



Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 23, 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 (Prospect Hill NA), Joanne Henriot (Bryan Park NA), Ted Miller (citizen), Jack Baker (McDoel Gardens NA), Paul Ash (McDoel Gardens NA), Elizabeth Cox-Ash (McDoel Gardens NA), Larry Jacobs (Chamber of Commerce), and Sarah Ryterband (Prospect Hill NA).

Others In Attendance (including Non-Voting CAC Members): Josh Desmond (BMCMPPO), Raymond Hess (BMCMPPO), Vince Caristo (BMCMPPO), Buff Brown (B-TOP), Dave Williams (Bloomington), Adrian Reid (Bloomington), Steven Walls (INDOT), Amy O'Shea (IU), Perry Maull (IU Campus Transit), Lew May (Bloomington Transit), Kay S. Bull (BTOP), Chris Tietz (Bloomington Bicycle Club), Marc Cornett (Architect), and Steven Walls (INDOT).

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

II. Approval of Minutes - The February 23, 2011 minutes were accepted.

III. Communications from the Chair – Mr. Murray reported on the March 11th Policy Committee meeting: the Public Participation Plan was approved; Rural Transit's TIP amendment was approved; Transportation Enhancement funds were awarded to the Heritage Trail Phase II, and there was a report on the Grimes Lane Operations Facility Study by Bloomington Transit and their consultant.

IV. Reports from Officers and/or Committees

A. LRTP Task Force – Mr. Hess gave an update on the work of the Long Range Transportation Plan Task Force and reviewed the Task Force's webpage. He indicated the group is concluded its peer community research.

V. Reports from MPO Staff – There were no reports.

Upon a suggestion from staff, Mr. Baker moved to change the agenda so that New Business precedes Old Business. Mr. Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. New Business

A. FY2011-2012 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment - Mr. Desmond explained the UPWP needs to be amended to add funding and new planning emphasis areas. An additional \$74,633 in federal funds will be split to help fund quarterly project tracking, the Long Range Transportation Plan Update, ADA Transition Plans, and Planning and Environmental Linkages. Mr. Baker suggested the MPO develop a method by which the effect of transit use, bicycle riding, and walking has on vehicles miles traveled. Mr. Baker moved to recommend approval of the amended UPWP. Ms. Ryterband seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Highway Safety Improvement Program Application Review – Mr. Hess explained the MPO receives an allocation of HSIP funds. A call for projects was open from January 14 to February 24. One application was received. The City of Bloomington requests \$90,000 in HSIP funds to upgrade outdated regulatory, warning, and guide signs to meet new federal requirements for retroreflectivity. Mr. Miller asked about the new regulations. Mr. Hess would forward information to the Committee with a comparison of signs using the new and old reflectivity requirements. Ms. Ryterband asked what other types of projects are eligible for HSIP funds. Mr. Hess said he would send the State’s guidelines to the Committee as well. Ms. Cornell moved to recommend approval of the City’s request for HSIP funds to upgrade signs. Mr. Baker seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Old Business

A. FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program – Mr. Hess reviewed the document and highlighted the proposed changes from the original draft. These changes include: removal of the Allen St. Bike Blvd.; adding the Black Lumber Trail spur; adding the College Mall Pedestrian Improvement; changes to Old SR37 & Dunn; and corrections 17th & Arlington Roundabout, and Fullerton Pike. The CAC decided at the previous meeting to score the new projects of the TIP. Mr. Hess reviewed the total project scores compiled from the work of four CAC members. Mr. Baker noted the scoring system seemed very biased to bike/ped projects and was unable to effectively score projects like BT’s financial management software project. Ms. Cox-Ash asked why more Committee members did not use the scoring system. Many Committee members stated they didn’t have time and that the current system is not very user friendly since the form needs to be downloaded, saved, filled-out, and then sent back to staff. Mr. Miller questioned if the scoring system should be used only to evaluate street projects and not projects like financial management software. Mr. Murray suggested the Committee revisit this issue the next time there is a light agenda. Mr. Baker stated the W. 2nd Street Feasibility Study should be subject to the Complete Streets Policy. Mr. Desmond suggested that language be inserted into the project description to address this concern. In response to another question from Mr. Baker, Mr. Hess explained the Allen St. Bike Blvd. will be fast tracked using local funds only which is why it will be removed from the TIP. Mr. Baker moved to recommend approval of the TIP with the changes outlined by staff and to include Complete Streets language in the 2nd Street Feasibility Study’s project description.

Mr. Brown gave a presentation which questioned the transportation priorities of the City and of the TIP. He suggested the scope of the Sare and Rogers roundabout and the 17th and Arlington roundabout were too big, too costly, and not enhancing the livability of the area. He proposed less costly alternatives for each intersection, the savings of which could be used to enhance the bicycle and pedestrian network. Mr. Tietz stated that large roundabouts create problems for cyclists and cyclists regularly pass through the Sare and Rogers intersection. Mr. Cornette suggested the Committee retro-actively score the roundabouts and perform a cost/benefit analysis. Mr. Miller stated this highlights the problem with the MPO’s project development process – not enough information is known and no context is given which enables the committees to make informed decisions about projects.

Since the meeting time was set to expire, Ms. Ryterband motioned to extend the meeting by

ten minutes. The motion passed 8-1-0.

Mr. Reid stated that both projects contain amenities for bicyclists and pedestrians. Mr. Miller asked why such an elaborate design is warranted. Mr. Reid replied that the roundabouts serve major arterials and the projected growth in the area influenced the design. Ms. Ryterband suggested the projects are bad for cyclists and children. She motioned to recommend approval of the TIP but to push the 17th/Arlington and Sare/Rogers roundabouts to fiscal year 2013 so that the design could be reconsidered. Ms. Henriot seconded. The motion did not pass with a vote of 4-4-0. The committee then entertained Mr. Baker's original motion which also did not pass with a vote of 4-4-0.

Ms. Cornell asked if the functional classifications of the roads could be changed. Mr. Reid stated this may be possible. Ms. O'Shea asked if a different growth rate could be applied. Mr. Reid replied that several different growth rates were used in the analysis but the added capacity was still needed. Mr. Tietz stated that there is no growth potential near Sare/Rogers will affect future demand. Ms. Cornell motioned to recommend approval of the TIP, inclusive of staff's changes, to include Complete Streets language on the 2nd Street Feasibility Study, and to move construction of the Sare/Rogers Roundabout to fiscal year 2013. Ms. Henriot seconded the motion and it passed 5-3-0.

VIII. Communications from Committee Members

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

IX. Upcoming Meetings

- A. Policy Committee – April 8, 2011 at 1:30pm (Council Chambers)
- B. Technical Advisory Committee – April 27, 2011 at 10:00am (McCloskey Room)
- C. Citizens Advisory Committee – April 27, 2011 at 6:30pm (McCloskey Room)

Adjournment (~8:20 PM)

*These minutes were approved by the CAC at their regular meeting held on April 27, 2011.
(RCH: 4/27/2011)*