

**Minutes of Special Meeting
SATS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
June 27, 2018**

ATTENDANCE

Technical Committee Voting Members

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Patrick McCarthy, Chair | Village of Chatham |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Shoun Reese, Vice Chair | Sangamon Mass Transit District |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Nathan Bottom | City of Springfield |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Brian Davis | Sangamon County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Molly Berns | Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Jeff Myers* | Illinois Dept. of Transportation (IDOT): Region 4, District 6 |

* Represented by Chris Isbell

Technical Committee Advisors – Non-Voting Members

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mike Vanderhoof | IDOT: Urban Program Planning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | JD Stevenson | Federal Highway Administration: Illinois Division Office |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Brian Wright | IDOT: District 6, Local Roads & Streets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mike Stead | Illinois Commerce Commission |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mark Hanna* | Springfield Airport Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | | IDOT: Office of Intermodal Project Implementation |

* Represented by Roger Blickensderfer

Others

Shannan Karrick - Regional Planning Commission

Jason Sass – Regional Planning Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Patrick McCarthy called the special meeting of the SATS Technical Committee to order at 10:01 AM.

II. ST-U Funding Discussion on Four Submitted Projects:

Before the discussion, Shannan Karrick asked Brian Davis what the status of Sangamon County's Old Jacksonville Road project. Mr. Davis said that the project was not programmed in its correct year, and that right-of-way acquisition had been delayed.

Ms. Karrick told the committee that ITEP funding for Archer Elevator road, which had been previously procured by the City of Springfield, was added to the funding schedule. She asked Nate Bottom whether the ITEP funding had altered the City of Springfield's original ST-U funding request for the Archer Elevator Road project. Mr. Bottom said that the City was looking to give an 80% funding match.

Molly Berns reminded the Committee that the meeting had been previously delayed because Committee members were waiting for alternate sources of funding. She asked the members what funding they had received and whether it had made any changes to their original funding requests. Mr. Bottom said that the City had hoped that the County's Woodside Road project would have received complete funding for the project prior to ST-U fund allocation. He said that the ITEP grant Springfield received was a small portion of the total project cost. He said the City was willing to apportion the ST-U funding so that the maximum number of projects would proceed. Ms. Berns asked if the requested funding amount for Springfield's Archer Elevator Road project would decrease by the approximately \$747 thousand dollars that the City had received in ITEP funds. Mr. Davis said that the County had two open grant applications for Woodside and Iron Bridge Roads. He said that both applications for grants had been rejected. He said the grant totals would have amounted to approximately \$11 million. He stated that Sangamon County was seeking the maximum amount of ST-U funding available for the project, along with matching funds in order to make up the remaining balance of project funding. He added that the County match, from motor fuel tax and local funds, could amount to 35-40 percent of the total project cost. Patrick McCarthy said that the Village of Chatham had not applied for additional funding toward its project.

Mr. Bottom recommended that the ST-U funds be split between three projects, similar to the scope of the previous round of funding. He asked that the funds be split evenly between the three highest scoring projects, Woodside/Iron Bridge, Archer Elevator, and Koke Mill. He suggested that Sangamon County transfer funding from the delayed Old Jacksonville Road project to Woodside/Iron Bridge to get the necessary funding to proceed. Mr. Davis said that the Old Jacksonville Road project was projected for FY2021 and funding for the project would not be made available in time to begin the Woodside/Iron Bridge project.

Ms. Berns asked which projects were more "shovel-ready" where funding could go to projects that could be started immediately. Mr. Bottom said that Archer Elevator Road could be ready for a November, 2018 letting if funding was completed. Mr. Davis said that the project was not on the FY2018 program. Chris Isbell noted that he was not aware of any right-of-way purchases for the project. Mr. Bottom said that the right-of-way had been passed through Council and that documents were left to be signed. Mr. Davis told the Committee that right-of-way for Iron Bridge/Woodside had been completed.

Mr. Isbell told the Committee that Iron Bridge/Woodside was closer to shovel-ready, according to the documentation from IDOT Local Roads and Streets. He noted that preliminary engineering had been completed and that a few changes to letting specifications were left before work could begin. Ms. Berns asked where Koke Mill Road and East Walnut Road were regarding right-of-way. Mr. McCarthy said that Chatham had the right-of-way for the East Walnut Road project. He added that there were no design plans for the project and requested funding for the design plans and engineering necessary to make the project shovel-ready when the next funding round occurs.

Ms. Karrick noted that numerous projects from previous fiscal years were not closed and had positive funding balances in the Transportation Improvement Program. She wanted to know if there were unused funds from the projects that could be used to fund the projects that were currently under consideration. Mr. Bottom said that a project funding for Archer Elevator Road from previous years was used for the preliminary engineering and that the City completed the studies with Motor Fuel Taxes. Ms. Karrick asked that the City close the projects so that the balance on the TIP document was current. Mr. Bottom said that the City would be requesting final reimbursement in the short term and that he did not anticipate any funds remaining after the projects were closed. Mr. Bottom added that Stanford Avenue was wrapped up with final payments left to distribute. Mr. Davis said that a Woodside Road project was continuing at the present.

Shoun Reese asked Ms. Karrick if funds left over from previous projects was included in the ST-U funding balance. Ms. Karrick confirmed that those funds were reflected in the balance.

Mr. Davis noted that any project selected for funding by the Committee would not be ready to begin immediately, as the IDOT project program had been set for FY2018, and that anything approved by the Committee would have to be negotiated into the FY2019 program. Mr. Isbell noted that if a project was ready to begin in FY2020, there would be approximately \$5 million available for funding.

Mr. Davis told the Committee that the Illinois Commerce Commission had pledged \$12 million toward the project, but would not release its portion of the funding until the entire cost of the project was funded. He said that the Iron Bridge portion of the project was ready to start, but there was not enough funding to start the Woodside Road portion of the project. He said that he could not reduce the amount of funding the County was seeking, approximately \$6 million, as a result.

Mr. Isbell said that the County could receive its full funding request, due to its circumstances, and that the remaining funds be split by the City on the next two projects as it sees fit. Mr. Bottom said that it was customary from previous ST-U funding cycles for projects to seek a maximum amount of funding but to come down from that maximum in order to spread the funding to as many projects as possible. He noted that the total funding for the cycle was approximately \$6 million after all previous projects had been closed. Mr. Bottom suggested that the funding be split between the two top-scoring projects, due to their similar application scores.

Ms. Karrick asked Mr. Davis when the Woodside/Iron Bridge project would be ready to begin. Mr. Davis said that project was broken into two separate projects, with Iron Bridge ready for letting and Woodside road waiting for funding before the ICC would release funding to begin the project. The total funding requested by the County would go to both projects, with a smaller portion going to Iron Bridge and the majority going to Woodside. He noted that the projects were being executed with the Regional Planning Commission and City of Springfield, with the County providing the funding.

Molly Berns suggested that the \$6 million for funding through 2020 be programmed, with future funds being split out for other projects. Mr. Isbell asked how far out the Committee was looking to program ST-U funds. Mr. Bottom responded that the Committee was looking to program funding through 2022.

Ms. Berns asked the Mr. Bottom how the status of the Archer Elevator Road project would change if it did not receive its full requested funding. Mr. Bottom responded that reduced funding would delay the project, and said that he would be willing to request less funding so more projects could proceed. Ms. Berns asked Mr. Davis how the status of the Woodside/Iron Bridge project would change without receiving its full funding request. Mr. Davis replied that the project could not proceed, as the Illinois Commerce Commission would pull its portion of the project's funding if Sangamon County could not fully its share. He said that the County had applied for multiple grants and funding programs, but had not received any further funding. Ms. Berns asked Mr. McCarthy how the status of the East Walnut project would change without its fully requested funding. Mr. McCarthy said that the Village of Chatham had submitted its full support of the Woodside/Iron Bridge project. He said that the Village believed that it would be the best overall improvement for Southern Sangamon County, and it would have positive and negative effects on the Village. He said the Walnut Street improvement was meant to tie into the Woodside/Iron Bridge project in order to accommodate the increased traffic the Village expected.

Ms. Karrick asked Mr. Davis if the Woodside/Iron Bridge project would be programmed in one or two phases. Mr. Davis said that the project could be programmed in two phases. Mr. Bottom asked if the project was programmed in the Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Davis said that he believed the project was programmed for FY2020 and FY2021 in the TIP. He added that the programming years could change, based on IDOT's work program. Ms. Berns asked if IDOT could accommodate the project if it did receive full funding. Mr. Isbell responded that IDOT could accommodate the inclusion of the Woodside/Iron Bridge project in FY2020 and FY2021, if the Archer Elevator Road project could be moved to FY2022. Mr. Bottom suggested swapping the Stanford Road project programmed for FY2019 with the Archer Elevator project. Mr. Isbell said that the differences in cost and funding could be problematic, because it was not an even swap.

Mr. Bottom suggested that the \$6 million in ST-U funds that were available be split between the Woodside/Iron Bridge and Archer Elevator projects, with \$3.5 million to the Woodside/Iron Bridge project and \$2.5 million to the Archer Elevator project. He believed that the County could receive funding from other sources, such as ITEP, prior to a programmed start date in FY2020. Mr. Isbell did not believe that the project would be eligible for ITEP funding. He said the only eligible portion of the project that was ITEP eligible would be bike path improvements, and that those improvements were a minimal portion of the project. Mr. Davis added that without full funding for the Woodside/Iron Bridge project, the entire project would be in jeopardy. He said that the project should receive full funding due to the nature of the overall project funding, study results, economic impact, and support from neighboring communities.

Chris Isbell made a motion that the ST-U funding be allotted as:

- \$6,000,000 for Woodside/Iron Bridge (FY2020-FY2021)
- \$150,000 for E. Walnut Road (FY2021)
- \$2,952,000 for Archer Elevator Road (FY2021-FY2022)

Molly Berns seconded the motion.

Mr. Isbell commented that the funding amounts for FY2020, FY2021, and FY2022 were over programmed, but could be fully funded with future ST-U funds. He asked Mr. Bottom if the City of Springfield could cover the funding in the near term. Mr. Bottom wanted to know when the Koke Mill Road project would be programmed. Mr. Isbell said that funding for the project would be available around FY2024.

Mr. Bottom asked Mr. Isbell if it were possible to move the Archer Elevator Road project to FY2019 and move the Stanford Avenue project back to FY2021-2022. Mr. Isbell said that if the projects were both City of Springfield projects with similar costs, IDOT could swap the two in the program.

Mr. Bottom expressed concern that engineering for the Koke Mill Road project would be delayed longer than the E Walnut Road project, despite scoring higher during the application process. He asked that funding be provided for preliminary engineering so the Koke Mill Road project would be shovel ready by the FY2024 programming date. Ms. Berns asked Mr. Bottom if he wanted to amend the motion to move the \$150,000 of funding for the E Walnut Road project to the Koke Mill Road project. Mr. Bottom said that it was not his intention to do that. He was requesting that a portion of the funding available be provided for preliminary engineering for the Koke Mill Road project. He asked for \$500,000.

Ms. Berns suggested reducing the money programmed for Archer Elevator Road in order to fund the Koke Mill funding. Ms. Berns said that in her opinion, the Woodside/Iron Bridge Road project took priority over all the other projects and that its funding should not be altered. She noted that the project was in jeopardy of losing the majority of its funding and that the High-Speed Rail project was considered a priority in regional planning. Mr. Bottom said that Archer Elevator Road should also be considered a priority due to its value as a future commercial and residential, and transit corridor, as well its location in a high-traffic area.

Nate Bottom made a motion to amend Chris Isbell's previous motion:

- \$6,000,000 for Woodside/Iron Bridge (FY2021)
- \$100,000 for E. Walnut Road (FY2021)
- \$2,500,000 million for Archer Elevator Road (FY2022-FY2023)
- \$500,000 for Koke Mill Road (FY2024)

Molly Berns seconded the amendment.

Nate Bottom withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Bottom said that the cost of the current Stanford Avenue extension (Fox Bridge to Taylor) was slated to cost approximately \$100,000 less than budgeted. He suggested that the City could submit an amendment to the Transportation Improvement program showing the cost changes. The unused funds could go back to the general ST-U fund. Ms. Karrick confirmed that the City had not expended its fully programmed ST-U funding for the project, as of the meeting date. Mr. Davis said that the City would have to close out the project in order to put project funds back into the general ST-U fund. Mr. Bottom said that the process could be done over time, as the future projects were not slated for programming for a couple years.

Nate Bottom made a motion to amend Chris Isbell's motion:

- \$6,000,000 for Woodside/Iron Bridge (FY2021)
- \$150,000 for E. Walnut Road (FY2021)
- \$2,550,000 for Archer Elevator Road (FY2022-FY2023)
- \$500,000 for Koke Mill Road (FY2024)

Molly Berns seconded the motion to amend.

A roll-call vote was taken:

- Molly Berns: SSCRPC Yes
- Nate Bottom: City of Springfield Yes
- Shoun Reese: Sangamon Mass Transit District Yes
- Patrick McCarthy: Village of Chatham Yes
- Brian Davis: Sangamon County Yes
- Chris Isbell: IDOT Region 4, District 6 Yes

Chair McCarthy asked for a vote to approve Mr. Isbell's original motion, as amended.

- Molly Berns: SSCRPC Yes
- Nate Bottom: City of Springfield Yes
- Shoun Reese: Sangamon Mass Transit District Yes
- Patrick McCarthy: Village of Chatham Yes
- Brian Davis: Sangamon County Yes
- Chris Isbell: IDOT Region 4, District 6 Yes

III. Public Comments

No public comments were given.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair McCarthy asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shoun Reese made a motion to adjourn. Molly Berns seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 11:04 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Sass,
Recording Secretary