

**Minutes of Meeting
SATS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
September 6, 2012**

ATTENDANCE

Technical Committee Voting Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Williamsen	Village of Chatham
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chair Frank Squires	Springfield Mass Transit District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tim Zahrn	Sangamon County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vice-Chair Natham Bottom	City of Springfield
<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"/>	Kim Cummins	IDOT: District 6: Local Roads and Streets
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Stead	Illinois Commerce Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mark Hanna*	Springfield Airport Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>		IDOT: Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation

* Represented by Roger Blickensderfer

Others

Phil Koeberlein – Cummins Engineering Corp
 David Booher – IE Consultants / Village of Sherman
 Kristin Timmons – Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.
 Jim Moll – Hanson Engineering
 Karen Shoup – IDOT Office of Planning & Programming
 R Scott McTaggart – Village of Jerome
 Neha Soni – Regional Planning Commission
 Dan Begert – Regional Planning Commission
 Dale Schultz – Regional Planning Commission
 Linda Wheeland – Regional Planning Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frank Squires called the meeting of the SATS Technical Committee to order at 8:30 AM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 8/02/12 SATS Technical Committee Meeting

Squires asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the August 2, 2012. There were none. Norm Sims made a motion to approve the August 2 minutes and Sal Madonia seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

III. 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A. Amendments

Wheeland submitted a list of proposed amendments to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan, included below:

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 the Technical Committee has voted to recommend approval of these amendments to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan to the Policy Committee.

Tim Zahrn made a motion to recommend approval of the amendment to the Policy Committee. Norm Sims 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 Technical 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.

Norm then inquired about the project schedule and asked if there had been any significant deviation from the plan. Wheeland responded that projects have largely kept to the schedule. She noted that some 2011 objectives have not yet been completed, but remained confident that those objectives would be addressed in the coming months. Examples of these objectives include 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.

IV. 2013-2016 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Wheeland announced that a copy of the Draft 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program had been sent out to SATS members prior to the August Technical Committee meeting. Last month the Committee had begun to address the issue of several-years-old projects still being included in the ST-U funds projects table. These projects, from 2004 to 2008, had seen their funding change from what was shown in tables in previous editions of the TIP. It was recommended at the August meeting that the involved jurisdictions would try to close out these projects with IDOT so an actual ST-U balance could be determined for SATS. Kim Cummins reported that many projects are tied up in a materials certification process awaiting paperwork.

Wheeland noted that the next project to utilize ST-U funds would not begin until 2014. As a result, the Committee determined that the Draft TIP should be made available for the required 30 day public comment period. Tim Zahrn moved to release the Draft 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program out for public review. Sal Madonia seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous.

V. TECHNICAL ADVISOR UPDATES

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

Thomas Caldwell introduced Karen Shoup, newly appointed Urban Program Planning Bureau Chief, to the SATS Technical Committee. Shoup expressed her excitement at joining the staff at IDOT and working in the Sangamon County area.

B. Federal Highway Administration: Illinois Division Office

JD Stevenson reported the FHWA Illinois Division Office is awaiting guidance from headquarters as to the implications of the newly passed MAP-21 funding authorization bill.

C. Illinois Department of Transportation: Local Roads and Streets

Kim Cummins confirmed that the MPO had been awarded safety funds for the sign upgrade program for which it had applied. Linda Wheeland recognized the work of Dave Booher and the Village of Sherman as being instrumental in that application process. Cummins said IDOT plans to arrange a meeting with all of the involved jurisdictions to explain the details of the awarded funds, and noted that the agency will be available as a resource to provide assistance with installation of the new signs. Cummins encouraged SATS members to begin thinking about new ideas for safety projects in anticipation of the next round of applications, beginning in January 2013 and ending in April. Cummins stressed the importance of this application process, noting that in 2012, the sign upgrade program application was the sole submission from IDOT District 6.

D. Illinois Commerce Commission

Mike Stead reported that Union Pacific Railroad had conducted roadway approach milling at all of the crossings in the 3rd St corridor, from Ash north through 6th St. This action was in response to a rough surface complaint submitted by the City of Springfield in February. Stead reported that UP diagnostic teams are also currently reviewing all of the structures at all of the crossings and bridges in the 3rd St corridor, with work plans anticipated to be submitted to the city by the end of the year, and work on the crossings anticipated to take place in 2013 or 2014. Examples of work projects that will result from the UP diagnostic reports include the removal of center piers on the structures at the 9th, Dodge, and Capitol Avenue intersections in order to change them from double to single span structures.

E. Springfield Airport Authority

Roger Blickensderfer reported that seasonal wintertime service to Punta Gorda, Florida is scheduled to resume on November 3, 2012. The provider will be Allegiant Airlines.

VI. AGENCY UPDATES

A. Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission

Norm Sims expressed his excitement at the news of the acquisition of the IDOT safety funds for the sign upgrades. Sims cited the application as a great example of a collaborative effort among many different communities. Sims also asked the Technical Committee to recognize the work of Linda Wheeland and staff on the rural transportation project.

Sims reported that SSCRPC staff are currently working through and interpreting the language of MAP-21 in order to understand its implications on transportation funding and regulation.

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 at the same time.

Sims also noted the work of the Citizens Efficiency Commission, which is currently preparing to conduct an analysis of the efficiency of road maintenance in Sangamon County. Sims informed SATS members that the CEC may be attempting to get in touch with them soon as part of their data gathering process to inquire about the status of road improvements in the region, annual cost estimates for road upkeep, and similar questions.

B. Springfield Mass Transit District

Frank Squires hinted that some important developments may be coming from SMTD in the near future, but noted that as he no longer holds the position of board chairman, he is no longer at liberty to speak freely about them. Squires did note though that all of the bike racks had been successfully installed on buses ahead of schedule. Linda Wheeland noted that this marks the first completed objective of the recently approved Springfield Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

Squires also reported that the SMTD board approved a proposal to redo the environmental studies of the planned multimodal transportation center in accordance with the recommendation for 10th Street railroad consolidation published in the recently released High Speed Rail Environmental Impact Statement.

C. City of Springfield

Nathan Bottom stated that the City's concrete patching program is scheduled to begin in the Palisades subdivision, and estimated the cost of the project at \$935,000. Both the sidewalk program and the seal coat program are nine tenths completed, and the final cost of the sidewalk program is estimated at \$1,000,000. The overlay program is completely finished, covering 15 miles of streets, at a cost of \$6,000,000. The City is currently planning to use TIF funds to begin work on the Park South subdivision overlay project.

D. Sangamon County

Tim Zahrn reported that the county's pavement preservation project is underway, consisting of a variety of projects identified by their pavement management system and covering 17 miles of roadway and \$2,000,000 of work. The projects range from crack sealing to milling and resurfacing. Two bridges were also recently completed – New Salem Church Road in Curran Township and Loami Bates Road near Loami – and two bridge constructions are planned – Bullard Road in Mechanicsburg Township and County Highway 40 West Loami Rd near the county line.

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

Sal Madonia echoed Linda Wheeland's comments encouraging attendance of IDOT's public outreach meeting at Lincoln Library on Oct 3 from 4 to 7 PM. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the multimodal transportation program as well as the long range transportation plan

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

- Clear Lake Avenue and Dirksen Parkway – paving is scheduled to begin in two weeks
- I-72 structure over the Sangamon River – the last concrete pour has been completed, and normal traffic is scheduled to resume in 2 weeks as the crossovers are taken out
- In Chatham at Palm Road and Chatham Road – traffic signals have been installed and activated.
- Sangamon Avenue at Colt Road – conduits and foundations have been installed, and workers are waiting on signal equipment to be delivered
- Stanford Ave Bridge, 5th St and 6th St – painting of structures is underway
- Motel demolition at Peoria Rd and Ridgely – asbestos removal is underway, with demolition scheduled to begin next week

F. Village of Chatham

Mike Williamsen reported that the bike trail on Plummer Boulevard from Ravinia to Park began this week. The contractor is hopeful that the project could be completed this construction season, though some insurance issues with the railroad have yet to be resolved.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Small Community MPO Representation (Tabled)

Squires indicated that no SATS member had requested the Small Community MPO Representation discussion be brought off the table.

IX. 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. Availability of spaces has increased over last 10 years, mainly due to the construction of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum parking structure.

Sims commented that this finding is somewhat counterintuitive given the widely held assumption that the parking supply in the downtown area is insufficient. Sims posited that improving wayfinding and tourism signage as well as marketing underused parking structures would be a good way to address this parking perception problem.

B. Next Meeting Date – Thursday, October 4, 2012 at 8:30 AM

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 9:16 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Begert
Recording Secretary