



Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2010 McCloskey Conference Room 135, City Hall

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings from the meeting are available in the Planning Department for reference.

Attendance

Citizens Advisory Committee (Voting Members): Chair Jack Baker (McDoel Gardens NA), Vice-Chair Patrick Murray (Prospect Hill NA), Sarah Ryterband (Prospect Hill NA), Elizabeth Cox-Ash (McDoel Gardens NA), Ted Miller (citizen), Bill Milroy (Old Northeast NA), Buff Brown (citizen), Joanne Henriot (Bryan Park NA), Randy Paul (Citizen), David Walter (6th & Ritter NA), Jerry Stasny (Old Northeast NA), Natalie Wrubel (League of Women Voters), and Laurel Cornell (Prospect Hill NA).

Others In Attendance (including Non-Voting CAC Members): Dave Rollo (City Council/Peak Oil Task Force), Christine Glaser (Peak Oil TF), Larry Jacobs (Chamber of Commerce), Eve Corrigan (citizen), Raymond Hess (BMCMPPO staff), and Joe Fish (BMCMCO staff).

- I. Call to Order (~6:30 PM)**
- II. Election of Officers** - Mr. Baker indicated that he and Mr. Murray were interested in continuing to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively. There were no other nominations. Ms. Cornell motioned that the bylaws be suspended and that the vote be carried out by acclamation. Ms. Ryterband seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Ms. Ryterband then motioned to approve Mr. Baker as Chair and Mr. Murray as Vice-Chair. Ms. Henriot seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. Approval of Minutes** - The minutes from the November 18, 2009 meeting were accepted as presented.
- III. Communications from the Chair** – Mr. Baker mentioned that the Policy Committee scheduled a special meeting to discuss the Mt. Tabor Rd. Bridge project. The road had to be narrowed due to existing constraints along the corridor.
- IV. Reports from the Officers and/or Committees** – Mr. Hess stated that the Project Prioritization Subcommittee finished ranking the goals and objectives of the Long Range Transportation Plan Vision Statement. Staff will now take this information and try to develop a matrix by which projects could be prioritized. The Subcommittee will be reconvened to review the work performed by staff before something is brought back before the CAC as a whole.
- V. Reports from the MPO Staff**
 - A. Peak Oil Task Force Report – “Redefining Prosperity”** – Mr. Rollo and Ms. Glaser gave an extensive overview of the Peak Oil Task Force Report (the report is available online), especially the chapter related to transportation. A few of the reports key findings are: world oil supply peaked in 2008; the current built environment is our main vulnerability with regard to transportation; and proactively reducing fuel demand is a top priority. Ms. Cox-Ash suggested that energy efficient homes be made affordable.

Mr. Murray suggested incentivizing energy efficient measures through local policy documents. Mr. Milroy questioned the economic impact on the middle class to implement some of the report's suggestions. Mr. Paul commended the Task Force for their work. Mr. Brown stated that transportation costs are a serious burden on the middle class which could be lessened if viable alternatives were offered. He also went on to say that several documents support this but that the same sort of automobile-centric projects keep getting implemented.

B. TIP Amendments 1/8/10 – Mr. Hess explained that the Policy Committee adopted a series of minor TIP amendments on January 8th. The amendments include: adding the City of Bloomington's University Courts Brick St. Restoration Transportation Enhancement project; adding Monroe County's Karst Farm Trail Phase IIa Transportation Enhancement project; simplifying the project description for Rural Transit's Transit Stimulus Capital Equipment project; changing Rural Transit's Operating Budget; changing Monroe County's Pavement Preservation Project; and changing MCCSC's Batchelor Middle Infrastructure project to reflect updated preliminary engineering costs. Additionally, Mr. Hess suggested that staff will bring forth an amendment to the Public Participation Plan to allow for administrative amendments to projects in the TIP. This is allowable under federal regulations and would simplify certain straight-forward TIP amendments, some of which are time-sensitive in nature.

D. Mt. Tabor Rd/Matthews Dr. Bridge #33 – In follow-up to what Mr. Baker reported on earlier, Mr. Hess illustrated the Mt. Tabor Rd/Matthews Dr. Bridge. The bridge will be replaced and the road will be realigned. When Monroe County submitted this project for inclusion in the TIP, it asserted adequate accommodations for bicycles and pedestrians. However, at the northern edge of the project near Maple Grove Rd., the project is constrained by a creek on the west side and a historic property on the east side. As a result, Monroe County will be unable to continue the 8' shoulders at this end of the project. This affects its compliance with the Complete Streets Policy. The Policy Committee held a special meeting on January 22nd to discuss this project and after careful deliberation by the Policy Committee, the project was granted an exemption to the Complete Streets Policy where these constraints exist. Ms. Cornell suggested this was a bad idea and that the historic property could benefit from added shoulders. The expertise exists in the community to do this project correctly while avoiding adverse impacts to the historic property. Mr. Baker stated that the Policy Committee was told this was impossible and it's difficult to refute what was presented. Mr. Jacobs also stated that the area floods and that this project will mitigate this problem. Ms. Cox-Ash stated that road upgrades could be viewed as changing the setting of the historic property which could make the local government susceptible to lawsuits. This is why road construction projects across the country avoid impacting historic properties. Mr. Miller and Mr. Paul suggested that the CAC advise the Policy Committee to reconsider. Mr. Walter mentioned that the Ellettsville Heritage Trail is identified to go through this area. Ms. Ryterband expressed concern that a historic preservationist was not present at that meeting and that the information presented to the Policy Committee by the consultant may not have explored all of the possibilities. She suggested a meeting with Monroe County and interested parties to find an innovative solution to the problem. Ms. Ryterband motioned that the CAC request clarification from the Policy Committee on the

following points: Why was this not considered by the CAC before going to the Policy Committee?; Could the project scope be amended or the design be reconsidered so that the road with shoulders could provide an enhancement to the historic property, perhaps in the form of a historic street? Ms. Ryterband reworded the motion to request the Policy Committee to reconsider the design of the road to include the possibility of a historic road design which is complete streets compliant. Mr. Paul seconded the motion. The motion passed 12-1.

Ms. Ryterband then motioned to extend the meeting to no later than 8:15pm. Ms. Henriot seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hess explained that the advisory committees did not review this project before the Policy Committee because the Complete Streets Policy only mandates review by the Policy Committee and the schedule of the committee meetings would have meant that Monroe County would have had to wait over three months for this issue to be resolved.

E. The Jobs Bill - Mr. Hess explained that the Jobs Bill has been passed by the US House of Representatives and awaits consideration by the Senate. As it is written now, the Jobs Bill will be very similar to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in terms of project eligibility and funding levels. However, the timelines are more accelerated than ARRA which means eligible projects need to be identified as soon as possible.

VI. Old Business

A. Discussion – Role of CAC on bicycle and pedestrian issues – Mr. Baker suggested that a subcommittee be formed to take on this topic. Ms. Ryterband volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Mr. Murray said he will consider it. Anyone else interested in volunteering should email Mr. Baker.

VII. New Business

Ms. Cornell suggested that future presentations by outside groups be limited to 10 minutes of slides and 20 minutes of discussion.

VIII. Communications from Committee Members

A. Topic Suggestions for future agendas – Ms. Ryterband would like a status update on the Bypass and whether any of the City's bike/ped requests were incorporated since the letting is scheduled for May.

IX. Upcoming Meetings

- A. Technical Advisory Committee – February 24, 2010 at 10:00am (McCloskey Room)
- B. Citizens Advisory Committee – February 24, 2010 at 6:30pm (McCloskey Room)
- C. Policy Committee – March 12, 2010 at 1:30pm (McCloskey Room)

Adjournment (~8:15 PM)

*These minutes were accepted by the CAC at their regular meeting held on February 24, 2010.
(RCH: 2/24/2010)*