

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

The Linn County Regional Planning Commission

will meet

Thursday, October 5, 2006

3:00 - 4:30 P.M.

Cedar Rapids City Council Chambers

4th Floor, Cedar Rapids City Hall

Action Items

1. **Approve minutes of previous meeting** (attached).

2. **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Revisions, Amendments.**

FY07-FY10 TIP Transit Element Revision (1): Increasing the funding request for Section 5317 (New Freedom) funding from \$65,000 to \$76,054 for each year of the TIP and specifying the three proposed projects as follows:

a. Expansion of Volunteer Transportation Program by Aging Services - \$25,000

b. Expansion of C.A.B.S. & Personal Use Rides - \$21,090

c. Funding for existing accessible taxi program & expansion of second vehicle in service - \$29,964

This revision does not affect the fiscal constraint of the TIP or any other approved and programmed transit project.

Requested action: Approve the recommended revision.

3. **Resolutions of support for various member project applications.** Several member jurisdictions, and possibly private groups or schools (Safe Routes to School), are preparing project applications for submittal deadlines on October 1. Endorsement requests will be reviewed at the meeting.

Requested action: Pass resolutions of support.

4. **Policies for Review and Programming Local Major Street Projects.** Attached for your information are the policies established over previous years for the process of programming funds for major street and transportation enhancement projects. The annual Transportation Improvements Program (TIP) process will be getting underway later this year, and prior to the initiation of that process the Commission is requested to reconfirm policies, including the Public Participation Plan, all attached.

Requested action: Endorse policies so TIP process may commence.

5. **Sanitary Sewer Working Group (SSWiG).** The SSWiG has been meeting for over four years at the direction of LCRPC. The group has focused on the Indian / Dry Creek trunk due to its location

through numerous jurisdictions and the current capacity issues facing it, and has devised a plan to replace the Indian / Dry Creek sewer trunk which has been divided into 20 segments from the southern end of Robins to the Water Pollution Control facility in Cedar Rapids. Details of the plan were contained in the draft 28E Intergovernmental Agreement reviewed at the March LCRPC meeting. While the 28E Agreement is being finalized, the SSWiG is recommending that a modeling/preliminary design study be initiated to provide information needed for cost estimates and final infrastructure engineering design. This contract is proposed to be managed by LCRPC staff utilizing local funding, and is proposed to be funded by the affected jurisdictions through assessment of extra local dues equivalent to each jurisdiction's percentage of cost participation in the entire project.

Requested action: Endorse the recommendations of the SSWiG.

Sanitary Sewer Working Group (SSWiG) Membership		
Name	Title	Organization
Dave Elgin	City Engineer	Cedar Rapids
Steve Gannon	County Engineer	Linn County
Steve Hershner	WPC Environmental Manager	Cedar Rapids
Darin Ligtenberg	City Engineer	Robins
Dick Ransom	City Engineer	Hiawatha, Fairfax
Dave Wallace	Project Engineer II	Cedar Rapids
Dan Whitlow	City Engineer	Marion

- 6. Transit/Parking/Skywalk Survey.** The Transit Survey Advisory Committee is meeting to review qualifications from consultants interested in performing this work, and a recommendation will be presented at the meeting.

Requested action: Endorse the recommendation of the Transit Survey Advisory Committee and authorize contract award.

Transit Survey Advisory Committee Membership		
Name	Title	Organization
Linda Langston	County Supervisor	Linn County
Joel Miller	Mayor	Robins
John Nieland	Mayor	Marion
Tom Patterson	Mayor	Hiawatha
Bill Hoekstra	Transportation & Parking Director	Cedar Rapids

Informational Items

- 7. Context-Sensitive Solutions Assistance Contract.** Four firms have submitted qualifications for this contract, to provide as-requested CSS services to local jurisdictions on a first-come first-served basis. A recommendation will be forthcoming for ranking of the firms so that negotiations can proceed to develop a contract.
- 8. I-380 Incident Traffic Management Project.** Staff continues to work with local and state public safety and transportation officials to develop standardized traffic detours in the event of an incident that would require closure. The LCRPC traffic modeling software is an important part of this project, as it identifies locations likely to become congested on the local network as traffic detours.
- 9. Regionalization of Sanitary Sewer Trunk System.** A meeting to discuss regionalizing the system of sanitary sewer mains in the metro area has been set for 10:30 Wednesday, October 4, in the Supervisors' Board Room.

10. Preliminary Roadway and Intersection Design (PRID) Study. This study, approved by the Commission in November 2005, provides for detailed examination of several areas forecasted to be significantly congested in the future. Anderson-Bogert is the consulting engineer. Data collection is 90 percent complete and analysis of data has begun. This contract is being coordinated through the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee.

Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) Membership		
Name	Title	Organization
Lee Benfield	District Planner	Iowa DOT
Denny Clift	Streets Director	Cedar Rapids
Brad DeBrower	Transportation Operations Manager	Cedar Rapids
Dave Elgin	City Engineer	Cedar Rapids
Steve Gannon	County Engineer	Linn County
Darin Ligtenberg	City Engineer	Robins
Dan Mann	Airport Director	Cedar Rapids
Gary Petersen	City Traffic Engineer	Cedar Rapids
Dick Ransom	City Engineer	Hiawatha, Fairfax
Tom Treharne	Planning & Development Director	Marion
Dan Whitlow	City Engineer	Marion

11. Countywide Trails Initiative.

The Master Trail Plan Committee met on July 26th to review and discuss changes to the draft trail map. The committee will approve a network of trails and then work on categorizing and prioritizing those trails.

Countywide Trails Advisory Committee Membership		
Name	Title	Organization
Dave Kramer	Parks Director	Cedar Rapids
Richard Fox	Parks Director	Marion
Mark Trumbauer	P&Z Division Manager	Linn County
Randy Burke	Outdoor Recreation Planner	LCCB
Dave Elgin	City Engineer	Cedar Rapids
Steve Gannon	County Engineer	Linn County
Angie Cole	Parks & Recreation Director	Hiawatha
Aaron Anderson	Clerk/Administrator	Ely
Cathy Welton	Parks and Recreation Coordinator	Robins
Joanne Beer	Council	Fairfax
Ron McGraw	Representative	LC Trails Association
Bernie Smith	Representative	Hawkeye Bicycle Association
Lee Benfield	District Planner	Iowa DOT

12. Linn/Johnson Connector Trails. The Leadership Group’s (comprised of Linn and Johnson County elected officials) Trail Link Subcommittee has recommended that this group continue to support the development of the American Discovery Trail (ADT) route as the trail connection between the two counties and as a secondary goal provide bike facilities, probably in the form of paved shoulders, along Highway 965/Sixth Street SW. Local State legislators have expressed their support for a trail connection between Linn and Johnson counties.

13. Transit Development Plan (TDP). A new requirement for MPOs under the federal transportation bill (SAFETEA-LU), the TDP will show transit opportunities and gaps throughout the metro area with both public and private providers. Staff continues to attend Iowa DOT meetings for guidance on creation of this document and has begun work on the first draft.

14. Floodplain Regulations Discussion. The LCRPC ad-hoc committee will meet on October 12th to discuss what changes need to be made to the metro floodplain ordinances and whether or not a metro standard should be adopted, similar to the metro area design standards.

Stormwater Management & Floodplain Ordinance Review Committee Membership		
Name	Title	Organization
Dave Elgin	City Engineer	Cedar Rapids
Pat Engel	Plats & Zoning Manager	Cedar Rapids
Linda Langston	Supervisor	Linn County
Darin Ligtenberg	City Engineer	Robins
Duane Meihost	Zoning Administrator	Robins
Mark Powers	Building Official	Hiawatha
Tom Treharne	Planning & Development Director	Marion
Mark Trumbauer	P&Z Division Manager	Linn County
Dan Whitlow	City Engineer	Marion

15. Other Information.

Dean Wheatley attended the quarterly Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) directors' meeting on September 12 with state and federal transportation officials. New transportation regulations were discussed, and status reports were presented regarding development of a statewide traffic model, Intelligent Transportation Systems processes, rail project funding, transit project processes, the state aviation land use planning study and recommendations, and other topics.

Adam Lindenlaub attended the 10th Annual *Tools of the Trade: Transportation Planning in Small and Medium Sized Communities* Conference from September 13th to 15th in Nashville, Tennessee. This is a very beneficial annual conference that emphasizes sharing of transportation ideas, and exposes staff to planning practices and policies of other MPO's in the country.

Sam Shea attended three concurrent seminars sponsored by the Travel Model Improvement Program (TMIP) in St. Louis. The seminars offered were one day each and included Land Use Forecasting, Model Validation and Reasonableness Checking, and Activity and Tour Based Modeling. This coursework is valuable in that it provides the planner with continuing education and nationwide "state of practice" information.

On Tuesday, September 12, 2006, Sam Shea was elected Chair of the Midwest Traffic Model Users Group. This group meets quarterly to discuss traffic modeling and software, and to share common ideas.