

**Minutes of Meeting
SATS POLICY COMMITTEE
June 9, 2016**

ATTENDANCE**Policy Committee Voting Members**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bonnie Drew, Chair	City of Springfield
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brian McFadden, Vice Chair	Sangamon County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Gray	Village of Chatham
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brad Mills*	Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff South**	Illinois Dept. of Transportation (IDOT): Region 4, District 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Frank Squires	Springfield Mass Transit District

* Represented by Norm Sims

** Represented by Sal Madonia

Policy Committee Non-Voting Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tom Kelso	IDOT: Urban Program Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JD Stevenson	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA): Illinois Div. Office
<input type="checkbox"/>		Federal Transit Administration

Others

John Robert Smith – Transportation for America
 Erin Evenhouse – Transportation for America
 Chris Isbell – IDOT District 6 Local Roads and Streets
 Sue Graham – IDOT District 6 Local Roads and Streets
 Linda Wheeland – Regional Planning Commission
 Neha Soni – Regional Planning Commission
 Jason Sass – Regional Planning Commission
 Brian Sheehan – Regional Planning Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bonnie Drew called the meeting of the SATS Policy Committee to order at 12:00 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bonnie Drew asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the May 12, 2016, SATS Policy Committee meeting.

Frank Squires made a motion to approve the minutes. Norm Sims seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

III. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Wheeland told the Committee that there was no Technical Committee meeting for June, 2016 and no report was given.

IV. 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan

No Report was given.

V. 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program

No report was given

VI. TECHNICAL ADVISOR UPDATES

A. Illinois Dept. of Transportation: Central Bureau of Urban Program Planning

Tom Kelso told the Committee that ITEP applications are active until June 17th; Kelso recommended that agencies pass reminders on to staff in charge of these applications.

B. Federal Highway Administration: Illinois Division Office

No report was given.

VII. AGENCY UPDATES

A. Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Sims told the committee that SSCRPC signed many letters in support of constituent agencies seeking Federal grants via the FAST Act, TIGER Grants, and ITEP. Mr. Kelso added that there have been approximately \$19.5 Billion in applications for grant money from a pool of money totaling \$0.5 Billion.

B. Springfield Mass Transit District (SMTD)

No report was given.

C. City of Springfield

Ms. Drew reported the following:

- Stanford Avenue - Fox Bridge to Taylor (**TIP # 02-2010-09**):
 - The project was expected to begin the construction phase in July, 2016.
- Archer Elevator Road at Iles Avenue roundabout (**TIP # 02-2013-03**):
 - A June, 2016 letting was anticipated on the project.
- 11th Street Extension (**TIP # 02-2009-03**):
 - Land acquisition was expected to finalize shortly and a September, 2016 letting was anticipated.
- 8th Street Beautification (**TIP # 02-2011-09**):
 - A June letting was anticipated for this project.
- Carpenter Street underpass (**TIP # 02-2014-09**):
 - Curbing was being installed and the project was expected to be complete by August or September of 2016.
- Brick Streets Program
 - Brick replacement continued on State Street between Jefferson and Monroe, and Lowell Street between Outer Park and Ash.

- Downtown Streetscape
 - Construction continued on 4th Street beautification between Jefferson Street and Capitol Avenue.
- Maintenance and Overlay Projects
 - Work was continuing on Chatham Road, south of Wabash Avenue and other major streets within Springfield.

D. Sangamon County

Brian McFadden updated the Committee regarding a trip the County and City took to Washington, DC for a meeting with the Federal Railroad Administration. He said that it was a productive meeting, but the County and City could not get a firm commitment to a timeframe for the 10th Street rail corridor project. He said that there were still unresolved issues regarding the historic site of the 1908 race riot and that the City cannot proceed with its preference to build underpasses at Jefferson Street and Madison Street as a result. He said that the County's goal was to hold a public hearing in the summer of 2016 regarding the historic site. The highlight of the meeting for Mr. McFadden was the letter of support from Union Pacific Railroad for the 10th Street project. He said it would significantly help the City and County's TIGER Grant application. The grant was for \$16 million with \$14 million going to the proposed Laurel Street and Ash Street underpasses and \$2 million for planning toward a multi-modal transportation center. He said the previous TIGER Grant was denied partially because the City, County, and IDOT could not reach an intergovernmental agreement. With an intergovernmental agreement for 3rd Street and Union Pacific in support, he was optimistic the TIGER Grant application would receive more serious consideration.

E. Illinois Department of Transportation: Region 4, District 6

No report was given.

F. Village of Chatham

No report was given.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Norm Sims asked Mr. Stevenson if the process to compensate MPOs in FY2017 would be the same as FY2016, where funding would pass through the FHWA. Mr. Stevenson stated that this scenario was most likely and details were being worked out with IDOT.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

X. NEW BUSINESS**A. Presentation by Transportation for America**

Transportation for America representatives John Robert Smith, Chair, and Erin Evenhouse, were in attendance to present information regarding the new federal transportation funding bill, performance measures outlined in MAP-21, and TFA membership. The discussion focused on funding mechanisms, railroad infrastructure, and performance measures established by the Department of Transportation, particularly the most recently released performance targets for congestion, which support infrastructure solutions, rather than mode change. They asked SATS to consider membership in their organization and to sign on to the TFA congestion rule-making letter.

Mr. Sims expressed his desire that MPOs be treated differently than the general public within the framework of Illinois DOT planning. He expressed frustration that the MPO often does not get to comment or add input to any planned IDOT project until the public comment period has opened. He said there were no requirements for IDOT to ask MPOs for input during the planning process, often leading to MPOs learning about the project late in the process. He asked that Transportation for America (TFA), ask congress for a clarification of the MPOs role in the transportation planning process. Mr. Smith gave the example of Louisiana, where public participation was encouraged further in order to gain “buy-in” for more public funding of transportation projects. Mr. Sims expressed his desire to see MPOs roles in the transportation process defined by legislation.

Mr. Sims thanked Mr. Smith and Ms. Evenhouse for presenting at the meeting. He said that he had spoken with TFA previously at meetings and he believed that the Policy Committee should hear the presentation and consider joining the organization. He said that the Planning Commission has a limited ability to lobby legislators, but SATS as a constituent group may have a greater lobbying capacity. Mr. Smith said that TFA is not a lobbying organization, but does advise constituent organizations on strategies that they can use to lobby their local, state, and federal legislators.

Mr. Sims asked TFA for more information regarding membership and Vice-Chair McFadden asked that TFA membership and sign-on to the TFA congestion rule-making letter be included on the July, 2016 agenda.

B. Next Meeting Date – July 14th, 2016**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Drew called for a motion to adjourn. Brian McFadden made a motion to adjourn. Sal Madonia seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Sass
Recording Secretary