardship requests related to I-69 in the future. INDOT said yes. Andrea Roberts asked what constituted an “extended period of time.” INDOT said the time frame is what is reasonable for the area and economic situation. Gregg Zody asked if INDOT provides public notice when these purchases occur. INDOT said they consult with all the state agencies. Mr. Hess said that since this is a new project, it has been noticed pursuant to the MPO’s public participation process. That process includes advertising it in the newspaper, having a 30-day written comment period, including the comments with packet materials to the committees and taking the project to CAC, TAC and the Policy Committee. Jane Fleig moved to add this amendment to the TIP. Jim Ude seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

b. Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act Project – Mr. Hess reported that the BMCMPPO is expected to receive about \$2.7 million in Stimulus transportation funds. After receiving wish lists of projects from LPAs, the lists were forwarded to INDOT to give them an idea of the projects being considered. Janice Osadczyk reiterated that the projects have to be shovel-ready. The funds must be obligated within a year.

i. Indiana Department of Transportation

Mr. Hess summarized INDOT’s overlay and preventative maintenance road surface project for SR 46 from SR 446 to SR 135 in Brown County. Since part of that project is within our urbanized area, it needs to be amended into our TIP. Mr. Micuda moved that the Technical Advisory Committee add this project as one of the projects for TIP amendment consideration. Mr. Zody seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

ii. Monroe County projects

Mr. Reid asked if the TAC had to make a recommendation to prioritize projects today or will there be subsequent meetings to discuss them. Mr. Hess said staff wants the Policy Committee to act on them at the March 13 meeting. There was discussion about having an additional meeting after considering the projects. Mr. Hess said that this is the refined list and they are purported to be shovel-ready. Mr. Micuda said that the Policy Committee relies on the TAC to

provide them technical guidance. It was decided that each project would be described as to its readiness to implement and if alternative funding sources are available for the project.

Mr. Hess said that Vernal Pike, Phase II is finishing up the right-of-way acquisition stage with a June 1, 2009 letting date. It is already in the TIP. The request is to change local funding to stimulus funding. (Stimulus funding can't supplant a local match.)

Mr. Micuda questioned whether the sewer project on Vernal Pike should be considered as eligible to be put into the TIP. Ms. Fleig said that sanitary sewer is being added to this project due to septic fields being destroyed from pavement widening.

Mr. Hess presented the Monroe County pavement preservation projects: Hartstrait Rd. from Vernal Pike to Walcott Ln., That Rd. from SR 37 to Rogers St., Woodyard Rd. from Curry Pike to Vernal Pk., Old SR 37 from Corporation Limits to Wylie Rd. and Old SR 37 from SR 37 to Rhorer Rd. These projects are not in the TIP. Ms. Osadczuk made comments about paving projects that would go through the process more quickly. Those would be projects not requiring right-of-way acquisition or environmental studies. Mr. Micuda asked FHWA and INDOT if MPOs are considering preservation projects for use of stimulus money. It was observed that some MPOs are if they don't have other projects that are shovel-ready.

Mr. Hess reviewed the bridge deck overlay project which includes 5 bridges in Monroe County. The request is for nearly \$861,000. This is not in the TIP.

iii. City of Bloomington projects

Mr. Williams presented the B-Line Trail (Phase II) project from 2nd to Grimes and Rogers to Adams. The requested stimulus money would be around \$2 million. Parks may receive funding through other stimulus related packages. This project is not in the TIP.

Mr. Williams noted that the Jackson Creek Trail has received a \$500,000 TE award. They are requesting \$222,000 to supplement their funds. It is shovel-ready. They have other potential sources of funding for this trail, too. This is in the TIP.

Mr. Reid said that the W. 3rd St. project is shovel-ready with an April 2009 letting date. The TEA-21 money has to be moved from right-of-way to construction. He requested that this be amended in the TIP. Mr. Micuda said this should not be problematic as long as it is in the record. Mr. Hess agreed since it is already in the TIP and doesn't trigger anything else. Without stimulus money, this project would proceed.

Mr. Reid said that the Henderson St. sidewalk (SRTS) project is scheduled for a May bid letting. It is already in the TIP and is fully funded. Ms. Fleig asked for clarification of using stimulus money in the place of local funds. Mr. Hess said that it can't be used in place of local matching funds. Ms. Osadczuk said the goal is to create more projects not fund projects that were already going to happen. At the end of the year, they want more projects being done. If a project is already obligated at 80/20, you have to go with that. Mr. Hess said that each project needs to be looked at to see if there is a possibility of added federal funds.

Mr. Reid said that the Atwater/Henderson project is in the TIP. They ran into a problem so now the letting is estimated at October. That could drop this project in priority.

Mr. Reid said that none of the sidewalk restoration projects are in the TIP and there are no drawings for the projects. Mr. Hess asked if the plans can be done in house or relatively quickly by a consultant. If they are done by a consultant, the City would have to absorb that cost. Ms. Osadczuk said the problem is usually time constraints.

iv. Town of Ellettsville

Connie Bastin said she had no information on any projects so she declined to comment.

Mr. Desmond asked if they couldn't prioritize individual projects, would the committee feel comfortable saying that they support certain types of projects. Mr. Micuda said he thought that non-TIP projects should be recommended since the TIP projects will likely be done otherwise. If pavement projects can be designed, he supported recommending them. Mr. Williams said he thought that other funds would come forward for the Jackson Creek Trail.

*****Mr. Micuda moved that the TAC place a high priority and recommendations for pavement preservation projects (including the bridge deck overlays) that can meet the stimulus deadlines, the Jackson Creek Trail project, and the Henderson St. sidewalk project. If it is determined that the pavement preservation projects cannot be done in accordance with timelines, the committee recommends dividing the remaining funds between the W. 3rd St. (Phase II), the road portion of the Vernal Pike (Phase II) and B-Line Trail projects. If the internal LPA meeting leads to a substantially different result, staff will contact the committee by email and ask for a special vote to amend the prioritization. Mr. Maull seconded. The motion was approved by a voice vote, 9:1. (Mr. Zody opposed.)**

Mr. Reid asked if there would be an LPA meeting. Mr. Hess said there is an LPA meeting scheduled for March 4.

*****Adrian Reid moved to move \$1,425,419.00 in TEA-21 funds from the right-of-way line to the construction line for the W. 3rd St. project and keep \$161, 348.00 in the TEA-21 right-of-way line. Mr. Micuda seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

v. Rural Transit

Mr. Desmond suggested voting on all transit motions under a single motion. Mr. Hess noted that the stimulus doesn't provide for operating expenses only capital expenses. Also, illustrative projects are eligible to go into the TIP.

Doug Norton said that \$129,000 would provide them with two new vehicles and a communication system. They have expanded into Putnam County and have been inundated with riders.

vi. Bloomington Transit

Lew May of BT said they would like to construct the downtown transfer facility to LEED specifications with the additional money. They believe that there are additional funds in transit funding for energy-related projects. BT may pursue these additional discretionary funds for hybrid buses.

vii. IU Campus Transit

Perry Maull said they would use the funds for a project at the Park and Ride facility located at the stadium. This would seek discretionary funds for this project.

*****Mr. Micuda moved approval of all of the transit projects. Perry Maull seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.**

VIII. Communications from Committee Members (*non-agenda items*)

Raymond Hess noted that the Friday Stimulus meeting has been cancelled. At the request of INDOT, he asked for copies of ADA-compliance plans if an LPA has one. Mr. Micuda thanked Ms. Osadczuk for attending.

IX. Upcoming Meetings

- A. Policy Committee – March 13, 2009 at 1:30pm (McCloskey Room)**
- B. Technical Advisory Committee – March 25, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. (McCloskey Room)**
- C. Citizens Advisory Committee – March 25, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)**

Adjournment

These minutes were approved by the Technical Advisory Committee at their regular meeting held on March 25, 2009 (RCH 03/25/2009).