

**Minutes of Meeting
SATS POLICY COMMITTEE
September 13, 2012**

ATTENDANCE

Policy Committee Voting Members

<input type="checkbox"/>	Chair Tom Gray	Village of Chatham
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vice-Chair Frank Squires	Springfield Mass Transit District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brian McFadden	Sangamon County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Willis Logan	City of Springfield
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eric Hansen*	Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roger Driskell**	Illinois Department of Transportation: Region 4, District 6

* Represented by Norm Sims

** Represented by Laura Mlacnik

Policy Committee Non-Voting Members

<input type="checkbox"/>	Thomas Caldwell	IDOT: Urban Program Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JD Stevenson	Federal Highway Administration: Illinois Division Office
<input type="checkbox"/>		Federal Transit Administration

Others

Mike Williamsen – Village of Chatham

Neha Soni – Regional Planning Commission

Daniel Begert – Regional Planning Commission

Linda Wheeland – Regional Planning Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Frank Squires called the meeting of the SATS Policy Committee to order at 12:00 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Squires asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the August 9, 2012 SATS Policy Committee meeting. Brian McFadden made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Norm Sims seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous.

III. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

No report was given.

IV. 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A. Amendments

Wheeland submitted the following proposed Amendment to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan:

WHEREAS, funding has become available for a portion of one project on the Planned Illustrative Projects list (Cockrell: Hollis to Ogden) and for five projects not previously shown in the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (Veterans: Jefferson to Washington, Wabash: Koke Mill to Park, Business 55 at I-55, I-55 at Sherman Interchange, Jefferson: Koke Mill to Spring Creek) and these projects should be included on the Committed Projects list; and

WHEREAS, no funding has yet become available but a need has been identified for two new projects that need to be added to the Planned Illustrative Projects list (Spaulding Dam Walkway, Downtown Streetscape); and

WHEREAS, the need to extend the termini of one project on the Planned Illustrative Projects list (Chatham: Westchester to Prairie Crossing) has been identified and needs to be changed; and

WHEREAS, the details for these amendments are shown below; and

PROJECTS ADDED TO "COMMITTED PROJECTS"				
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF IMPROVEMENT	JURISDICTION	COST	BIKE/PED ACCOMODATIONS
IL 4 / Veterans Pkwy.: 0.1 mi NE of Jefferson St to 0.1 mi N of Washington	Resurfacing (3P)	IDOT - District 6	1,000,000	None
Wabash Ave.: Koke Mill to Park Ave	Resurfacing (SMART)	IDOT - District 6	2,000,000	None
I-55 Bus.: N of Andrew Rd to I-55 Merging Ramp in Sherman	Resurfacing (SMART)	IDOT - District 6	1,600,000	None
I-55: Over I-55 Bus. and UP RR at Sherman Interchange	New Bridge Deck	IDOT - District 6	3,000,000	None
IL 97 / Jefferson St.: W. of Koke Mill Rd. to Spring Creek E. of Veterans Pkwy. In Springfield (omit IL 4 intersection)	Resurfacing (3P), Median Removal, New Median	IDOT - District 6	1,300,000	None
Total			8,900,000	

PLANNED ILLUSTRATIVE PROJECT MOVED TO "COMMITTED PROJECTS"				
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF IMPROVEMENT	JURISDICTION	COST	BIKE/PED ACCOMODATIONS
Cockrell Lane: Hollis to Ogden	C & CE for Reconstruction to Three Lanes	City of Springfield	1,300,000	Bike Lanes, Sidewalks

PROJECTS ADDED TO "PLANNED ILLUSTRATIVE PROJECTS"				
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF IMPROVEMENT	JURISDICTION	COST	BIKE/PED ACCOMODATIONS
Spaulding Dam: East Lake to Stevenson	Construct Walkway	City of Springfield	300,000	None
Downtown Streetscape	W-SW Quadrant of Central Area TIF	City of Springfield	2,400,000	None
Total			2,700,000	

PLANNED ILLUSTRATIVE PROJECT CHANGED				
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF IMPROVEMENT	JURISDICTION	COST	BIKE/PED ACCOMODATIONS
#15 Chatham Road: Westchester to Woodside	Reconstruction	City of Springfield	8,000,000	Sidewalks Wide Shoulders

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Technical Committee, the Policy Committee has voted to endorse this Amendment to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan.

Norm Sims made a motion to recommend the amendment to the LRTP. Brian McFadden seconded the motion and the vote to recommend approval was unanimous.

B. Progress Report

Wheeland presented the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan 30 Month Progress Report to the Policy Committee. The Progress Report is released every six months and details the implementation status of the Long Range Transportation Plan. Summarizing the content of the report, Wheeland reported that fourteen LRTP objectives have thus far been completed, with an additional three ongoing objectives currently being addressed. Ten road projects and three bike projects have been completed.

Wheeland noted that projects have largely kept to the schedule, though some 2011 objectives have not yet been completed. Examples of these objectives include identifying where adequate transportation infrastructure is in place for development, developing a policy statement to ensure development that is coordinated with the LRTP, identifying ways in which non-member communities can participate more directly with SATS, and creating a standardized format for travel demand model maintenance.

V. 2013-2016 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Wheeland announced that the Technical Committee had approved the Draft 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program and that it had been released for public review. The comment period for the document will run through October 9, 2012, with a public information meeting held on October 7, 2012 during the regular session of the Technical Committee meeting. Copies of the document can be viewed at the offices of SSCRPC, SMTD, the Springfield Urban League, and at the libraries in Springfield and Chatham.

VI. TECHNICAL ADVISOR UPDATES

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

No report was given.

B. Federal Highway Administration: Illinois Division Office

No report was given.

VII. AGENCY UPDATES

A. Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission

Norm Sims began a discussion about whether High Speed Rail projects should be included in the TIP, noting that rail projects are included in the TIP published by CMAP in Chicago. Sims stated that it is the opinion of SSCRPC staff that they should, and noted that the request for their inclusion came from an external source. Since work done on rail crossings impact the road, bicycle and pedestrian networks, Sims suggested that they be included. JD Stevenson expressed his support for the idea.

Sims reported that he had attended the Illinois Association of Regional Councils meeting and informed the Policy Committee of an interesting presentation given by Lake County. The county invested in a intelligent transportation system to gather and distribute traffic information via smart devices. Sims expressed a desire to research efforts by other MPOs to determine the feasibility of their application in the Springfield area. This could include not just traffic updates, but also transit and bicycle and pedestrian mapping.

Linda Wheeland reported that SSCRPC was contacted by IDOT to help solicit public input on its multi-year program. SSCRPC staff are planning to partner with the Chamber of Commerce to facilitate a focus group on economic development and transportation on October 3rd, prior to the IDOT open house,

which will take place from 4 to 7 PM. Several other themed focus groups will be conducted by other MPOs throughout the state.

Wheeland also reported that several local communities have been awarded IDOT safety funds to pay for 90% of their planned sign upgrades. Sims cited the application as a great example of a collaborative effort among many different communities.

B. Springfield Mass Transit District

Frank Squires reported that the district had been awarded a \$3.7 million grant to purchase seven CNG-powered buses. The buses will have to be built, but they will all be equipped with bike racks.

Squires also informed the committee that beta testing of an intelligent transit system has begun, which is designed to provide real time route updates to smart device users. Information about attractions and historic sites within walking distance from each bus stop will be included in the system. Norm Sims lauded this effort by SMTD and noted that a smart transit system is something that can help with marketing transit to younger generation smartphone users, who are generally more open to using alternative means of transportation.

C. City of Springfield

No report was given.

D. Sangamon County

No report was given.

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

Laura Mlacnik echoed Linda Wheeland's comments encouraging attendance at IDOT's public outreach meeting at Lincoln Library on Oct 3 from 4 to 7 PM. The desire is to provide a forum for residents to weigh in on projects and priorities for the next few years ahead of the announcement of the project program, which will be released in the spring of 2013.

Mlacnik reported that construction is ongoing in the area of Springfield. In addition to various smaller striping projects, Mlacnik reported construction underway in the following areas:

- Clear Lake Avenue and Dirksen Parkway – paving is scheduled to begin in one to two weeks
- I-72 structure over the Sangamon River – the last concrete pour has been completed, and all remaining work is scheduled to be completed in the early fall
- Stanford Ave Bridge, 5th St and 6th St – painting of structures is scheduled to be completed within the week.

F. Village of Chatham

No report was given.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2012 Parking Survey

Wheeland reported that the 2012 Parking Survey has been published. She noted that on-street occupancy rates as well as occupancy rates of off-street lots have remained essentially constant from the previous year. These rates are below fifty percent in the downtown areas.

B. Next Meeting Date – Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 12:00 PM

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:23 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Begert
Recording Secretary