



Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2009 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 full reference.

Attendance

Citizens Advisory Committee (Voting Members): Chair Jack Baker (McDoel Gardens NA), Vice-Chair Patrick Murray (Prospect Hill NA), John Kehrberg (Citizen), Sarah Ryterband (Prospect Hill NA), Ted Miller (Citizen), Elizabeth Cox-Ash (McDoel Gardens NA), David Walter (6th & Ritter NA), Buff Brown (BTOP), and Jerry Stasny (Old Northeast NA).

Others In Attendance (including Non-Voting CAC Members): Joanne Henriot (Bryan Park NA), Randy G. Paul (citizen), Regina DiLamore (Environmental Commission), Larry Jacobs (Chamber of Commerce), Jay Mitchell (INDOT), Jerry Halperin (INDOT), David A. Butts (INDOT), Jim Peyton (Michael Baker Group), Mary Jo Hamman (Micheal Baker Group), Janice Osadcuk (FHWA), Josh Desmond (BMC MCO Staff), and Raymond Hess (BMC MPO Staff).

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

II. Election of Officers

Jack Baker asked if there were any nominations for the position of Chair and Vice-Chair. He indicated a willingness to be chair and Patrick Murray expressed interest in being vice-chair. Jack Baker was elected Chair by a vote of 9-0. Patrick Murray was elected Vice-Chair by a vote of 9-0.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the November 19, 2008 meeting were accepted by the CAC.

IV. Communications from the Chair

Mr. Baker reported that the Policy Committee adopted the Complete Streets Policy on January 9, 2009 by a vote of 8-4. Mr. Baker explained why some Policy Committee members voted against the policy. This largely had to do with timing of the policy in relation to a new INDOT initiative as well as uncertainty about the preference of some elected officials.

V. Reports from the Officers and/or Committees - There were no reports.

VI. Reports from the MPO Staff

Mr. Hess presented the Progress Report for the 2nd Quarter of FY 2009. In response to Mr. Baker's question, Mr. Hess explained that money is available for the City to complete the W. 2nd Street Corridor Study but that the City has not moved forward on this project for over a year. Mr. Baker also urged the Committee to continue formulating project ideas for a student design study with Ball State University. Mr. Miller asked about the status of the North Campus Area Study. Mr. Hess explained that IU chose a consultant and that the project would begin soon. Mr. Murray stated that IU has completed the campus master plan and will publish it in March.

VII. Old Business – There was no old business

VIII. New Business

A. Census Tract Boundary Delineation

Mr. Desmond explained that the Census Bureau is making modifications to census tract and block boundaries in preparation of the 2010 Census. Boundaries need to be adjusted so that census tracts and blocks meet recommended thresholds for housing units, population values or both. City and County staff are working with the US Census Bureau to help with these modifications and the invitation is extended to anyone involved in the MPO who would also like to participate.

B. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

a. Safe Routes to School Grant Award (MCCSC)

Mr. Hess reported that the Monroe County Community School Corporation successfully garnered \$75,000 to conduct safe routes to school travel plans at seven local schools. The project needs to be added to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) before funds can be spent. Ms. Ryterband made a motion that the project be added to the TIP. Mr. Walter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

b. Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant Award (Bloomington)

Mr. Hess explained the MPO awarded the City of Bloomington \$564,300 in Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds to make improvements to the intersection of Atwater Avenue and Henderson St. A TIP amendment is warranted to update costs and funding sources for this project. Mr. Miller made a motion to amend the TIP to update costs for the Atwater/Henderson project. Mr. Kerhberg seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-1. Mr. Brown voted against the amendment because of the left turn lane on Atwater Ave.

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

Mr. Desmond explained that INDOT wishes to acquire one parcel at the southwest corner of Tapp Rd. and SR 37. This is a hardship acquisition because the property owner has demonstrated financial hardship and been unable to sell the property because of the impact of I-69 on this property. Mr. Butts explained that the house would be demolished after the site is acquired and INDOT would maintain the property. In response to a question from Mr. Murray, Mr. Butts stated that this section of I-69 is not funded and therefore does not have an implementation timeline. Mr. Brown recused himself from voting since he works for INDOT. Mr. Walter made a motion to adopt the project into the TIP. Ms. Cox-Ash seconded the motion. Mr. Murray stated he would support the amendment for the sake of the property owner and not because he supports I-69. The motion passed 7-0-1. Ms. Ryterband abstained because her opposition to I-69 prevented her from voting for the project.

d. Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act Projects

Mr. Hess explained that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) will provide added funds for transportation projects within the urbanized area. INDOT will receive its own allocation of stimulus funds which it may choose to invest in this area. Transit providers will be provided with ARRA funds directly through a formulaic distribution, similar to how they



currently receive federal transit subsidies. Additionally, the BMCMPPO will receive approximately \$2.7 million in additional Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. Projects must be shovel-ready and follow all applicable federal guidelines. Ms. Osadczyk explained that this money will be redistributed to other states if it is not obligated in one year. Mr. Hess stated there are \$19 million dollars in requests from Bloomington, Monroe County, and Ellettsville to use this \$2.7 million. Ultimately, a decision must be made on which projects will receive this funding and the CAC is asked to make a recommendation to the Policy Committee. Mr. Brown asked if bicycle boulevards would be an eligible project. Mr. Hess stated that this project was not submitted for consideration and may not be ready for implementation.

INDOT Project

Mr. Hess stated Indiana Department of Transportation would like to use ARRA funds for preventive maintenance of SR 46 between SR 446 and SR 135. This project would be funded with the State's share of ARRA funds and would not affect the MPO pot. This project is partially in the urbanized area and therefore would have to be amended into the TIP. Ms. Ryterband motioned to amend the project into the TIP. Mr. Miller seconded and the project passed 8-0 (Mr. Brown recused himself from the vote).

Rural Transit Projects

Mr. Hess explained that Rural Transit has proposed to use ARRA funds on three projects: a paratransit vehicle; a large light transit vehicle, and a communications system. Rural Transit will use ARRA funds received through a formulaic distribution and not from the MPO's allocation.

Bloomington Transit (BT) Projects

Mr. Hess stated that Bloomington Transit is expected to receive \$1.7million in ARRA funds directly. BT has indicated they wish to use all of this funding for the downtown transfer facility and make it a green building, preferably LEED certified. Bloomington Transit also wishes to add three projects to the TIP as illustrative in case extra funding is received: 5 hybrid buses, facility security camera system, and upgrade fare collection system.

Indiana University Campus Bus Project

Mr. Hess explained that IU Campus Bus would like to make improvements to the Park and Ride facility at the stadium. Mr. Murray explained that this would include a shelter and some basic amenities. This project is already identified in the TIP but this amendment would change the funding source to ARRA funds.

Mr. Walter motioned to approve all transit project amendments as outlined by staff. Ms. Ryterband seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Miller motioned to suspend the rules so that the meeting could go to 8:30pm. Ms. Cox-Ash seconded the motion and the passed unanimously.

City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Town of Ellettsville Projects

Mr. Hess quickly reviewed each of the projects submitted for consideration to use ARRA funds: Monroe County (Vernal Pike Phase II; Vernal Pike Sewer Phase I; Pavement Preservation for 4



roads; Bridge Deck Overlay for 5 bridges), City of Bloomington (B-Line Phase II; Jackson Creek Trail; W. 3rd St.; Henderson St. Sidewalk; Atwater and Henderson Intersection Improvements; Sidewalk restoration; Pavement Preservation for 24 road segments; 4 traffic signal upgrades), and the Town of Ellettsville (Heritage Trail, and Pavement preservation for 2 roads). Mr. Walter stated that the Redevelopment Commission recently awarded Tax Increment Financing funds for the traffic signal upgrades proposed by the City. In response to a question from Mr. Miller, Mr. Hess stated that if ARRA funds go to the W. 3rd St. project than the freed-up local funds would likely go to the new railroad crossing at Johnson St.

Mr. Baker asked each member for their top pick and he recorded the responses. After three rounds of this exercise the top three priorities were identified as 1.) B-Line Trail Phase II 2.) Henderson Street Sidewalk and 3.) Jackson Creek Trail. Ms. Cox-Ash made a motion to prioritize use of ARRA funds in this order. Ms. Ryterband seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Communications from Committee Members

A. Topic Suggestions for future agendas

Mr. Brown announced that Dr. Vuchic, author of Transportation for Livable Cities, will make a presentation on March 23 at the Indiana Law School and discuss how to implement transit.

III. Upcoming Meetings

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

Adjournment (~8:30 PM)

*These minutes were approved by the CAC at their regular meeting held on March 25, 2009.
(SR 3/25/2009)*