

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**SATS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**  
**May 8, 2014**

**ATTENDANCE**

## Technical Committee Voting Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nathan Bottom, Chair	City of Springfield
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tim Zahrn, Vice Chair	Sangamon County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Williamsen	Village of Chatham
<input type="checkbox"/>	Frank Squires	Springfield Mass Transit District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norm Sims	Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laura Mlacnik*	Illinois Dept. of Transportation (IDOT): Region 4, District 6

\* Represented by Sal Madonia

## Technical Committee Advisors – Non-Voting Members

<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"/>	Terry Fountain	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Francesco Bedini Jacobini	IDOT: Division of Public & Intermodal Transportation

\* Represented by Roger Blickensderfer

**Others**

Bill Davison – Knight E/A  
 Elliott McKinley – Springfield Park District  
 Stan Hansen – Crawford Murphy & Tilly  
 Ed Dougherty – IDOT District 6 Community Liaison  
 Jeff Myers – IDOT District 6 Local Roads and Streets  
 Sue Graham – IDOT District 6 PD  
 Wes Clark – IDOT District 6 Programming  
 Amy Uden – Regional Planning Commission  
 Linda Wheeland – Regional Planning Commission  
 Neha Soni – Regional Planning Commission  
 Brian Sheehan – Regional Planning Commission

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Nathan Bottom called the meeting of the SATS Technical Committee to order at 8:31 AM.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –SATS Technical Committee Meeting**

Chairman Bottom asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the April 3, 2014 Technical Committee meeting. Sal Madonia made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mike Williamsen seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

**III. 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)****A. 2040 Update**

Linda Wheeland announced that the Citizens Survey deadline had been extended to May 4<sup>th</sup> and 523 survey responses were received. This represented a significant increase from the previous survey, when 185 responses were collected. Wheeland credited greater outreach amongst demographics traditionally underrepresented in the responses to such surveys. Four SMTD fixed routes serving Census Tracts with large low-income and minority populations were targeted. In addition, other groups targeted were staff and clients of Contact Ministries, Senior Services of Central Illinois, the SIU Free Community Health Clinic, Sangamon County Community Resources, the Springfield Business Connections trade show, and many others. Wheeland stated that the data would be converted into a readily understandable format and

sent to SATS representatives in advance of the June meeting, as well as be presented to the Community Advisory Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee.

**IV. FY 2014-2017 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**A. Surface Transportation – Urban (ST-U) Projects Update**

Linda Wheeland stated that this item is now on the agenda due to discussion at the Project Prioritization Subcommittee meeting regarding strategies for reducing project delivery delays. Having reports at each meeting would keep Technical Committee members up to date on project process.

Stanford Avenue Extension from Fox Bridge Road to Taylor Avenue (TIP # 02-2010-09)

Nathan Bottom reported that this project is presently in Stage II engineering, which is expected to be completed in 6-9 months. Additionally, the hope is that land acquisition will begin within the coming months.

Old Jacksonville Road and Bradfordton Road Intersection Realignment (TIP # 03-2012-01)

Tim Zahn reported that the Phase I report on the noise wall issue is close to completion. Zahn stated that this issue required surveying and analysis, and coordination meetings with IDOT and FHWA. Zahn stated that the report will require approval before land acquisition can begin. Letting of the project is anticipated in 2015.

**B. Amendment #13 (SMTD SMART Paratransit Vans)**

Linda Wheeland introduced Amendment #13:

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF  
THE THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT TO THE  
FY/2014-2017 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 metropolitan planning area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Springfield Area Transportation Study approved the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY 2014-2017 on October 17, 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, the Springfield Mass Transit District (SMTD) has contracted with Senior Services of Central Illinois, Inc. to provide demand-response transit service in the urbanized area of Sangamon County outside of the SMTD boundaries through the Sangamon-Menard Area Regional Transportation (SMART) system; and

**WHEREAS**, accessible vehicles must be acquired to provide this transit service; and

**WHEREAS**, the Springfield Mass Transit District is actively seeking funding for the purchase of these vehicles and requests the following project be added to the “Other Illustrative Projects” list of the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program; and

**Project Description:**

Project/Jurisdiction/ Class		Description	Action/Comments	Total Cost	Anticipated Year
A13	Paratransit Vans	<b>Description:</b> 6 Paratransit vans	Purchase 6 paratransit vans for the Sangamon-Menard Area Regional Transportation (SMART) urbanized service	<b>\$378,000</b>	
	SMTD				
	Urban Transit				

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

Mike Williamsen made a motion to recommend approval of the amendment to the Policy Committee. Tim Zahn seconded the motion. The vote to recommend approval was unanimous.

**C. Administrative Modification #6 (I-72)**

Linda Wheeland introduced Administrative Modification #6:

**Administrative Modification 6 to the  
FY 2014 – 2017 Transportation Improvement Program  
March 28, 2014**

**I-72 From East Of I-55 To East Of Overpass Road**

Status of this project has changed from “Advanced Construction” to “Current” with a slight change in total cost and funding source dollar amounts, based on the actual bid. The FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program has been modified to remove AC from the federal funding source and change the dollar amounts to those shown below.

Project/Jurisdiction/Class	Description	Action/Comments	Map #	Funding Source	Total Cost
I-72	<b>Termini:</b> E. of I-55 in Springfield to E. of Overpass Rd.	Resurfacing, Bridge Repairs	60	NHPP-State	13,128,079
State	<b>Contract#</b> 72C90			State	1,458,676
Interstate	<b>TIP#</b> 04-2014-01				
				<b>\$14,586,755</b>	

**D. Administrative Modification #7 (Dirksen Parkway)**

Linda Wheeland introduced Administrative Modification #7:

**Administrative Modification 7 to the  
FY 2014 – 2017 Transportation Improvement Program  
April 4, 2014**

**Dirksen Parkway from N. of Ridge Avenue to N. of Clear Lake Avenue**

Status of this project has changed from “Advanced Construction” to “Current”. The FY 2014 Annual Element of the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program has been modified to remove AC from the federal funding source as shown below.

Project/Jurisdiction/Class	Location	Action/Comments	Map #	Funding Source	Total Cost	
1 M7	IL 29 / Dirksen Pkwy.	Construction Add 2 lanes, bi-directional turn lane, sidewalks, bike lanes	8	NHPP-State	7,200,000	
				State	1,652,000	
	State			<b>Contract#</b> 72501	Springfield	148,000
	Principal Arterial			<b>TIP#</b> 04-2012-09	<b>\$9,000,000</b>	

**V. TECHNICAL ADVISOR UPDATES****A. Illinois Dept. of Transportation (IDOT): Central Bureau of Urban Program Planning**

No report was given.

**B. Federal Highway Administration: IL Division Office**

Norm Sims told J.D. Stevenson that the “Grow America” Act, a bill proposed by the administration as a successor to MAP-21, included a proposed 50 percent increase in suballocated planning funding to those MPOs with a population size of 200,000 or greater, designated as “high performing” MPOs. Sims asked Stevenson if this 50 percent increase would be funded through an increase in overall funding or if it would be taken out of the statewide share, leaving smaller MPOs with less money. Stevenson stated that he has the same question, as he hasn’t heard anything that explains it fully.

Sims explained that already MPOs of 200,000 population or greater in size receive automatic allocations of ST-U and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding, while still being permitted to compete for the base state share in each of those programs. The proposed change in planning funding would in

effect further reduce the amount of money available to smaller MPOs such as SATS.

Sims asked Stevenson if he could obtain a clearer answer on what this bill, if passed, would mean for the average MPO of under 200,000 population. Sims stated he believes that if the size of the pot for smaller MPOs would decrease, that less effort should be required in order to make use of that share, and the reverse for the larger MPOs above 200,000 in population. Sal Madonia asked what the current population of the SATS MPA was. Linda Wheeland stated that it was approximately 165,000.

### **C. IDOT District 6: Local Roads and Streets**

Terry Fountain stated that the announcement of projects receiving ITEP funding came out shortly after the April 3rd Technical Committee meeting. Extension of the Sangamon Valley Trail (TIP # 03-2012-13) was awarded just over \$4 million, the largest grant in the state. This project will add 6 miles to the trail from its current northern terminus at Stuart Park to Irwin Bridge Road. Following kickoff meetings with the various agencies receiving funds for this and other projects, Fountain stated that detailed information on project phasing will be sent to SATS for inclusion in the TIP.

Fountain announced that this was his last SATS meeting in an official capacity due to his upcoming retirement from IDOT. He introduced Sue Graham as his replacement as District 6 LRS's technical advisor for SATS. Committee members congratulated Fountain and wished him well in retirement.

### **D. Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)**

No report was given.

### **E. Springfield Airport Authority**

Roger Blickensderfer announced four projects that would be beginning in the not-too-distant future at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport. The first is a security project to enhance perimeter gates as well as access from the Airport Authority's administrative offices out to where the airlines themselves operate. A notice to proceed has been issued and boring for fiber optic cables was set to begin on May 12. The project is federally funded over a period of two years.

The second project is regarding work on Taxiway Bravo, on the end closest to Route 29. The work will create a standard, 90 degree angle connection to the adjacent runway, improving visibility for the pilots of various aircraft as to other vehicles in their surroundings. A preconstruction meeting for this project has occurred and work should be beginning in 2-3 weeks. This project, like the first, is also federally funded via awards from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) from the previous Fiscal Year.

The third project, the rehabilitation of six taxi lanes between the oldest 6 T-hangars and remaining 8 newer T-hangars, is funded through the Illinois state Division of Aeronautics and is expected to begin June 1. Work will include rehabilitation of the concrete around the original 6 T-hangars as well.

The final project will be the addition of a jet bridge opposite the gate departure area for Gate 1. It is expected that federal funding will be released for the project in June or July, with construction to start shortly thereafter. The design will be slightly different from jet bridges at larger commercial airports, due to Capital Airport's terminal building being only one story tall instead of at least two at larger airports.

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

Francesco Bedini Jacobini stated that he was in attendance at a hearing of the Illinois Commerce Commission which confirmed that a pedestrian crossing would remain on the High-Speed Rail corridor at Hazel Dell Road, in order to preserve access to the Interurban Trail from the east.

## **VI. AGENCY UPDATES**

### **A. Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission**

Linda Wheeland stated that staff had received a letter from USDOT regarding a new requirement known as Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs). The letter lists three PEAs:

- The transition to performance based planning and programming
- Promotion of cooperation and coordination across MPO boundaries and across state boundaries, where appropriate, to ensure a regional approach to transportation planning
- Access to essential services as part of the transportation planning process, identify transportation connectivity gaps in access to essential services

Wheeland stated that these are supposed to be included in the Planning Year 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) which was approved by SATS in March. Norm Sims added that if an amendment to the UPWP was required, some activities may need to be taken out.

Wheeland added that staff is registered for a webinar on the PEAs on June 11<sup>th</sup> and invited SATS members to attend.

Dale Schultz announced that the week of May 19<sup>th</sup> to May 24<sup>th</sup> would be this year's installment of Curb Your Car (CYC) week, encouraging Sangamon County residents to bike, walk, run, or take the bus to work. Schultz then explained a list of incentives and promotions for the event, as follows:

- Group commute Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> departing at 7:30 am from Washington Park to the Old Capitol Farmers Market
- Group ride on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> in tandem with a bike light giveaway at 8pm at the Capitol Complex parking lot at College and Edwards. The ride itself, which will require lights, will follow at 9pm.
- From May 21<sup>th</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>, Maldaner's Restaurant will be offering 10 percent off on the bill for all guests who park a bicycle out front.
- Traveling trophies for the winning businesses with the highest percentage of their employees "curbing their car."
- A "passport" system whereby one becomes eligible for a free meal at Café Moxo by visiting enough CYC sponsor businesses.

Schultz encouraged SATS members to get word out on CYC.

### **B. Springfield Mass Transit District (SMTD)**

No report was given.

### **C. City of Springfield**

Nathan Bottom stated that work was proceeding on the city's overlay program (TIP # 02-2014-07), divided into east side and west side programs. Work is being done from south to north, with current west side overlay projects near White Oaks Mall underway. East side overlay projects currently underway include work in the area around Lake Springfield. Additionally, work on the City's \$3 million sidewalk program (TIP # 02-2014-08), is currently underway in the area centered around Phillips St and Matheny Ave between 11<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> streets. A second phase of the sidewalk project will begin June 1.

Additionally, Bottom announced that some concrete patching was soon to begin on Chatham Road/Bruns Lane and that asphalt alley repairs had just been completed. Bottom also mentioned that a number of drainage projects were underway throughout the city.

Finally, Bottom announced that work on the Chatham Road bridge (TIP # 02-2011-05) was nearing completion. Work on the approach pavements and parapet walls are underway, with full reconstruction of the bridge expected to be complete by July 4.

**D. Sangamon County**

Tim Zahn followed up on Terry Fountain's discussion of the ITEP funds awarded for the extension of the Sangamon Valley Trail (TIP # 03-2012-13), from Stuart Park to Irwin Bridge Road. He stated that the award includes funding for design, engineering, construction, and construction engineering.

Zahn added that there are upcoming projects that he expects to be submitted for the June letting. This includes approximately 6 miles of overlay, including Iron Bridge Road south to the Chatham Village limit, Woodside Road west from Iron Bridge to Route 4, and Bradfordton Road between Washington and Jefferson (IL 97/125). These are all structural overlays identified as priorities for pavement preservation in the county's pavement management plan (TIP # 03-2013-05).

Zahn also announced that bridge replacements would be taking place on Glenarm Road (outside the SATS area) and Richland Elevator Road (TIP # 03-2013-04), which will also be part of the same June letting.

Mike Stead asked Zahn for an update on the planned closure of Narmont Road crossing and its realignment to facilitate the closure. Zahn stated that Auburn Township has filed for an extension on the project with regards to land acquisition, due to a recent change in property ownership in the area.

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

Sal Madonia introduced Jeff Myers, taking over Laura Mlacnik's position as the Acting Program Development Engineer, and Wes Clark, who will be the Acting Programming Engineer, taking over for Madonia's duties on the SATS Technical Committee.

Regarding construction projects, Madonia announced that curb, gutter, and sidewalk work on Wabash between Park and Koke Mill (TIP # 04-2014-03) was nearing completion, and that milling and paving work would begin the week of May 12. On Interstate 72 east of Interstate 55, Madonia stated that the ongoing work on two overhead bridges is presently under staged construction.

Regarding improvements to Dirksen Parkway between Ridge and Clear Lake (TIP # 04-2012-09), utilities are presently under relocation, and construction work is scheduled to begin within the coming month. Additionally, the patching contract for Interstate 55 is expected to be completed shortly.

The contract for the widening of Wabash Avenue to 5 lanes (TIP # 04-2011-07), with associated bicycle and pedestrian improvements, between Koke Mill Road and the Village of Curran, was let on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Bids are currently under evaluation.

Also, Madonia announced that IDOT would be holding public meetings for the I-55 six lane expansion project. Madonia stated that he would get all of the pertinent information to staff to be placed on the SATS website once details were finalized.

**F. Village of Chatham**

As reported at the previous Technical Committee meeting, Mike Williamsen announced that work will be undertaken on a TIF funded project on two and a half blocks of Walnut Street to the west of its intersection with Route 4. This will include road widening to 3 lanes, construction of new curb and gutter, sewer and water main work, and new sidewalks. Williamsen advised that persons using said segment of Walnut Street with any frequency to seek alternate routes.

Also, Williamsen announced that the proposed improvements at the Walnut Street rail crossing as part of the Illinois High Speed Rail project will be taking place some time this summer. The crossing may be closed for as long as three weeks during this time.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

## **VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **A. ST-U Project Prioritization Application**

#### **i. Approval of Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2014**

Tim Zahrn made a motion to recommend approval of the ST-U Project Prioritization Subcommittee meeting minutes. Nathan Bottom seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

#### **ii. ST-U Project Prioritization Application**

Linda Wheeland stated that the draft application form was sent out to all members based on the discussion at the subcommittee meeting, and she did not hear back from anyone. Wheeland then asked if anyone had questions or comments on the final document.

Tim Zahrn suggested that Wheeland give the group a brief discussion as to what was done at the subcommittee meeting, including modifications made. Wheeland explained that the application was set up to look long range at ST-U projects, including money that is presently in the ST-U balance and funding anticipated for Fiscal Years 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019. The amount of money available for projects in all these years in total is approximately \$6 million. Types of projects eligible for this funding source were identified as pedestrian, bicycle, transit and road projects; bridge projects are no longer eligible, as they have a separate, dedicated funding source. Wheeland added that the application form was changed to show links to documents that would be helpful in filling out the application.

The total number of points one can get in evaluation of a project has increased, as the points for the multimodal characteristics of a project were switched from efficiency enhancement criteria to significance criteria, doubling the number of points that could be attributed to said criteria.

Tim Zahrn stated that he thinks the committee did a good job being in line with federal requirements, and Norm Sims stated he agreed. Terry Fountain added that when the time comes to call for ST-U projects, that SATS should emphasize the importance of being able to meet the criteria set up in the application, so the smaller communities don't spend money putting together an application for a project that would not score well. Wheeland stated that copies of the application would be sent out to all municipalities in the MPA with a letter explaining the application process and project eligibility so this could be added. Sims agreed that it would be a good idea to include such information in the application mailing.

Sims added that the Regional Leadership Council (RLC) could be a vehicle to get much of this information out to area communities. Wheeland stated that the Community Advisory Committee (CAC), which includes communities in the MPA, except Clear Lake could also be an avenue for discussing this topic. Sims clarified that the RLC would allow a means to directly discuss this issue with area municipal leadership. He added that he thinks it would be advantageous to invite the engineers working with these municipalities in order that the people who fill out the applications receive the important information directly.

Zahrn said he believed that the RLC wasn't due to meet for another two and a half months, but Sims responded that they could be called together for a meeting at any time. Wheeland expressed concern as the RLC includes communities outside the MPA that are not eligible for the ST-U funding, whereas the CAC is solely comprised of communities eligible for this funding and will be meeting at the end of May.

Terry Fountain stated that since the applications for ST-U funds were subject to the review of SATS, any discussion of these applications should be restricted to groups formed in relation to the MPO

planning process, so that the communities involved are being given consistent information.

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

Regarding setting a timeline for completion of applications, Wheeland reminded the committee that the subcommittee had chosen to set an application deadline at the Technical Committee meeting. Fountain said that he wanted the list of selected projects by December 1 for inclusion in the District 6 multiyear program to be finalized in January. A final decision would need to be made by the Policy Committee no later than November.

Wheeland then suggested that communities be given three months to submit applications.

Norm Sims made a motion to recommend approval of the ST-U Project Prioritization Application deadline of August 1<sup>st</sup> to the Policy Committee. Mike Williamsen seconded the motion. The vote to recommend approval was unanimous.

**B. Small Community MPO Representation (Tabled)**

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

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Next Meeting Date – Thursday, June 5, 2014 at 8:30 AM**

Terry Fountain announced that on May 15<sup>th</sup>, there would be a class on ADA/PROWAAG requirements at the IDOT Central Office. Fountain recommended that SATS members send their staff involved in design and construction of sidewalks in order that money does not need to be spent in tearing out and rebuilding sidewalks due to their not conforming to ADA/PROWAAG standards. Nathan Bottom added that he had found previous instances of this class to be informative, and stated that the City will have 3 additional employees in attendance.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Bottom called to adjourn. Norm Sims made a motion to adjourn. Mike Williamsen seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the SATS Technical Committee was adjourned at 9:15 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Sheehan  
Recording Secretary