



Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 24, 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 Patrick Murray (Prospect Hill NA), Vice-Chair Laurel Cornell (Prospect Hill NA), Jack Baker (McDoel Gardens NA), Sarah Ryterband (Prospect Hill NA), Elizabeth Cox-Ash (McDoel Gardens NA), Bill Milroy (Old Northeast NA), Joanne Henriot (Bryan Park NA), David Walter (6th & Ritter NA), and Natalie Wrubel (League of Women Voters).

Others In Attendance (including Non-Voting CAC Members): Barbara Salisbury (SICIL), Paul Ash (McDoel Garden NA), Larry Jacobs (Chamber of Commerce), Raymond Hess (BMCMPPO staff), and Scott Robinson (BMCMPPO staff).

I. Call to Order (~6:30 PM)

II. Approval of Minutes - The February 24, 2010 meeting minutes were accepted.

III. Communications from the Chair – At the Policy Committee, Mr. Murray asked Jim Stark of INDOT about the lack of audible signals on the SR45/46 Bypass project. Mr. Murray conveyed what Mr. Stark said: the State is testing different types of pedestrian audible signals, they should have an approved model by the end of the year, and INDOT was confident that these pedestrian audible signals would be installed at 3rd St. and 10th St. intersections towards the end of the Bypass construction. Mr. Murray suggested the CAC continue to monitor the situation and Mr. Robinson asked the CAC to remind staff to follow-up with INDOT on this issue later in the year. Ms. Salisbury has tried to get a hold of Ed Cox (INDOT) to discuss some of the specifics about warrants and specifics about the signals but has been unable to get a hold of him. On a related note, Mr. Murray suggested that the CAC form a new subcommittee to work on ADA and Accessibility issues as it pertains to MPO projects. The subcommittee could be charged with monitoring INDOT’s progress to incorporate audible pedestrian signals on the Bypass project. Ms. Salisbury, Mr. Murray, Mr. Walter, and Mr. Milroy volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. It was also suggested that Mr. Paul and Mr. Kehrberg may be interested in this subcommittee based upon their previous interest on the subject.

Ms. Ryterband observed at the last Policy Committee that Mr. Stark was unable to answer how INDOT selects and prioritizes road projects to implement. She asked Mr. Murray if he could offer any insight on INDOT’s process to select projects and if citizens have access to this process. Mr. Hess explained that MPO staff tries to relay information to the Committees when INDOT documents are open to public comment. He mentioned that INDOT is updating the State’s Long Range Transportation Plan and that a public comment period should take place before adoption. Ms. Ryterband asked about the status of the 2010-2013 TIP. Mr. Hess answered that the State approved the TIP after the last Policy Committee meeting. Mr. Milroy stated that questions of accountability exist between the administrative and legislative branches of the State government.

IV. Reports from the Officers and/or Committees

A. Performance Based Vision Score – Mr. Robinson explained a draft scoring system was developed. The subcommittee will reconvene soon to review the draft and hopefully present something at the next meeting. Ms. Cox-Ash stated she is confident the scoring system will help build consensus among CAC members on how to evaluate projects.

B. Bicycle and Pedestrian Identification Subcommittee – Ms. Ryterband stated the group has not yet met.

V. Reports from the MPO Staff

A. 10th Street Mobility Study – Mr. Hess stated that a public presentation was held on March 11th to convey the final findings of the study. The study ultimately recommended the creation of a new two-way east-west road along Law Lane and 14th St. as the preferred alternative. This alternative best accommodates all modes of transportation. Mr. Hess said the final document should be available by April and the committees will be notified when it is available for download. Mr. Milroy asked how the intersection of Law and 10th by the railroad overpass will be addressed. Mr. Hess stated the study does not get into specific design details and recommendation since it was a feasibility study. Ms. Salisbury and Ms. Ryterband expressed concerns about roundabouts and pedestrian and bicycle safety. Mr. Milroy asked about the University's plans at 10th and the Bypass. Mr. Murray mentioned that a new building will be built at the northeast corner of this intersection and this area is identified to be part of a technology park.

Mr. Milroy mentioned that the City Planning Commission will review a 34 unit multi-family unit at the corner of 10th St. and N. Walnut St.

Mr. Hess announced that the City of Bloomington will hold a public meeting on March 31st at 5-7pm in Council Chambers to discuss improvements to the Monroe St./17th St./Arlington Rd. intersection. Mr. Hess will email the announcement to the MPO committees.

VI. Old Business

A. Long Range Transportation Plan and Travel Demand Model Update – Mr. Hess explained why the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) must be updated before March 2011. The Travel Demand Model (Model) is a key input into the LRTP. It forecasts congestion based upon population, land use, travel patterns, and anticipated improvements to the road network. The MPO's model was developed by a consultant and does not directly account for transit, bicycles, or pedestrians. Staff is interested in improving the model to include alternative forms of transportation and providing a stronger link to land use, as has been suggested by Mr. Brown. However, staff feels this would be better accomplished at a later date for the following reasons: no local department has budgeted the cost of a full-blown Model update (> \$100,000); the process to overhaul the Model and the LRTP would take over a year and result in the expiration of the existing LRTP; 2010 Census data, which is a key input into the Model, won't be available until 2012 and if a new Model is developed now it would have to rely on outdated Census data from 2000; new transportation legislation and federal mandates are anticipated to be passed by Congress next year which may affect what is required to be in



the LRTP; new transportation legislation also has an impact on the financial forecasts within the LRTP; lastly, the LRTP must have a 20 year planning horizon at the time of adoption and since the existing LRTP goes out until 2030 this requirement would be met if it is readopted this year. For these reasons, staff suggests that the MPO readopt the existing LRTP. The Technical Advisory Committee agrees with staff's recommendation. The Policy Committee did not voice any concerns over this approach but directed staff to develop a timeline for development of a new Model and LRTP. Staff will present the timeline at the next Committee meetings. Staff thinks a new LRTP could be adopted by 2013 or 2014.

The public comment period for re-adoption of the existing LRTP will begin at the end of the week and run for 30 days. Comments will be compiled and provided to the Committees for their consideration before they vote on this issue. Staff will seek recommendations from the CAC and TAC next month and request adoption from the Policy Committee at their May meeting. Mr. Hess stated that the LRTP can be amended at any time after its adoption. Mr. Robinson gave the example that the LRTP was amended in 2007 to be compliant with newly passed transportation legislation (SAFETEA-LU). Ms. Cornell and Mr. Baker stated that the course of action seemed reasonable.

VII. New Business

A. 2008 Crash Report – Mr. Hess stated that the Crash Report is not yet available. It will be distributed at the next meeting.

VIII. Communications from Committee Members

A. Topic Suggestions for future agendas – There were no suggestions.

IX. Upcoming Meetings

- A. Policy Committee – May 14, 2010 at 10:00am (McCloskey Room)
- B. Citizens Advisory Committee – March 24, 2010 at 6:30pm (McCloskey Room)
- C. Technical Advisory Committee – March 24, 2010 at 1:30pm (McCloskey Room)

Adjournment (~8:00 PM)

*These minutes were accepted by the CAC at their regular meeting held on April 28, 2010.
(RCH: 4/28/2010)*