

Minutes of Meeting
SATS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
March 3, 2011

ATTENDANCE

Technical Committee Voting Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chairman Mike Williamsen	Village of Chatham
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vice-Chairperson Linda Tisdale	Springfield Mass Transit District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tim Sheehan	City of Springfield
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tim Zahn	Sangamon County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norm Sims	Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laura Mlacnik*	Illinois Department of Transportation: Region 4, District 6

* Represented by Sal Madonia

Technical Committee Advisors – Non-Voting

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Thomas Caldwell	IDOT: Urban Program Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JD Stevenson*	Federal Highway Administration: Illinois Division Office
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Stead	Illinois Commerce Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Terry Fountain**	IDOT: District 6: Local Roads and Streets
<input type="checkbox"/>		IDOT: Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mark Hanna***	Springfield Airport Authority

* Represented by Betsy Tracy

** Represented by Kim Cummins

*** Represented by Roger Blickensderfer

Others

Neha Soni Agarwal – Regional Planning Commission

Chris Benson – Regional Planning Commission

Bill Davidson – Hoelscher Engineering

Brian Davis – Sangamon County Highway Dept.

Jeff Fulgenzi – Regional Planning Commission

Stan Hansen – Crawford, Murphy & Tilly

Phil Koeberlein – Cummins Engineering

Tim Landis – State Journal Register

Kyle Phillips – Regional Planning Commission

Dale Schultz – Regional Planning Commission

Leah Sirman – FHWA

Linda Wheeland – Regional Planning Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Williamsen called the meeting of the SATS Technical Committee to order.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 2/03/11 SATS Technical Committee Meeting

Williamsen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the February 3, 2011 SATS Technical Committee meeting. Norm Sims made a motion to approve the minutes. Tim Sheehan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

III. 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A. Roads and Bridges Central to the Distribution of Agricultural Products

Wheeland reported that this project was presented to the Committee previously and is awaiting input

from the County Highway Department. Tim Zahn stated that the Highway Department had two suggestions to be added to the map. The first being Kessler Rd between Rt. 104 and Divernon Rd. and the other the Dowson Farm Elevator, a new structure just east of I-55 on the south side of Divernon Rd.

Tim Sheehan made a motion to recommend approval of the amended Agricultural Map to the Policy Committee. Norm Sims seconded the motion and the vote to recommend approval was unanimous.

B. LRTP Progress Report

Wheeland stated that every six months staff has prepared a progress report on the implementation of the 2035 LRTP. Staff has received information from the City and the County and is waiting for the State to respond. Once all the information is received, the progress report will be finalized. Should the information become available before the Policy Committee meeting, the report could be finalized then.

IV. 2011-2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM CHANGES

A. Amendment #11

Sheehan introduced TIP Amendment #11 to the SATS Technical Committee members.

WHEREAS, the City of Springfield recognizes that the structure was originally constructed in 1900, and it is prudent that PE I and II are initiated utilizing both city and federal funds as a first step to the eventual reconstruction of the structure; and

WHEREAS, the City requests that the FY-2011 Annual Element of the FY/2011-2014 TIP be amended by adding the project listed below; and

Project Description and Funding:

Project/ Jurisdiction/ Class		Location		Action/Comments	Funding Source		Total Cost
A11	Fayette Avenue (Structure # 084-8000)	Termini:	Structure No. 084-8000 over Jacksonville Branch	PE I & II for structure			
	Springfield	Contract#			Springfield	23,000	
	Minor Arterial	TIP#	02-2011-08		HBP	92,000	
							\$115,000

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

Norm Sims made a motion to recommend approval of TIP Amendment #11 to the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program to the Policy Committee. Tim Zahn seconded the motion and the vote to recommend approval was unanimous.

B. Amendment #12

Tim Sheehan introduced TIP Amendment #9 to the SATS Technical Committee members.

WHEREAS, the City of Springfield will utilize Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program funds for the beautification of 8th Street between Edwards and Cook, and of Edwards between 7th and 9th Streets; and

WHEREAS, the City requests that the FY-2011 Annual Element of the FY/2011-2014 TIP be amended by adding the project listed below; and

Project Description and Funding:

Project/ Jurisdiction/ Class		Location		Action/Comments	Funding Source		Total Cost
A12	Eighth Street Beautification	Termini:	Eighth Street between Edwards and Cook; Edwards between 7th and 9th	PE I & II, C & CE (Streetscape)			
	Springfield	Contract#			Springfield	369,660	
	Local Street	TIP#	02-2011-09		ITEP	475,340	
							\$845,000

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

Linda Tisdale made a motion to recommend approval of TIP Amendment #12 to the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program to the Policy Committee. Norm Sims seconded the motion and the vote to recommend approval was unanimous.

V. TECHNICAL ADVISOR UPDATES

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

Thomas Caldwell introduced himself as the replacement for Curtis Jones.

B. Federal Highway Administration: Illinois Division Office

Betsy Tracy stated that FHWA is operating under continuing resolution. Tracy stated that the administration is proposing a much higher level of funding for future projects. Programs will however become consolidated. For example, the Interstate Maintenance, the Highway Bridge Program, National Highway System, FTP, Statewide Planning and Research and Metropolitan Planning will be grouped together into the National Highway Program. All programs under this heading will be in competition for funding. In all about 50 programs will be grouped into 3 headings.

a. Air Quality Conformity – Betsy Tracy

Tracy gave a presentation on air quality conformity which is attached to these minutes. Concerns were raised regarding the air quality level within the MPA and the potential new standards of ozone levels which may classify the MPA as a non-attainment area by the EPA.

Williamsen suggested that a letter be drafted to address the concerns of SATS members regarding the potential new EPA standards. Staff will draft a letter and present it to the Committee at its next meeting.

Wheeland noted the Policy Committee has directed staff to explore the creation of an Air Quality Committee.

C. Illinois Department of Transportation: Local Roads and Streets

No report was given.

D. Illinois Commerce Commission

Mike Stead reported that the proposed 5-year FY2012-2016 Crossing Safety Improvement Plan will be reviewed by the ICC this month. Should it be approved, it will be published the first week of April. Stead also noted that IDOT is hosting a public officials meeting and a public open house regarding the Environment Impact Statement preparation for the High Speed Rail Saint Louis to Chicago Corridor at the Convention Center today.

E. Springfield Airport Authority

Blickensderfer reported that the winter phase of airport operations is coming to an end. A couple federally funded projects including a fencing and ramp project will be on the March 11th IDOT letting.

The entrance road project is currently being worked on once again. This project should be completed by the end of September or early October. Blickensderfer stated that the airlines have all been doing well.

VI. AGENCY UPDATES

A. Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission

a. Website Updates

Dale Schultz demonstrated the Planning Commission's website has been updated to include a section to include 'items of note', meeting agendas, schedule of meeting, a year of Technical and Policy SATS minutes. A new section was formed that has Meetings, Open Houses and Other News, where the High Speed Rail Meeting can be found. There is a Plans and Documents section that has items such as the Freight and Corridor plan, and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan with maps, handouts and minutes. Updated TIP documents may also be found on the website.

Tracy stated that the Planning Commission is at the top of the list for Website development in comparison to the other 14 MPOs in the State.

Sims reported that the MacArthur Boulevard Corridor Redevelopment Plan was well received. Sims would like to thank IDOT in its support of the project. The Williamsville Comprehensive Plan is finishing up and the last Public Meeting was held on February 17th. A concern regarding a railroad grade separation was brought up at the meeting. The Williamsville mayor was told that, should the State build an overpass, that IDOT would maintain the overpass in perpetuity. Sims asked for confirmation on that issue. Stead stated that such an arrangement would be unusual.

B. Springfield Mass Transit District

Linda Tisdale thanked the City Public Works Department for their support during the winter storm.

C. City of Springfield

Tim Sheehan stated that the City is waiting for winter to break before projects can be started.

D. Sangamon County

Tim Zahn reported that work on the Sangamon Valley Bike Trail will resume this week.

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

Sal Madonia reported the Polecat Creek Project in Chatham on IL-4 is ongoing. Traffic control is set

up. The Palm Rd Bridge near Glenarm will be removed and a new bridge will be constructed. The road will be closed in the interim. The Clear Lake Rd and Dirksen Pkwy project will begin again shortly.

F. Village of Chatham

No report was given.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Bicycle/Pedestrian Way Plan

Schultz stated that staff has been working with the Steering Committee to finalize the Vision Statement, Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures. A group of volunteers has been looking into routes for potential bikeways and specifically at bike parking, sidewalks and the on-street parking situation. Those routes were identified with input from the public, planning commission staff, Steering Committee and Ed Barsotti. Staff has been looking at priority pedestrian routes used to connect points of interest. In addition, Staff is working on the text portion of the plan.

B. PY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program

Wheeland stated that at the last Technical Committee meeting she had asked for additional activities that members would like to see in the PY2012 UPWP. Williamsen asked about the possibility of developing a Pavement Management System for the MPA. Wheeland stated that it has been included in the UPWP. Wheeland ask Caldwell about planning funding. Caldwell reported that SATS should plan on receiving the same amount as last year.

C. Public Participation Plan

Wheeland reported that an updated draft of the PPP reflecting changes requested by committee members had been sent out to SATS members. Wheeland asked for a consensus on the Plan. With consensus, the Plan will be forwarded to the Policy Committee and then sent out for public review. Consensus was given.

D. 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program

Wheeland stated that Chris Benson had sent out the road network spreadsheets for SATS members to complete with projects to include in the FY2012-2015 TIP. The transit spreadsheets are still pending. One of the concerns that should be addressed is the ST-U funding. Kim Cummins had provided ST-U Funding available for the next four years as follows:

	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Annual STU Allotment	1,638,620	1,638,620	1,638,620	1,638,620
Beginning FY Balance - STU Funds	1,174,907	2,813,527	4,452,146	6,090,766

Wheeland asked what the basis for funding was since a federal highway bill has not been approved.

Cummins stated that the numbers presented were an extension of the previous years and that in part it was an optimistic outlook. The beginning balance for FY2012 however is a true figure. Cummins stated that the allotment set aside for the MacArthur Blvd extension is still pending and will take several more months to finalize.

Wheeland asked if the ST-U funds that are currently available, but not programmed, will be there in the future. Cummins stated that the funds would still be there, if the Federal Government continues ST-U funding in the future.

Wheeland asked if the next TIP should show ST-U projects. Cummins stated that ST-U projects should be shown at the minimum as a planning tool. Tracy stated that should there be funding, it is better to have ST-U projects in the TIP.

Wheeland asked if Staff should wait for the next Transportation bill to be passed. Tracy stated that currently thoughts are that the bill might take two years.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Next Meeting Date – Thursday, April 7, 2010 at 8:30 AM

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kyle Phillips
Recording Secretary

Regional Air Quality Springfield Area

February 10, 2011

USEPA – Lower Ozone Standards

- January 10, 2010, USEPA proposed stricter national ozone standards
- Clean Air Science Advisory Committee recommendations
- Several delays – current timeline July 2011
- USEPA would designate non-attainment areas
- Attainment dates would be established

Formation of Ozone

- Ozone is created from Hydrocarbons and Nitrogen Oxides exposed to UV Sunlight
- Top months for Ozone – July and August
- Human health issues include lung and respiratory problems

Why does Ozone form in Summer?

- Meteorology has a great deal to do with whether Ozone will form
- Combination of hot stagnant weather, sun and lack of wind can lead to high Ozone readings
- Ozone tends to *transport* across the country following the winds
- There are *background* Ozone levels which are being monitored all the time

Who Monitors Ozone Levels?

- The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has air quality monitors which monitor several air pollutants all the time
- Local Ozone monitor is located on North Dirksen Parkway
- There are about 200 air quality monitors statewide

Air Quality Index (AQI)

- The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) developed the Air Quality Index (AQI)
- The AQI is a national standard for reporting air pollution levels to the general public
- The AQI is set up in ranges in parts per million(ppm)
- The scale reflects Good, Moderate, Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups and Unhealthy air quality

Ozone Non-Attainment Levels

- The current Ozone level that must be attained is **.075ppm**. (parts per million) over an 8 hour period
- New Ozone levels could range from **.060** to **.070ppm**.
- Ozone readings are an average that is taken over a rolling three year period

- Springfield's current 3 year average for 2008-2010 = **.063 ppm**
- Readings for 2011 will be added and 2008 will drop off

Illinois Background Ozone Levels

- Background Ozone levels throughout Illinois is close to .060 ppm.
- All air quality monitors throughout the State of Illinois would be non-attainment at .060 ppm.

What are others doing?

- Other areas of the state are becoming proactive before a finding of Ozone non-attainment
- Air Quality Task Force's created elsewhere
- **Quad Cities** and **Peoria** MPO's –
- Task force of composed of MPO members, Chamber interests, large business, government and health care advocates
- Activities include work plan of initiatives
- Public outreach and education

What can be done locally?

- Carpooling
- Taking transit
- Reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- Trip Chaining (combining trips)
- Biking and Walking
- Air Pollution Action Days can be forecasted
- Public Education and Outreach – to change behaviors when the Ozone levels are forecasted to be high

What's the Good News?

- Good things to reduce Ozone nationally include
 - Tightened standards for all vehicle engines
 - Lower polluting diesel fuels
 - Retrofits on legacy (older) diesel trucks
 - More requirements placed on industry

What would happen with new standards?

- Controls would likely be placed on industrial sources first
- Everything would be on the table for Illinois EPA to consider in the **State Implementation Plan**
- Largest sources of air pollution include
 - Point (Industry)
 - Mobile (Mostly on-road vehicles)
 - Non-Point (Household products, etc. not covered above)

What is the Role of SATS?

- Critical issue for this group is the Transportation **Mobile Source Sector**
 - A motor vehicle budget would be developed by IEPA
 - Goals to reduce ozone levels over time

It is important that the MPO and its members become involved and provide input into the budget levels and strategies

Transportation Conformity

- If the area is in Ozone non-attainment, Transportation Conformity would be required
- Most projects going into the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) would need to “conform”
 - Meaning that the project would not add to the air quality problem or delay the attainment dates
 - Requires modeling using an approved USEPA model called MOVES to develop emission factors and how much pollution is produced per mile of travel

How long does all this take?

- All of this can take a long time to implement, perhaps 2 or more years
- It is important to be aware of the potential impacts to the Springfield area and the requirements

Parting Message

- The message today is to provide awareness
- You may want to consider forming a local Air Quality Task Force or Steering Committee
- Keep up with what is happening at the National level