

**Minutes of Meeting
SATS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
February 4, 2016**

ATTENDANCE

Technical Committee Voting Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tim Zahrn, Chair	Sangamon County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Patrick McCarthy, Vice Chair	Village of Chatham
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nathan Bottom	City of Springfield
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shoun Reese	Springfield Mass Transit District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norm Sims	Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Myers*	Illinois Dept. of Transportation (IDOT): Region 4, District 6

* Represented by Wes Clark

Technical Committee Advisors – Non-Voting Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tom Kelso	IDOT: Urban Program Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JD Stevenson*	Federal Highway Administration: Illinois Division Office
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sue Graham	IDOT: District 6: Local Roads & Streets
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Stead	Illinois Commerce Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mark Hanna**	Springfield Airport Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Francesco Bedini-Jacobini	IDOT: Division of Public & Intermodal Transportation

* Represented by Betsy Tracy

** Represented by Roger Blickensderfer

Others

Elliott McKinley – Springfield Park District
 Stan Hansen – Crawford, Murphy, and Tilly
 Dale Lael – Village of Jerome
 Bill Davison – Knight Engineering
 Brian Davis – Sangamon County Highway Department
 Kim Cummins – Cummins Engineering Corporation
 Linda Wheeland – Regional Planning Commission
 Neha Soni – Regional Planning Commission
 Brian Sheehan – Regional Planning Commission
 Jeff Fulgenzi – Regional Planning Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tim Zahrn called the meeting of the SATS Technical Committee to order at 8:32 AM. Tom Kelso was introduced by Linda Wheeland as the new technical advisor from IDOT: Urban Program Planning, replacing Thomas Caldwell.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: December 3, 2015

Chairman Zahrn asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the December 3, 2015 Technical Committee meeting.

Nathan Bottom made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Shoun Reese seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

III. 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**A. Overpasses and Underpasses on Bike & Pedestrian Routes**

Linda Wheeland revisited maps that had been created out of a strategy in the LRTP to

“identify all existing underpasses and overpasses that do not have accessible accommodations for bicyclists on the Envisioned Bicycle Network (EBN) corridors and pedestrians on the Priority Pedestrian Network (PPN) corridors, and then create a plan to address these gaps in the transportation system.” Wheeland stated that Brian Sheehan had created three maps out of this, one each for the EBN and PPN as well as another map showing only those overpasses and underpasses on both the EBN and PPN.

Wheeland mentioned that Tim Zahrn noted the presence of wide shoulders on County Highway 40 that bridges Lake Springfield just east of Chatham. Zahrn then asked committee members if they had any questions. Patrick McCarthy mentioned that the bridge across Polecat Creek on Walnut Street in Chatham did in fact have a bicycle accommodation crossing it, and Wheeland noted that it was marked as having a pedestrian connection only and this would be changed to reflect bicycle access as well.

Tim Zahrn suggested that, with the above changes, the maps could be used as tools to create a plan to address the gaps. Wheeland suggested staff could create new maps identifying the timeline of projects directly impacting these structures as an aid to creating the plan. Committee members agreed this would be helpful.

IV. 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program

A. ST-U Projects Update

I. Stanford Avenue (TIP # 02-2010-09)

i. 11th to Fox Bridge

Nathan Bottom told the Committee that design engineering is underway, including the addressing of hydraulics and working with the Springfield Park District.

ii. Fox Bridge to Taylor

Bottom told the Committee that the agreement with Canadian National Railroad had been executed, and that the City was shooting for an April letting for this project.

II. Archer Elevator Road/Iles Avenue (TIP # 02-2013-03)

Bottom announced that the City was bumping this project to an FY 2016 letting which would be targeted for June, as would be mentioned in Administrative Modification #4. What little preconstruction work remained included land acquisition negotiations with the Springfield Park District.

III. Bradfordton Road (TIP # 03-2009-01)

Tim Zahrn reported that the draft Project Development Report (PDR) had been submitted to IDOT for comments. Once the PDR is approved for this project, land acquisition can begin.

IV. Woodside Road (TIP # 03-2009-05)

Zahrn reported that pre-final plans have been finished. Comments from IDOT have been addressed and the final PDR will be submitted shortly. After final submittal, land acquisition can begin; the County is targeting a June letting for this project. Linda Wheeland added that staff had received notice of the FY 2017 allocation for ST-U projects, and that it will be \$130,000 greater than expected. This amount will cover some of the deficit associated with the current programming through FY 2019.

B. Amendment 4 – HSR Ridgely Avenue

Wes Clark introduced Amendment #4:

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF
THE FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE
FY/2016-2019 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Springfield Area Transportation Study (SATS), in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Transportation, has a comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing (3C) planning process for transportation planning in compliance with Federal regulations for the urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, the Springfield Area Transportation Study approved the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY/2016-2019 on September 10, 2015; and

WHEREAS, an essential element of the high speed rail project between Chicago and St. Louis is improved safety at rail crossings; and

WHEREAS, Ridgely Avenue requires roadway improvement in the proximity of the railroad crossing including the realignment of 11th Street; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation requests that the following project be added to the FY 2016 Annual Element of the FY 2016-2019 TIP; and

Project Description and Funding:

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WHEREAS, the funding used for this project will not affect any other project in the TIP; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Technical Committee has voted to recommend approval of the Fourth Amendment to the FY/2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program to the Policy Committee.

Norm Sims made a motion to recommend approval of the amendment to the Policy Committee. Wes Clark seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

C. Modification 4 – Archer Elevator – Iles Avenue

Linda Wheeland introduced Administrative Modification #4:

**Administrative Modification 4 to the
FY 2016 – 2019 Transportation Improvement Program
January 20, 2016**

Archer Elevator / Iles Avenue

This project is moved from the FY 2017 Annual Element of the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program to the FY 2016 Annual Element of the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program due to IDOT Programming considerations.

4	Various streets throughout Springfield	Termini:	Various	Mill and overlay; partial replacement of curb & gutter, sidewalk & ramps	N/A	Springfield	15,000,000	
	Springfield	Contract#						
	Arterials, collectors, &	TIP#	02-2017-03					
							\$15,000,000	

V. TECHNICAL ADVISOR UPDATES

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

Tom Kelso reported that he had informed MPOs that any money that they hadn't spent for this year can be carried over to FY 2017. The increase in the ST-U amount that Linda Wheeland had previously reported would be effective through FY 2020. In the later years of this allocation this may increase by a percentage point or two.

B. Federal Highway Administration: IL Division Office

No report was given.

C. IDOT District 6: Local Roads and Streets (LRS)

No report was given.

D. Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)

No report was given.

E. Springfield Airport Authority

Mr. Blickensderfer reported on new construction at the airport, including the addition of a boarding bridge at Gate 1, which should be delivered in the coming 30 days, and also the ongoing installation of a new elevator connecting the baggage claim area to the second floor administrative offices. He also stated that the airlines operating out of Capital Airport are doing better business by month compared to one year previous. Blickensderfer added that the Airport Improvement Project funding is running 8-10 months behind, not having been funded since the beginning of the current Fiscal Year.

F. IDOT: Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation (DPIT)

No report was given.

VI. AGENCY UPDATES

A. Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission (SSRPC)

Norm Sims welcomed Tom Kelso to his first SATS meeting, and thanked IDOT for the letter allowing for the rollover of FY 2016 planning funds to next year, due to their unavailability related to the state budget crisis. Sims added that IDOT has approved SATS's Indirect Cost Allocation Plan.

He then announced that interactive maps continue to be added to the SSRPC's website, and suggested that members keep an eye on it and submit their own ideas, not only for what would be useful to them, but also the general public. Sims added that staff had been commissioned to facilitate update of the City of Springfield's Comprehensive Plan.

Sims then turned it over to Linda Wheeland. Wheeland reported that work had begun on the

PY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). A draft document would be sent out for review before the next meeting. She also requested that SATS members suggest any projects that might be worth adding to the document.

Wheeland added that the FHWA planning review conducted last year, recommended that SATS adopt a Title VI plan. She stated that Jason Sass had put together a draft plan and forwarded it on to Betsy Tracy. Any suggestions by FHWA will be incorporated into the document before it is forwarded on to SATS members.

She then announced that it was time to create the one-year LRTP Progress Report, and stated that tables containing projects in the plan will be sent to members for review. Wheeland requested that SATS members update the statuses of these projects and strategies in the LRTP.

She added that Neha Soni would be sending out spreadsheets for the 2017-2020 TIP to be filled out by SATS members. Wheeland asked Tom Kelso if there was an IDOT deadline for submission of the TIP. He stated that there was not and that TIP preparation timelines were different among the other MPOs. Wheeland noted that preparation of the SATS TIP was usually dependent on when projects were submitted from IDOT District 6. Wes Clark noted that he would remain in touch regarding this topic.

Wheeland then turned it over to Neha Soni, who presented the Envisioned Bicycle Network (EBN) map application. Following the presentation, Wheeland explained that creating an online map of EBN development was one of the strategies in the LRTP, and was something specifically requested by the Communities Committee. The application shows the status of bicycle accommodation projects and could aid communities in the prioritization of projects that will help create a maximally interconnected network.

Norm Sims stated that part of the purpose behind this project is to help sell the concept of planning to everyday citizens and give them information that they can put to good use. Sims added he wanted ordinary residents to look at these bicycle accommodations as not just a recreational amenity but also a transportation network.

B. Springfield Mass Transit District (SMTD)

Shoun Reese reported that SMTD has released its Request for Proposals (RFP) for Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD), Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL), Automated Passenger Counter (APC), Automated Voice Annunciation (AVA), and Interactive Voice Response (IVR) systems for SMTD's telephone system, all of which comprise the project **TIP # 06-2012-02**. Reese expected to receive proposals in April and to award the contract in May.

Reese added that SMTD has selected a contractor to dig up SMTD's underground storage tank at 1110 S. 9th Street, and stated hopes that there is nothing major in the tank to worry about. In addition, SMTD has received IDOT concurrence for the low-floor paratransit bus procurement (**TIP # 06-2015-06**), in order to begin updating the paratransit fleet from buses using lifts to buses that are able to use ramps. Reese announced that SMTD's **FY 2015** appropriation is still pending, possibly due to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) moving from one grant management system to another. The FTA was hoping to have this system up and running by the end of February, and SMTD was expecting to receive this appropriation shortly thereafter.

C. City of Springfield

Nathan Bottom announced updates to the following projects:

Springfield High Speed Rail Improvements Project:

The City of Springfield was in the process of wrapping up an agreement with IDOT regarding the 10th Street corridor for high-speed rail, particularly regarding the segment from Laurel to Ash (TIP # 02-2018-05) streets. Land acquisition was underway and the City hopes to get the Ash Street Underpass project out to bid by November.

11th Street Extension (TIP # 02-2009-03):

An April letting was being targeted for this project, as only two parcels remained to be acquired.

Carpenter Street Underpass (TIP # 02-2014-09):

Work is progressing slowly on the pump station as well as the relocation of electric utilities.

Maintenance (TIP # 02-2016-03):

Bottom announced that the City of Springfield is in the final year of its three-year maintenance ramp-up, which was to include the following maintenance work:

- 37 mile of overlays
- 3 miles of brick streets
- 400,000 square feet of sidewalk
- 30 miles of seal coating
- 10 miles of concrete street repairs

Additionally, Mayor Langfelder has directed Public Works to come up with a Capitol Improvement Needs Plan.

Finally, the Public Works Department was undertaking an initiative through the American Public Works Association (APWA) to complete a self-assessment accreditation process, in order to make their operations more transparent.

Norm Sims suggested that Bottom keep in touch with him while working on the Capital Improvement Needs Plan, as he expects that it will be of help with regards to the update of the City of Springfield Comprehensive Plan.

D. Sangamon County

Tim Zahn announced that the upcoming construction season could be a very busy one, due to the following projects:

East Lake Shore Drive: Old Route 66 to Long Bay Drive (TIP # 03-2016-01):

Project had been let and awarded in the fall, and construction will be starting in the spring. The project will include adding paved shoulders and recycling of the overlay material.

Wesley Chapel Road Bridge at Lick Creek (TIP # 03-2014-04):

The section of road containing this bridge had been closed due to the bridge's poor condition, project will be let this spring.

Oak Crest Road Bridge at Sangamon River (TIP # 03-2013-06):

Like the Wesley Chapel Road Bridge, this project was also on the verge of being ready to be let, with only a few parcels remaining to be acquired.

Sangamon Valley Trail North extension (TIP # 03-2012-13):

Project was on track for a summer letting, with construction expected to begin shortly thereafter.

Woodside Road – IL 4 to Old Chatham Road (TIP # 03-2011-02):

Project was on track for a summer letting as well.

Woodside Road/Iron Bridge Road Underpass/Overpass (TIP # 03-2009-05):

Land acquisition and addressing comments from the ICC and IDOT had been continuing as part of Phase I of the project, with hope to submit final plans shortly, possibly allowing construction to begin as soon as the summer or fall.

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

Wes Clark announced updates to the following projects:

Interstate 55 over IL-29 (TIP # 04-2016-01):

This project had been let on January 15th and two bids had been received which were currently under review, with an award expected soon.

IL-97 – East of IL-125 to East of Koke Mill Road (TIP # 04-2016-02):

Target had remained for an April 22nd letting. No target had been set for the beginning of construction, as the Multi-Year Program (MYP) had been delayed due to the continuing state budget issues. IDOT was in the beginning stages of doing the work for the next MYP, and Clark announced that he will keep SATS up-to-date regarding that process.

In addition, Clark had a question regarding projects that only receive state funds, and not federal funds, negating the requirement that they be in the TIP. Clark was wondering if other MPOs put such projects in the TIP. Tom Kelso stated that many MPOs do this if it is a significant project. He acknowledged that the very short timeline of some state-only projects, such as bridge painting and patching projects, would not lend their inclusion in a TIP. Therefore, he is wondering when to include such projects and when not to. Tom Kelso recommended including small scale projects such as painting or patching as Administrative Modifications and not Amendments.

Norm Sims stated that there is a significant advantage to including state-funded projects in the TIP, in order to increase transparency on road projects with the public. Tom Kelso stated that it would also be important to report these projects in order that other SATS members could better coordinate work on other projects in order to eliminate possible redundancies.

Linda Wheeland stated that current SATS policy states that any project added to the TIP must be done so as an amendment, never an administrative modification, so a change in policy regarding state funded-only projects could facilitate fixing this problem. Clark suggested going with an amendment as a courtesy as it would not affect the letting process regarding these projects. Norm Sims affirmed Tom Kelso's comment on including these projects as a tool for coordination. Linda Wheeland added that if a project does not go through in the expected fiscal year when announced to the committee, it can always be moved back to the following year in the next TIP. Tim Zahrn added that some projects outside the MPA boundary are included for the sake of transparency with the public and SATS members.

Wes Clark announced that he would pass this information on to his superiors.

F. Village of Chatham

No report was given.

VII. Committee Updates

A. **Communities Committee**

Ms. Wheeland reported that this committee had met on Wednesday, January 28th for their regular quarterly meeting, and in attendance were Sue Graham and the new IDOT District 6 Local Roads engineer for Sangamon County, Chris Isbell. Discussed were the various grant programs available to the communities.

B. **Multi-Use Trails Jurisdictions Committee**

Mr. Elliott McKinley, Chairman of the Multi-Use Trails Jurisdictions Committee, reported that the January meeting had been canceled due to snowfall preventing many members from attending. However, McKinley said that the committee is working on emergency response support signage plans. Members agreed to a policy that they are to take back to their boards to move for adoption in jurisdictions throughout the SATS planning area, to ensure uniform signage along the trails. Additionally, the committee discussed grant opportunities to help support the purchase and installation of these signs.

Another policy under consideration was for advertising and sponsorship on trails. Money obtained via this means would be used for ongoing maintenance costs. This policy remained under review. Also, the Trailheads/Access Points and Amenities Plan was under review by the committee. The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, February 17th at 10:30 AM in the SSCRPC conference room, instead of at the Springfield Park District offices due to a scheduling conflict.

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jeff Fulgenzi asked if anything in particular of interest had come up in IDOT's recently finished comment period about upcoming projects, in particular regarding the widening of Peoria Road, and if or when the 9th Street railroad bridge can be painted, with possibly a historic theme in mind, such as that of Route 66. Tom Kelso responded that he had not heard but would look into it, and encouraged Mr. Fulgenzi to continue asking questions regarding this. Norm Sims then asked whether it was IDOT or the Union Pacific (UP) Railroad which owned the rail bridge; Mike Stead stated that it was owned by UP, and that it was highly unlikely that the bridge would ever get painted, particularly due to it being made of weathering steel, which is designed to not be painted.

IX. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **Project Prioritization Application**

Ms. Wheeland stated that this had been under review for a while, and that at the last meeting there was a request to change the safety improvement significance criteria, as found on page 5, to the following:

- 30 points for a project on the SATS intersection safety list
- 30 points for a grade separation
- 20 points for a project passing along or through a 5% segment or intersection
- 10 points for a project with safety as a major objective
- 5 point bonus if a project meets the first two criteria

Nathan Bottom made a motion to recommend approval of the Revised ST-U Project Prioritization Application to the Policy Committee. Patrick McCarthy seconded the motion. The vote to recommend approval was unanimous.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Next Meeting Date – Thursday, March 3rd, 2016 at 8:30 AM

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 9:12 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Sheehan
Recording Secretary