

**Minutes of Meeting
SATS POLICY COMMITTEE
May 11, 2017**

ATTENDANCE**Policy Committee Voting Members**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bonnie Drew, Chair	City of Springfield
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brian McFadden, Vice Chair	Sangamon County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Gray	Village of Chatham
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eric Hansen	Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff South*	Illinois Dept. of Transportation (IDOT): Region 4, District 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Frank Squires	Springfield Mass Transit District

* Represented by Sal Madonia

Policy Committee Non-Voting Members

<input type="checkbox"/>	Holly Ostdick	IDOT: Urban Program Planning
<input type="checkbox"/>	JD Stevenson	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA): Illinois Div. Office
<input type="checkbox"/>		Federal Transit Administration

Others

Chris Isbell – IDOT District 6 LR&S
 Norm Sims – Regional Planning Commission
 Shannan Karrick – Regional Planning Commission
 Neha Soni – Regional Planning Commission
 Jason Sass – Regional Planning Commission
 Brian Sheehan – Regional Planning Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bonnie Drew called the meeting of the SATS Policy Committee to order at 12:02 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Drew asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the April 13, 2017, SATS Policy Committee meeting. Brian McFadden made a motion to approve the minutes. Norm Sims seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

III. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

No report was given.

IV. 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan

A. Amendment 22 – 4th Street & North Grand Avenue HSR

Neha Soni introduced Amendment 22.

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TWENTY-SECOND TO THE 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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 SATS Long Range Transportation Plan takes a long-term (25-year) look at transportation needs in the Springfield Metropolitan Planning Area; envisions an efficient, interconnected, multi-modal travel network; and identifies projects to make this vision a reality; and

WHEREAS, the Long Range Transportation Plan is updated every five years and was most recently updated on March 12, 2015 as the SATS 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, all projects with identified funding sources and anticipated to be completed during the period 2015 – 2019 are listed as Committed Projects in the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Office of Intermodal Project Implementation requests that the following project be added to the “Committed Projects” list in the SATS 2040 LRTP; and

MAP #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF IMPROVEMENT	JURISDICTION	COST
52	4th Street & North Grand Avenue	Property Acquisition	State (IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation)	425,000
53	4th Street & North Grand Avenue	Demolish the structures located on the property	State (IDOT Office of Intermodal Project Implementation)	150,000

Neha Soni told the Committee that Amendment 22 to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan was the same as Amendment 20 to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Sims said that the Technical Committee had voted to recommend approval subject to the clarification of MAP item #53 and what types of funding were used for additional projects added to the original project. Mr. Sims said that there were updates to restrooms and parking at the facility added to the original demolition project. Ms. Graham said that the upgrades were Americans with Disabilities Act updates.

Norm Sims made a motion to combine approval votes for Amendment 22 to the Long range Transportation Plan with Amendment 20 to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program. Frank Squires seconded the motion. The motion to combine approval votes was unanimous.

Norm Sims made a motion to approve Amendment 22 to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan and Amendment 20 to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program. Frank Squires seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

V. 2017-2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

A. Amendment 19 – Woodside Road

Neha Soni introduced Amendment 19.

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF
THE NINETIETH AMENDMENT TO THE
FY/2017-2020 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/2017-2020 on October 13, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the following Illinois Department of Transportation, Region 4 District 6 project is shown in FY 2017 of the FY 2017-2020 TIP; and

Project Description and Funding:

Project/Jurisdiction/Class	Location	Action/Comments	Map #	Funding Source	Total Cost
6 Woodside Road Sangamon County Minor Arterial	Termini: IL Route 4 to Chatham Road	Add two lanes and wide shoulders	31	ST-U	3,000,000
	Contract#			County	2,580,000
	TIP# 03-2011-02				\$5,580,000

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Region 4 District 6 requests changes in the Funding Source and Amount of the following project as shown below; and

Project Description and Funding:

Project/Jurisdiction/Class	Location	Action/Comments	Map #	Funding Source	Total Cost
6 Woodside Road Sangamon County Minor Arterial	Termini: IL Route 4 to Chatham Road	Add two lanes and wide shoulders	31	ST-R	1,160,000
	Contract#			ST-U	3,000,000
				County	826,525
				TARP	213,475
TIP# 03-2011-02		\$5,200,000			

Brian McFadden made a motion to approve Amendment 19 to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program. Norm Sims seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

B. Amendment 20 – 4th Street & North Grand Avenue HSR

Neha Soni introduced Amendment 20.

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF
THE TWENTIETH AMENDMENT TO THE
FY/2017-2020 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/2017-2020 on October 13, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Office of Intermodal Project Implementation requests that the FY 2017 Annual Element of the FY 2017-2020 TIP be amended by adding the projects as shown below; and

Project Description and Funding:

Project/Jurisdiction/Class	Location	Action/Comments	Map #	Funding Source	Total Cost
9 4th Street and North Grand Avenue State Minor Arterial	Terminl: 4th Street and 03. Mile South of North Grand at UP Railroad Crossing	Property Acquisition	R52	FRA	403,750
	Contract#			IDOT	21,250
	TIP# 21-2017-02				\$425,000
10 4th Street and North Grand Avenue State Minor Arterial	Terminl: 4th Street and 03. Mile South of North Grand at UP Railroad Crossing	Demolish the structures located on the property	R52	IDOT	150,000
	Contract#				
	TIP# 21-2017-03				\$150,000

Amendment 20 to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program was previously approved with Amendment 22 to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan.

VI. TECHNICAL ADVISOR UPDATES

A. Illinois Dept. of Transportation: Office of Planning and Programming

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

No report was given.

B. Sangamon Mass Transit District (SMTD)

Mr. Squires told the Committee that the Intelligent Transportation Systems infrastructure project was underway and he hoped that the implementation of new technology on SMTD buses would coincide with the new transportation network scheduled to be rolled out with the new transfer center. He said that work continued on the transfer center site. New routes were being tested by SMTD staff. Ms. Drew asked if there would be added routes in the network. Mr. Squires said that there would be new routes, and that the frequency of buses along those routes would be increased. Mr. Squires also announced new ADA compatible pads at the VA center and Social Security office.

C. City of Springfield

Ms. Drew reported the following:

Stanford Avenue – 11th to Fox Bridge: Final plans were near completion and land acquisition was proceeding. A Fall, 2017 letting was anticipated.

Stanford Avenue – Fox Bridge to Taylor: Construction was nearing completion. Railroad signals were installed and a June, 2017 opening was anticipated.

Archer Elevator/Iles Intersection: Utility relocation was done and storm sewer installation had begun.

11th Street Extension: Storm sewer work had begun

High Speed Rail – Ash/Laurel underpasses: Land acquisition was completed. An August, 2017 letting was anticipated.

D. Sangamon County

Mr. McFadden told the Committee that a FASTLane application had been submitted for Woodside Road/Iron Bridge Road intersection. He said that the County was hoping to hear something regarding the funding in the next couple weeks.

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

Sal Madonia announced updates to the following projects:

IL Route 29: Capitol Airport Drive to Andrew Road (TIP # 04-2014-02):

The project was put on the April 2017 letting as item #112. It is a resurfacing road improvement project.

J. David Jones Parkway over Spring Creek (TIP # 04-2017-04):

The plans have been completed and construction was ready to begin. It is a minor restructuring improvement.

Reflective Backplates (TIP # 04-2017-05):

The project is scheduled for the June, 2017 letting.

Camp Butler Road (TIP # 04-2017-06):

The project is scheduled for the June, 2017 letting.

IL 29, Dirksen Parkway (TIP # 04-2017-07):

The project is scheduled for the June, 2017 letting.

Wabash Avenue: Curran Road to Koke Mill (TIP # 04-2011-07):

Work was almost completed, with sidewalk and seeding remaining.

Interstates 55/72: Stevenson Drive to Clear Lake Avenue (TIP # 04-2017-02):

The project has been awarded during the January, 2017 letting to Illinois Valley Paving. Construction was anticipated to begin in the Spring of 2017.

Guardrail Terminal Upgrade (TIP # 04-2017-03):

The project has been awarded during the January, 2017 letting. Construction was anticipated to begin in the Spring of 2017.

F. Village of Chatham

No report was given.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. **Public Participation Plan**

Shannan Karrick asked that the Policy Committee vote to adopt the 2017 Public Participation Plan. She said that one comment had been received from the public, regarding water access along the Sangamon River, and that concern was forwarded to the Springfield Park District.

Frank Squires made a motion to adopt the 2017 Public Participation Plan. Brian McFadden seconded the motion. The vote to adopt was unanimous.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Proposed Letter to Secretary Blankenhorn concerning MPO Temporary Exemption from GATA**

Mr. Sims asked the Committee to consider adopting a letter to IDOT Secretary Blankenhorn asking for a two year exception for MPOs from GATA requirements. He said that the purpose of the letter was to seek a temporary reprieve as the implementation of GATA was having negative effects on MPOs, including SATS. He said that the indirect cost review, necessary for all grants under GATA, had been ongoing for over 230 days, as of May 11. The indirect cost review had been submitted a total of three times in that period and that SATS would have to submit the indirect cost review again for the next fiscal year, beginning July 1. He said that the resubmission would be redundant, because the County audit would not have been completed by that time, and no changes would have been made to the indirect cost review. The proposed exemption would be for pass-through funds, not competitive grants administered by the State. He expressed frustration that the implementation authority does not rest with IDOT, which has the responsibility to ensure implementation. Instead, the approval authority rests with a private consulting firm. He further noted that there were no due process provisions in the act, so there was no redress for MPOs whose reviews were being held up during the process. He said that SSCRPC had dedicated \$10,000 of staff time toward the approval process.

Mr. Sims was not optimistic that approval would be forthcoming, noting that only 15% of submissions had been approved by Crowe Horwath, including submissions where there was a simple approval process. He said that Sangamon County had not been approved, as well. He further noted that more entities would be added to the GATA approval process and that the additions would only add to the backlog of approvals.

The letter asks Secretary Blankenhorn to exempt MPOs for a period of two years from GATA compliance rules regarding pass-through funds until a better review process can be implemented. He said the letter asks for an exemption via language in the GATA act that allows exemptions for entities who receive Federal pass-through funds. Mr. Sims said that SATS cannot ask for its own exemption, the request has to come from IDOT. The exemption would be for pass-through funding only and would allow SATS, IDOT, and GATA stakeholders to determine the best way to approve indirect cost reviews going forward. He hoped that the Secretary would look at the letter positively; noting that one of the Secretary's goals after taking office was to ease regulatory burdens on MPOs.

Mr. Sims reiterated that he was troubled that the Federal government would approve the GATA review process that Illinois implemented, allowing a private firm to review approvals with no due process in place to appeal during the approval review.

Mr. McFadden asked if any other MPOs had written letters asking for an exemption. Mr. Sims said that no other MPOs had written letters, to his knowledge. He believed that other MPOs had not written letters because they feared that the Office of Management and Budget would not approve anything GATA related.

Mr. McFadden and Ms. Drew agreed to send the letter and said they would seek the signatures of Chairman Van Meter and Mayor Langfelder for the letter.

Norm Sims made a motion to approve the proposed letter to Secretary Blankenhorn concerning temporary exemption for MPOs from GATA. Brian McFadden seconded the motion. The vote to approve the letter was unanimous.

Mr. Sims commended IDOT for helping SATS with the GATA approval process, noting that IDOT staff is the most reliable conduit for information and assistance regarding GATA. He further noted that SATS received no response to requests for status clarification from Crowe Horwath or the Office of Management and Budget.

Mr. McFadden requested that a copy of the letter be sent to the Deputy Director and the Office of Planning and Programming as well, to ensure that IDOT acknowledges SATS' request for exemption. Mr. Sims said he would send a copy to the proper people.

B. Next Meeting Date –June 8th, 2017

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Drew called for a motion to adjourn. Brian McFadden made a motion to adjourn. Frank Squires seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 12:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Sass
Recording Secretary