



**Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**January 14, 2011 McCloskey Conference Room 135, City Hall**

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

**Policy Committee:** Jack Baker (Bloomington Plan Commission), Kathy Eaton-McKalip (INDOT), Susie Johnson (Bloomington Public Works), Richard Martin (Monroe County Plan Commission), Kent McDaniel (Bloomington Public Transportation Corp.), Mark Kruzan (Mayor—City of Bloomington), Patrick Murray (CAC Chair), Mark Stoops (County Commissioners), Mike Farmer (Ellettsville Town Council), Julie Thomas (Monroe County Council), and Bill Williams (Monroe County Highway Department).

**Others:** Adrian Reid (Engineering Department), Jay DuMontelle (FHWA), Michelle Allen (FHWA), Sam Sarvis (INDOT), David Pluckerbaum (Corradino), and Lew May (Bloomington Transit).

**MPO Staff:** Josh Desmond, Raymond Hess, Scott Robinson and Jane Weiser.

- I. **Call to Order**—Mr. McDaniel called the meeting to order.
- II. **Election of Officers**
  - A. **Chair**—Ms. Johnson nominated Kent McDaniel. Mr. Williams seconded. There was unanimous approval.
  - B. **Vice-chair**—Mr. Martin nominated Jack Baker. Ms. Thomas seconded. There was unanimous approval.
- III. **Approval of Minutes:**
  - A. **November 5, 2010**—Ms. Thomas made a correction to page 5 of the minutes inserting “non-ramped” for “ramped.” Mr. Martin provided an expanded explanation of the importance of keeping Harmony Rd. open in his motion on page 13. Those changes were made. Mr. Farmer moved approval of the corrected minutes. Mr. Baker seconded. The Nov. 5, 2010 minutes were unanimously approved.
- IV. **Communications from the Chair**—Mr. McDaniel noted that there has been an increase in BT ridership in 2010 to 3,265,102 passengers—a 6.82% increase over the previous year. Campus Bus set a new ridership record 3,631,007 for 2010. We are getting very close to carrying the most passengers in the state. Zimride has over 2000 registered users. Mr. Martin said that his wife uses the Campus Bus Service now and has found [www.doublemap.com](http://www.doublemap.com) very useful. Mr. Baker asked if there were any signs of car use declining. Mr. McDaniel said there is still a lot of gridlock on campus. Mr. Hess said that we don’t do general traffic counts locally. Mr. Baker would like for staff to look into the possibility of doing that since part of the MPO’s mission statement is to reduce automobile usage. Mr. McDaniel said that 10 years ago they used survey bus riders. The numbers of parking tickets and parking fines have gone way down. Mr. Coyne said that the traffic calming devices appear to be functioning very well. Many more students are crossing together and motorists seem to be cooperating with the pedestrian flow. Mr. May said that they have made it more difficult for the buses to keep to their schedules.

**V. Reports from Officers and/or Committees**

- A. Citizens Advisory Committee**—No report.
- B. Technical Advisory Committee**—No report.

**VI. Reports from the MPO Staff**

**A. Project Tracking**—Mr. Hess reminded the PC that the all LPAs that have projects in the TIP need to provide quarterly tracking reports to both the Seymour District INDOT and the MPO. He reviewed highlights of the report and gave a status update on the Change Order Reserve.

**B. 2009 Crash Report**—Mr. Hess presented an overview of the 2007-2009 Crash Report. Mr. Martin noted that several crash locations were located by their local name although they are a state highway. If it has a local name, are we responsible for changes and improvements there? Mr. Hess said no. The local names don't signify jurisdiction. Mr. Martin said his concern was to make sure that this indicates where we can have an impact and where we can't. Of the top 15 sites, only one isn't a state highway. We will have to rely on the state for road improvements. So our focus is not on those items, we can focus on the other ones and use less money. It would be nice if this report reflected this. Mr. Hess said that on the last page there is an HSIP list which has eliminated the state intersections. Mr. Martin asked if on page 9 Mr. Hess could insert a paragraph that makes the distinctions and points the reader to this HSIP report.

**C. Annual Completion Report**—Mr. Hess said this is a report that staff creates at the end of every fiscal year to show what we have been doing with our planning funds. The report is reviewed by INDOT and FHWA. There was a large spike in spending in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Most of that is attributed to the Monroe County Aerial Update for the GIS layer. Mr. Baker asked about item 503 says that the MPO has decided not to continue work on the Alternative Transportation Quarter Study. Why did we decide not to continue that? Mr. Hess said that this was a report by a consultant and it was finished. It was incorporated into the County Comp Plan.

**D. 2011 Meeting Schedule**—Mr. Hess addressed his notification of meeting dates to committee members. The meeting schedule says no meeting in April however he has scheduled a tentative meeting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in April. We have until the end of April to transmit our TIP to be included in the STIP.

**E. Plan Commission Agenda: March 7, 2011 Federal Highway Administration**

**Certification Review**—Mr. Desmond said that this review is carried out about every 5 years. We are scheduled to have this on January 25-26. Jay DuMontelle said between 4:30 and 6:30 interested people could make appointments with him for a meeting.

**F. 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program Call for Projects**—Mr. Hess issued a call for projects today. The deadline is on Valentine's Day. We will present the projects to the CAC and TAC at the end of February. A 30-day public comment period will begin in March. After being presented at CAC and TAC, staff hopes for final approval from the Policy Committee on April 9.

Mr. Desmond said that the spring call for projects for HSIP opens today. He will forward information to the LPAs. February 25 is the close of the call. There will be another call in the fall.

## VII. Old Business

**A. Public Participation Plan Amendment**—Mr. Robinson explained why staff is bringing this forward. When it is an amendment qualifies as an administrative modification, staff notify everyone on this committee before it is approved. If there is any objection, we would do the best we can to follow all of the committees for public input so that we could do a TIP amendment. If there are no objections, then we would be able to follow administrative approval based upon the director and chair of the Policy Committee. In that case, staff would notify all committees that the minor amendment has been made. Staff would like to issue the official 45-day public comment period on January 20. After reporting back to the TAC and CAC, we anticipate seeking action from the PC on March 11. Ms. Thomas asked for the language concerning the protocol following an objection to be clarified. Mr. Martin asked that wording in several places be changed to reflect that the 20% increase trigger specifically refers to a 20% increase in that particular project.

## VIII. New Business

### A. FY2010 -2013 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

**1. Hybrid buses; BT Access Vehicles; Operational Assistance; & Fare Collection Equipment; (*Action Requested*)**—Mr. Hess outlined the request from BT to amend the TIP to allow purchase of 35-foot hybrid electric buses, purchase of BT Access vehicles, the purchase of fare collection equipment, and changes to operational assistance. Lew May further explained the need for each of the amendments. In response to a question, Mr. May explained there has been a change in scope to the downtown transfer facility project to now include the 911 Police Dispatch. \*\*\***Susie Johnson moved approval. Richard Martin seconded. There was no public comment. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**B. Transportation Enhancement Selection Committee (*Nomination Requested*)**—Mr. Desmond asked for 2 nominations. Jack Baker volunteered. Bill Williams volunteered.

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

### A. Topic Suggestions for future agendas

## X. Upcoming Meetings

**A. Technical Advisory Committee – January 26, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. (McCloskey Room)**

**B. Citizens Advisory Committee – January 26, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)**

**C. Policy Committee – March 11, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)**

## Adjournment

*\*Public comment prior to vote (limited to five minutes per speaker)*

*These minutes were adopted by the Policy Committee at their meeting held on 3/11/11. (JFW)*