

**Minutes of Meeting
SATS POLICY COMMITTEE
July 13, 2017**

ATTENDANCE**Policy Committee Voting Members**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Brian McFadden, Chair	Sangamon County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dave Kimsey, Vice Chair	Village of Chatham
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bonnie Gray	City of Springfield
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Val Yazell	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 Wes Clark

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
 Sue Graham – IDOT District 6 LR&S
 Ronald Walker – Resident, City of Springfield
 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

Acting Chair Bonnie Drew called the meeting of the SATS Policy Committee to order at 12:03 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Drew asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the May 11, 2017, SATS Policy Committee meeting. Frank Squires made a motion to approve the minutes. Wes Clark seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

III. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

No report was given.

IV. 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan

No updates to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan.

V. 2017-2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

A. Administrative Modification 8: Reflective Back Plates

Neha Soni introduced Administrative Modification #8.

Reflective Back plates Current to AC

Status of this project has changed to “Advanced Construction” because the Illinois Department of Transportation considers specific apportionment or state contract ceiling insufficient to meet project specifications and; the FY 2017 Annual Element of the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program has been modified to add AC to the federal funding source as shown below.

Project/Jurisdiction/Class	Location		Action/Comments	Map #	Funding Source		Total Cost
8 Reflective Backplates	Termini:	Various locations within the SATS MPA	Install reflective backplates on traffic signal heads	N/A	HSIP (AC)	279,000	
State	Contract#	72J33			IDOT	31,000	
Various	TIP#	04-2017-05					
							\$310,000

And the Advance Construction Projects table in the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program has been modified to indicate the change to this project as shown below.

AD MOD #	TIP Year	Project/Jurisdiction/Class	Location	Action/Comments	Map #	Funding Source		Total Cost	Date On AC List	Date Off AC List	
AM 8 (FY 2017-2020 TIP)	2017	Reflective Backplates	Termini: Various locations within the SATS MPA	Install reflective backplates on traffic signal heads	N/A	HSIP (AC)	279,000		5/12/2017		
		State	Contract#			72J33	IDOT				31,000
		Various	TIP#			04-2017-05					
								\$310,000			



B. Administrative Modification 9: Woodside Road

Neha Soni introduced Administrative modification #9.

Woodside Road (IL Route 4) Current to AC

Status of this project has changed to “Advanced Construction” because the Illinois Department of Transportation considers specific apportionment or state contract ceiling insufficient to meet project specifications and; the FY 2017 Annual Element of the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program has been modified to add AC to the federal funding source as shown below.

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

And the Advance Construction Projects table in the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program has been modified to indicate the change to this project as shown below.

AD MOD #	TIP Year	Project/Jurisdiction/Class	Location		Action/Comments	Map #	Funding Source		Total Cost	Date On AC List	Date Off AC List
AM 9 (FY 2017-2020 TIP)	2017	Woodside Road	Termini:	IL Route 4 to Chatham Road	Add two lanes and wide shoulders	31	ST-R (AC)	1,160,000		6/23/2017	
							ST-U (AC)	3,000,000			
		Sangamon County	Contract#				County	826,525			
		Minor Arterial	TIP#	03-2011-02			TARP	213,475			
									\$5,200,000		

Ms. Drew asked what type of modification was being made to Woodside Road. Mr. Clark said that he believed the road would be changed from two-lane highway to three-lane highway. Mr. Isbell confirmed that the road would be widened with a center turn lane installed between Chatham Road and Illinois Highway 4.

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. Sangamon Mass Transit District (SMTD)

Mr. Squires told the Committee that SMTD is working to create a new route network, to be implemented in conjunction with the new off-street transfer center. The District had also received a couple new buses that they were working to put into service. He offered to have Steve Schoeffel address the Committee if they wanted more details about the changes to the transit network. He restated that the changes were still in the planning stages and could be modified. Ms. Yazell asked when the network would be put into service. Mr. Squires said that the routes could not be changed until the off-street transfer center is opened, tentatively scheduled for August, 2018.

B. City of Springfield

Ms. Drew reported the following:

Stanford Avenue – Fox Bridge to Taylor: Signal and curb work were anticipated to be finished by the first week of September, 2017.

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

11th Street Extension: Storm sewer work was anticipated to be finished Fall, 2018.

8th Street Beautification: Brick overlay was being applied.

Ms. Yazell asked Ms. Drew about sewer work along Jackson Street that was discussed during the City Council meeting. Ms. Drew said that the discussions were part of the Bicentennial Plaza plan.

Mr. Squires asked if the 11th Street extension is also scheduled to be finished in Fall, 2018. Ms. Drew said that the 11th Street extension was anticipated to be paved and complete for traffic by Spring, 2019. Mr. Squires said that SMTD was planning its network routing based on the 11th Street extension. Ms. Drew said that she would check with Public Works Director Mark Mahoney to get a better estimate for completion.

C. Sangamon County

No report was given.

D. Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Sims introduced Val Yazell as the new voting member of the Policy Committee, representing SSCRPC. She has experience with the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, the City Planning and Zoning Commission, as well as the Sangamon County Planning Commission.

Mr. Sims updated the Committee regarding the status of the letter sent to IDOT Director Blankenhorn requesting a two-year moratorium for MPOs implementing GATA rules and regulations. As of the meeting date, no response had been received from the Director. He added that the Crowe-Horwith had approved the indirect cost rate, after a lengthy delay. He said that SSCRPC had to change the way it accounted for staff time (leave, vacation, sick days). He said that Crowe-Horwith had not answered his questions regarding changes in staff and how that would apply to indirect costs during the life cycle of grants. He said that SSCRPC was seeking a meeting with IDOT to clarify how to proceed. Ms. Karrick said that there would be revised statements from SSCRPC for billing to SMTD because of the changes to indirect costs. She said that SSCRPC would move forward as soon as questions have been answered. Mr. Sims said that many other contracts were affected due to the changes in indirect costs and GATA regulations.

Ms. Karrick said that SSCRPC was going to modify the Unified Planning Work Program to comply with the new GATA indirect cost rates. She added that the Transportation Improvement program for FY2018-2021 was nearing completion. It should be available in September, 2017. SATS staff was completing the Downtown Parking Survey for 2017. SATS staff participated in a webinar to identify critical rural freight corridors. The project was to recommend and identify corridors that could be critical to economic and freight movement activities outside cities in the SATS planning area.

On July 19, 2017, IDOT were holding a “conversation café” to solicit input from anyone interested in the State of Illinois Long Range Transportation Plan. The meeting was scheduled from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Mr. Sims said that SATS was frustrated with the approach IDOT was taking with the L RTP. He stated that IDOT promised MPOs that they would have specific channels for input to the L RTP, but as of the meeting time, they had been shut out of the process, and had input status similar to that of “interested parties”. He said that parties that were directly impacted by the State’s planning process were not getting a direct say in what priorities and projects the State would pursue in its plan. He said that SSCRP’s representation of its constituents regards the MPO as more than a normal stakeholder, such as a contractor. If the plan is to be used to make policy and funding decisions, the groups that are most impacted should have the greatest say. He wanted to ensure that the meetings would produce output that could be commented by SATS staff and constituents and would have a direct impact on the planning process.

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

Wes Clark announced updates to the following projects:

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

The project was awarded to Broughton Construction.

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

The project was awarded to Kinney Contractors.

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

The project was let on June 16, and was awarded.

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

The project was let on June 16, and was awarded.

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

The project was let on June 16, and was awarded.

Work had resumed after a brief hiatus due to budget concerns on the following projects:

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

Work has resumed with binder and resurface work, with an anticipated August, 2017 completion.

Ms. Drew asked Mr. Clark the scope of the IL29/Dirksen Parkway project. She said that she had heard a walk path would be added to the bridge. Mr. Clark said that a walk path was not within the project scope but was hopeful that the address could be issued as part of a larger project to improve the Sangamon Avenue/Dirksen Parkway intersection.

F. Village of Chatham

No report was given.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ronald Walker, Springfield, addressed the Committee. He expressed his frustration with the transportation and transit funding process, such as GATA, budget concerns, and perceived inefficiencies. He believed that much of the problems with transportation funding in the SATS planning area were due to the shift of government offices from Springfield to Chicago. Mr. Sims told Mr. Walker that many other places, besides SATS, were experiencing similar problems. He commended the local IDOT staff in the Region 6 office, saying they are doing the most with what they have been given.

Mr. Walker expressed concern with what he saw as a lack of communication between SATS constituents regarding transit and pedestrian accommodations. He was a frequent bus rider, and said that many people were disabled, and paid reduced fares for bus service. He felt that this put an unfair burden on other riders. He wanted to know whether SMTD was raising funds from another source to offset the disabled rider subsidy. He noted that the cost of providing service rises, as revenues stay flat, resulting in service reductions. Mr. Squires said that State funding covers 65% of the disabled rider subsidy. Mr. Walker believed that more accurate passenger counts could help ensure that SMTD gets its full State funding allotment for transit funds. Mr. Squires said that internal auditing at SMTD has shown passenger counts to be 96% accurate.

Mr. Sims said that the function of the Technical and Policy Committees was to ensure that SATS constituents did meet regularly and were in constant communication regarding transportation, transit, and pedestrian issues within the planning area. SSCRPC acted as a conduit between the City of Springfield and SATS as the City developed its comprehensive plan. He noted that SATS recently completed a pedestrian and bicycle plan for the planning area. The plan was meant to incorporate bicycles, pedestrians, and transit into the larger transportation network. He further noted that outside the bicycle clubs, nobody showed interest in contributing to the bicycle and pedestrian plan. Mr. Walker concurred, saying that the level of public participation frustrated him. He noted that the participation process was not always convenient for those most impacted by changes to transit and pedestrian networks.

Mr. Walker further commended SMTD for installing ADA-compliant pads at the Social Security Administration office and thanked the Committee for hearing his concerns.

Ms. Drew thanked Mr. Walker for his comments and added that the City of Springfield would reconvene ward meetings in September and October, 2017. The Mayor intends to meet with residents of all ten wards in Springfield.

Sue Graham announced that effective Monday, July 17, Chris Isbell would be the engineer for IDOT Local Roads and Streets, District 6.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Next Meeting Date –August 10, 2017

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

The regular meeting was adjourned at 12:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Sass
Recording Secretary

DRAFT