



## CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 28, 2011

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

McCloskey Room (#135)

*Suggested Time:*

- 6:30pm I. Call to Order and Introductions
- II. Approval of Minutes:  
A. August 24, 2011
- III. Communications from the Chair
- IV. Reports from Officers and/or Committees
- V. Reports from the MPO Staff  
A. Roundabout Presentation
- 7:00pm VI. Old Business  
A. Public Comment Discussion  
B. Transportation Improvement Program Discussion  
    a. Information needed to make decisions about projects  
    b. Project Prioritization and Scoring System  
    c. Relation to other locally adopted documents
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Communications from Committee Members (*non-agenda items*)  
A. Topic Suggestions for future agendas
- IX. Upcoming Meetings  
A. Technical Advisory Committee – October 26, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. (McCloskey Room)  
B. Citizens Advisory Committee – October 26, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)  
C. Policy Committee – November 4, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. (Council Chambers)
- 8:00pm Adjournment
- \*Public comment prior to vote (limited to five minutes per speaker)*

**Bloomington/Monroe County Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
Citizens Advisory Committee

**Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

**August 24, 2011 McCloskey Conference Room 135, City Hall**

*Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner.  
Audio recordings of 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 (Citizen), Larry Jacobs (Chamber of Commerce), Buff Brown (BTOP), Sarah Ryterband (Prospect Hill NA), Marc Cornett (citizen), Barbara Salisbury (S. IN Center for Independent Living), Bill Milroy (Old Northeast NA), Joanne Henriot (Bryan Park NA), Ted Miller (citizen), and David Walter (6<sup>th</sup> and Ritter NA).

Others in Attendance (including Non-Voting CAC Members): Randy Paul (citizen), Elizabeth Venstra (BTOP), Raymond Hess (BMCMPPO), Vince Caristo (BMCMPPO), Mary Boutain (Area 10 Agency on Aging), Adrian Reid (Bloomington Engineering), Steven Walls (INDOT), Sandra Flum (INDOT), Roy Nunnally (INDOT), Jim Stark (INDOT), Rod Spaw (Herald Times).

**I. Call to Order and Introductions (~6:35 PM)**

**II. Approval of Minutes** - The June 22, 2011 minutes were accepted with no corrections.

**III. Communications from the Chair** – There were no communications.

**IV. Reports from Officers and/or Committees** – There were no reports.

**V. Reports from MPO Staff**

**A. FY2011 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Progress Report** – Mr. Hess presented the Progress Report. He highlighted that the MPO spent approximately 43% of planning funds after the first year of a two year Unified Planning Work Program.

**B. LRTP Task Force** - Mr. Hess displayed the LRTP Task Force webpage. The Task Force met in July. Staff presented findings on how the Lafayette MPO develops their Long Range Plan and Travel Demand Model. The Task Force also began discussions on how the visioning process and public engagement should advance.

**VI. Old Business**

**A. Public Comment Discussion**

**B. Transportation Improvement Program Discussion**

**a. Information needed to make decisions about projects**

**b. Project Prioritization and Scoring System**

**c. Relation to other locally adopted documents**

Mr. Murray suggested the Committee move Old Business to the end of the agenda. Mr. Miller so moved and Mr. Cornett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**VII. New Business**

**A. 2012 Meeting Schedule** – Mr. Hess explained the CAC must come to consensus on the meeting schedule for 2012. Mr. Walter motioned to keep the CAC meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:30pm. Ms. Cornell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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**B. FY2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments** – Mr. Hess said the Policy Committee’s actions on 5/13/11 to remove I-69 from the “new” FY2012-2015 TIP resulted in the State not accepting that document into the Statewide TIP (STIP). As a result, the only valid TIP for the MPO is the “old” FY2010-2013 TIP. Unfortunately, information about projects in the “old” TIP is outdated. Items a. through r. (refer to agenda) are simply to bring consistency between the “old” TIP and what was reviewed and approved by the committees in the adoption of the “new” TIP. Ms. Cornell made a motion to approve the amendments (a-r) as presented by staff. Ms. Ryterband seconded.

Mr. Brown gave a presentation on the City’s three roundabout projects: 17<sup>th</sup> St. & Arlington Rd.; Sare Rd. & Rogers Rd.; and Tapp Rd. & Rockport Rd. His presentation questioned the scope, size, need, and cost of these projects and suggested money should be reinvested into other initiatives such as the City’s Platinum Biking Task Force efforts. He also presented alternatives. He suggested the projects be removed from the TIP so that they can be redesigned. Mr. Jacobs said that with incomplete crash information for the Sare and Rogers Rd. intersection, the CAC should not rush to judgment on the design. Mr. Hess clarified the amendments for CAC consideration are to modify the costs and implementation schedules for certain projects in the old TIP, including the City’s roundabout projects. A “no” vote would result in those projects remaining out-of-date but would not result in the removal of the projects from the TIP. Removal of projects from an adopted TIP warrants a new 30 day written public comment period. Mr. Cornett suggested the roundabouts make no fiscal sense because they can be done more effectively for less money. Mr. Miller reminded everyone the Sare and Rogers roundabout was pushed back to 2013 because the CAC did not like the design. Mr. Hess suggested we need to figure out a more productive way to review projects; removing projects right before they go to construction results in wasted time and money on engineering and right-of-way. Mr. Reid stated the design and right-of-way is complete for the Sare and Rogers roundabout and that the project is compliant with the Complete Streets Policy and went through a public process. The one year delay to construction is causing problems because the project is now out of sync with a Bloomington Utilities water line upgrade. Mr. Reid stated the size is justified because it is the intersection of two arterial streets and needs to be able to accommodate truck traffic. Roundabouts are documented to be safer than traditional intersections and he provided several references to technical reports. Ms. Venstra stated BTOP supports Mr. Brown’s comments because of concerns about size, cost, safety, and the discouraging effect it will have on bicyclists and pedestrians using the intersection. Mr. Paul also supported Mr. Brown’s comments. Mr. Murray called the question on Ms. Cornell’s original motion. The motion passed unanimously.

After discussion on different approaches, Mr. Brown made a motion for the CAC to sponsor an amendment to remove the City’s three roundabouts from the FY2010-2013 TIP. Ms. Ryterband seconded the motion. Mr. Milroy took exception to this since City Council is recommending approval of the City budget which includes funding for these projects. Ms. Salisbury stated roundabouts are difficult for people with vision impairments because traffic never stops. The motion failed 4-6.

Mr. Walter made a motion to extend the meeting adjournment to 8:15. Mr. Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Hess explained the last proposed amendment to the FY2010-2013 TIP – a request from INDOT to add the construction phase of Section 4 of I-69. Ms. Flum explained the State is requesting this TIP amendment because the Final Environmental Impact Statement was issued and that the construction costs for the areas outside of the MPO’s urbanized area are already reflected in the STIP. Mr. Jacobs moved approval of the amendment to add the construction phase of Section 4 of I-69 into the FY2010-2013 TIP. Ms. Cornell seconded.

Mr. Walter asked about funding for the project. Ms. Flum responded federal and state gas tax funds are available and that the project is fiscally constrained. Mr. Miller asked about the CAC’s role in the evaluation of this request. He suggested the process to get MPO approval of State project such as I-69 is silly because the project has little to do with Bloomington. Mr. Stark explained the process started 25 to 30 years ago for this project and federal rules dictate public involvement opportunities including adding the project to the MPO’s TIP. Ms. Cornell added that prior to 1991, urban areas had no say in State projects. The federal transportation legislation, ISTEA, provided this mechanism by which urban areas could put their imprint onto State projects. Mr. Milroy suggested the most effective way to have the public’s voice heard is for constituents to vote for leaders that share their view on this topic. The motion failed 1-7 (Mr. Brown recused himself).

**C. FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments**

Mr. Hess explained that although the “new” FY2012-2015 TIP was not yet approved by the State, there are changes to projects that should be reflected. The three local projects have all been reviewed and approved by the MPO Committees in the past: Monroe County’s sign upgrade; Bloomington’s sign upgrade; and Ellettsville’s Heritage Trail Phase II. INDOT’s request to put construction of Section 4 of I-69 in the “old” TIP also lends itself to an amendment to put I-69 back in the “new” TIP, inclusive of right-of-way and construction. Ms. Cornell motioned to recommend approval of the three amendments to local projects in the FY2012-2015 TIP. Joanne seconded and the motion passed 8-1. Mr. Jacobs motioned to approve inclusion of I-69 section 4 in the “new” TIP. Laurel Cornell seconded. Ms. Cornell implored INDOT to construct a highway for the 21<sup>st</sup> century which would include: the possibility of future transit like light rail; dedicated truck lanes and technology to make traffic move more efficiently; intermodal connections and terminals to rail, air, and waterway ports; and multi-use trails to encourage physical activity and economic growth across the state. Ms. Henriot agreed with Ms. Cornell’s comments. Mr. Jacobs’ motion failed 1-7 (Mr. Brown recused himself).

**VIII. Communications from Committee Members** – Ms. Cornell suggested a future presentation about roundabouts. Mr. Walter suggested putting the “Old Business” on next month’s agenda.

**IX. Upcoming Meetings**

- A. Policy Committee – September 9, 2011 at 1:30pm (Council Chambers)
- B. Technical Advisory Committee – September 28, 2011 at 10:00am (McCloskey Room)
- C. Citizens Advisory Committee – September 28, 2011 at 6:30pm (McCloskey Room)

**Adjournment** (~8:25 PM)

*These minutes were \_\_\_\_\_ by the CAC at their regular meeting held on September 28, 2011.  
(RH: 9/22/2011)*