



Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
May 25, 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), Jack Baker (McDoel Gardens NA), Ted Miller (citizen), John Kehrberg (citizen), Paul Ash (McDoel Gardens NA), Elizabeth Cox-Ash (McDoel Gardens NA), Barbara Salisbury (S. IN Center for Independent Living), Bill Milroy (Old Northeast NA), Marc Cornett (citizen), Buff Brown (citizen), Joanne Henriot (Bryan Park 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), Justin Wykoff (Bloomington Engineering), Adrian Reid (Bloomington Engineering), Michelle Allen (FHWA), and Steven Walls (INDOT).

- I. Call to Order and Introductions (~6:35 PM)**
- II. Approval of Minutes** - The April 27, 2011 minutes were accepted.
- III. Communications from the Chair** – Mr. Murray reported on the May 13th Policy Committee meeting. The FY2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program was adopted by the Policy Committee. I-69 was removed from the document prior to adoption. The adoption also included the CAC’s recommendations concerning the Sare & Rogers Roundabout project and the W. 2nd Street Feasibility Study in addition to staff corrections.
- IV. Reports from Officers and/or Committees** – None.
- V. Reports from MPO Staff**
 - A. Quarterly Project Tracking** – Mr. Hess explained quarterly project tracking is necessitated pursuant to the Complete Streets Policy and direction from FHWA. A new addition to this report is that a contact person was added for every project. He also reminded the Committee that the report is meant to track projects up to the point of letting and is not meant to give status updates during construction. There may be interest to continue to report on projects until they are complete. He reviewed the report with the CAC project by project. Several questions were asked as to why the Complete Streets Policy does not apply to several projects within the report. Mr. Hess responded that several projects were “grandfathered.”
 - B. Long Range Transportation Plan Task Force** - Mr. Hess provided an update on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Task Force. Staff has contacted several other MPOs across the country to identify best practices which can be applied locally. Several of the MPOs have project prioritization methodologies and different ways to account for bike, ped, and transit trips in their Travel Demand Model which may be of interest to the BMCMPPO. The Task Force will discuss the visioning process and how to capture public sentiment. This will likely include engaging stakeholder groups and a scientific survey. Mr. Cornett suggested that the results of the Long Range Plans be analyzed as well. Mr.

Cornett also expressed interest in sitting on the Task Force.

Mr. Desmond discussed the Certification Review Report developed by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. The BMCMPPO was found to be in compliance with federal requirements and no corrective actions were identified. There were six recommendations proposed, four of which deal with the Long Range Transportation Plan. Michelle Allen further discussed FHWA's findings: Safety projects should be coordinated with INDOT; A map of bike/ped corridors should be included in the LRTP; The effectiveness of the LRTP should be measured in some way; and Accessibility and ADA Transition Plans are important. Barbara Salisbury asked if the Bypass project will include audible signals. Ms. Allen replied INDOT has committed to adding these signals but that the types of signals and locations have not yet been identified. In response to a question from Ms. Ryterband, Ms. Allen said she would share with MPO staff any best practices in LRTP performance measures she comes across. Mr. Brown suggested modeling can lead to desired indicators such as mode shift and reduced vehicle miles traveled.

VI. Old Business

A. ADA and Accessibility Policy – The draft policy was presented to the CAC last month and the Committee members were asked to provide feedback at this meeting. Mr. Baker asked if the policy is meant to be stand-alone or combined with Complete Streets. Mr. Murray replied that it could be merged with and influence existing policies. Mr. Baker suggested that the “relative worth” language in the first paragraph be modified. Mr. Cornett would like to see the Complete Streets Policy applied to more projects if this accessibility language is added. Staff explained why the Complete Streets Policy is not applicable to certain projects. Mr. Murray and Ms. Henriot explained that the point of the ADA Policy is to make sure that accessibility is a matter of course in the development of projects. Mr. Miller suggested that, under this policy, if a project cannot demonstrate accessibility and ADA compliance then the BMCMPPO could remove it from the TIP. Mr. Baker stated the City will embark upon an update to the Growth Policies Plan and expects Complete Streets to be discussed as part of that process.

VII. New Business – In the interest of time, Mr. Baker made a motion to move the 17th/Arlington Roundabout discussion to the beginning of New Business. Ms. Cox-Ash seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C. 17th/Arlington Roundabout – This agenda item and the material in the packet was put in the packet at the request of Mr. Brown. He stated the City has no strategy identified in the TIP as to how it can become a platinum level Bicycle Friendly Community. Instead there are three costly roundabout projects proposed by the City. He detailed the safety concerns, cost and scope of the 17th and Arlington roundabout and questioned the need for the project. He suggested less costly options, such as a four way stop, could achieve the same safety benefits and free up millions of dollars so that projects which promote alternative transportation could be implemented. Portland has allocated funds to bicycle infrastructure which has resulted in an increase in bicycle use and a decrease in crashes. He suggested that benefit/cost analysis should be added to the scoring criteria used by the CAC. Ms. Cornett suggested an alternate approach to eliminating an entire project like the 17th/Arlington roundabout would be to take a little bit off of multiple projects and then

allocate that amount to alternative transportation. Mr. Baker informed the Committee that an affordable housing project at 17th and Crescent Rd. resulted in a City commitment to improve the 17th & Arlington and other nearby intersections. Mr. Cornett stated we are asking the wrong questions if these large roundabouts are the answer. Ms. Salisbury said navigating roundabouts as a visually impaired pedestrian is very difficult. Mr. Wykoff stated drivers must yield for pedestrians in a crosswalk and they reduce crossing distances for pedestrians. Mr. Wykoff provided further justification for the roundabout at the request of Mr. Baker. A well-attended public meeting for the project was held early in the process which presented several different options. There is a lot of public support for the project. This area also suffers from storm water issues and this project will address these concerns. The size of this roundabout is comparable to the other ones in town, with the exception of a slip lane for trucks heading west to access businesses along 17th St. Other options, such as a four way stop, would not have met the engineering performance standards. There are also long term considerations that went into the design such as the connection of 17th and Vernal Pike as part of the I-69 project. Mr. Miller expressed concern over the scope of the new proposed roundabouts at 17th/Arlington and Sare/Rogers – the more elaborate they become, the less likely they are the best solution. Mr. Wykoff explained that growth patterns demonstrate the need for these slip lanes. Ms. Cornell suggested that the CAC have a workshop on roundabouts to better understand them. Ms. Ryterband expressed concern over how cars accelerate coming out of the roundabout even in the presence of crosswalks and possibly pedestrians.

VIII. Communications from Committee Members

- A. Topic Suggestions for future agendas** – Mr. Murray stated that the agenda items not discussed would be put on the agenda for next month. He also stated the ADA and Accessibility Policy would be on agenda. Mr. Baker asked if the CAC could be given an explanation on the City's efforts to become a Platinum Bicycling Community. Ms. Salisbury would like to discuss the concerns she has about the SR45/46 Bypass and what actions the CAC could pursue.

IX. Upcoming Meetings

- A. Policy Committee – June 10, 2011 at 1:30pm (Council Chambers)
- B. Technical Advisory Committee – June 22, 2011 at 10:00am (McCloskey Room)
- C. Citizens Advisory Committee – June 22, 2011 at 6:30pm (McCloskey Room)

Adjournment (~8:05 PM)

*These minutes were accepted by the CAC at their regular meeting held on June 22, 2011.
(SR: 6/22/2011)*