

Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization
Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2009
North Conference Room, Cedar Rapids City Hall North
1:30 P.M.

Member	Present	Not Present	Proxy
Lu Barron	X		
Brian Fagan	X		
Kay Halloran		X	
Brent Oleson		X	
Samantha Dahlby	X		
Linda Langston			Darrin Gage
Jay Kacena		X	
Jerry McGrane		X	
Ian Cullis	X		
Tim Carson		X	
Paul Rehn	X		
Tom Theis	X		
Boyd Potter		X	
Monica Vernon			John Schnipkoweit
Jim Doyle		X	
Bill Bogert	X		
Gil Janes	X		
David Zylstra		X	
Bill Voss		X	

Staff Present: Adam Lindenlaub, Sushil Nepal, Tara Bradley

Others Present: Cathy Cutler, Gary Rogers, Robin Kash, Larry Berns, Rick Smith

Treasurer Paul Rehn called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. Lu Barron moved that a quorum was present. Tom Theis seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Chair Brian Fagan resumed control of the meeting at approximately 2 pm.

AGENDA

Public Comment

None.

Action/Discussion Items

1. Approve Minutes from the September 17th meeting.

Bill Bogert moved to approve the minutes from the September 17th meeting. Samantha Dahlby seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

2. ICAAP support (Cedar Rapids).

Adam Lindenlaub explained that the City of Cedar Rapids was requesting support for submitting four

projects for Iowa Clean Air Attainment (ICAAP) funding from the State. Lindenlaub gave brief explanations of the projects. Darrin Gage asked why requests for funding were not all at the 80% level. Lindenlaub explained that two of the projects are multimillion in cost and the ICAAP program has three million in funds. Dahlby asked if the Ellis Boulevard and 6th Street connection was unanimously approved. Lindenlaub stated that there was overwhelming support for the connection through the Neighborhood Planning Process and the Cedar Rapids City Council adopted a Framework Plan that included the connection. Lu Barron stated that she was on the Neighborhood Planning Process Steering Committee and that there was support for the connection.

Barron asked if there was any public input on the Cottage Grove and Forest Drive project. Lindenlaub said he would find out. Gil Janes stated he thought the Kirkwood Boulevard project seemed really expensive for a roundabout project. Lindenlaub said he would find out more. Bogert moved to provide a resolution of support for the projects. Barron seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. TTAC Review of MAC Recommended STP Project Criteria.

Lindenlaub reviewed the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) comments on the Metro-area Advisory Committee (MAC) recommended additional STP criteria. The comments are as follows:

- Criteria are subjective
- Criteria need to be more clearly defined to know how to answer
- Will someone be judging accuracy? It might be too early in project development to accurately answer.
- Subjectivity of some of the criteria might lead to the funding of projects that do not address congestion and safety.
- Addressing criteria will be time consuming without clear expectations of what is wanted
- Want to meet with Policy Board and MAC to discuss criteria
- Criteria should be used when selecting improvement projects in the long-range plan

Lindenlaub stated that TTAC also discussed whether or not the STP process should be held this year when the long-range plan is being updated. Lindenlaub asked the Policy Board if they wanted to discuss this at the November meeting. The Policy Board indicated that they would want to. Barron said it would be good to find out the results of studies of permeable pavement in the area. Rehn noted that the City of Marion has had some issues with its use. Lindenlaub stated that it would be on the next agenda. Lindenlaub that Staff is looking at revamping the STP/TE application form in order to provide more project information to the Policy Board and the public. Janes stated that the Policy Board should consider how projects requesting support fit into the MPO's goals.

Informational Items

4. Fixed-Route Analysis of CR Transit System Update.

Lindenlaub explained that the second open house for the transit study will be held during two time periods on October 20th. The first will be held from 1 to 3 pm at the African American Museum and the second will be held from 6 to 8 pm in Ballroom 2 at the Crowne Plaza. The final open house is scheduled for November 24th at a time and location TBD.

5. Complete Count Committee.

Lindenlaub explained that the Linn County Complete Count Committee members have become Census

Partners and have begun applying for grant funds to help pay for the marketing campaign for the 2010 Census. Lindenlaub stated that the Corridor MPO has become a Census Partner and has applied for grant funds to pay for TV commercial production. There is no financial commitment from the MPO for receiving the grant. Lindenlaub stated that the Linn County Complete Committee will be meeting to determine what gap is remaining to fund the campaign and will most likely be submitting a funding request to the MPO. Fagan asked if the Policy Board could be updated on the Committee meeting dates. Lindenlaub said he would pass the information along when he received it.

6. Long-Range Plan Update Kick-Off Meeting.

Lindenlaub explained that MPO Staff, a representative from the Iowa DOT, and the LSA Associates team had a kick-off meeting on October 5th to discuss the update to the long-range plan and the first open house, which is scheduled for the first week of December. Lindenlaub stated that the consultants were taken on a tour of the metro area to get a look at the transportation network and land use. Lindenlaub explained that LSA will meet with the TTAC, MAC, and Long-Range Transportation Plan Development Committee or LDC on October 29th. Bogert noted that the City of Cedar Rapids will be doing a Sidewalk Master Plan that will need to interface with long-range plan update.

Ian Cullis informed the Policy Board that a development off of Council Street NE and the proposed Tower Terrace Road will have two access points onto Council that could cause traffic issues. Lindenlaub will follow up on this.

Janes gave a rail update. Janes asked if Cathy Cutler could provide an update on the feedback received at a meeting on the proposed rail connection from Chicago to Iowa City. Cutler stated that positive feedback was received from those in attendance. Janes attended a high speed rail conference and gave an update. Janes stated that there appears to be \$90 million in planning dollars being considered for high speed rail. Fagan suggested that LSA should meet with the Policy Board members tracking light rail issues (Fagan, Janes, Dahlby, and Schnipkoweit).

The meeting adjourned at 2:27.