

**State Highway 97 Corridor Study/Route Development Plan  
Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting  
Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2007  
Camp Easton, Lake Coeur d'Alene**

Committee Members present:

Maxine Christensen, citizen & EMS Rep.  
Rick Currie, Kootenai Co. Commissioner  
Don Davis, ITD Dist. #1  
Jimmie Dorsey, ESHD  
Dick Edinger, ESHD  
John Pankratz, ESHD  
Bill Spencer, Coeur d'Alene Casino  
Andrea Storjohann, ITD Dist. #1  
Bev Twillman, citizen  
Steve Walker, Powderhorn  
Dave Wardsworth, Citizen  
Rand Wichman, Powderhorn  
Gary Young, Chateau

Others in attendance:

Glenn Miles, KMPO  
Christine Fueston, Ruen-Yeager  
Lisa Ailport,- Ruen Yeager  
Staci Lehman, KMPO  
Ethan Gillming, UI Student  
Uriah Jones, UI Student  
Mike McKee, UI student  
Adam Miles, UI Student

Glenn Miles, Transportation Manager for KMPO, started the meeting by introducing himself and asked to go around the table and have everyone introduce themselves.

Christine Fueston explained the background on the SH 97 Corridor Study/Route Development Plan and provided maps associated with the project (Study Area, Publicly Owned Lands, Traffic Volumes, Recreation Facilities, Travel Shed, and Wetlands). She indicated that the Project Team included: HDR, EcoNorthwest, Hatch-Mueller, USKH Northwest Dynamics, and Robinson Research. The study/plan will review the SH 97 corridor in totality and SH 3 for traffic distribution only.

Ms. Fueston pointed out that at this time, neither Lakes Highway District nor Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) have plans to do improvement work on SH 97.

The outcomes from the Strategic Advisory Committee, public open houses, and core focus groups will go to the KMPO Board to make a recommendation as to how to address issues and growth associated with SH 97.

The study is now in the data collection stage, but it will also consider a reasonable anticipated land use build out, an environmental scan and consider the seasonal differences to conditions on SH 97 between the summer and winter seasons.

Part of the study will be to create a baseline analysis to determine what the existing problems/challenges are on SH 97. Highway 3 is included in the study for the purpose of using it for distribution.

A survey will be mailed out to property owners, seasonal or year round residents, to determine how they use the road and what comments they have about it. A map will be included and respondents will be asked to mark areas they believe are problems areas and potential areas for improvements. Information from the assessor's office will be used for the database.

Steve Walker suggested a question be placed on the survey asking if respondents believe a system should be implemented to charge developers for road improvements. Jimmy Dorsey said he doesn't believe there will be any changes to the road unless developers are billed for at least some of it. Mr. Miles asked if a follow-up question should be asked if residents would be willing to be financially involved in potential improvements.

Andrea Storjohann pointed out that wording needs to be deliberate, because if respondents answer that they want developers to pay, it will be taken to mean that they support changes to the road.

Bev Twillman suggested asking, 'Do you want changes?' Mr. Miles suggested adding a checklist of options to the question such as paving, guardrails, etc. so respondents can choose what changes they would like to see. Mr. Walker suggested the checklist be used so that respondents can indicate which options are priorities to them.

Mr. Dorsey said that anyone who pays taxes in the area should receive the survey, not just a set number of residents. Bev Twillman agreed, saying it would cause problems if some residents received the survey and others did not. It was also suggested that respondents be able to fill out the survey online. Staci Lehman said that she will check with KMPO's web manager.

Ms. Fueston asked that if anyone has further suggestions on the survey they get them to her ASAP. She would like to send the survey out within two weeks, but will send out a second draft to the committee before doing so. The survey results will be presented at the public open house meetings and be available on the KMPO website.

Ms. Fueston introduced four students from University of Idaho who are helping with the project. Mike McKee made a presentation on a brochure the students put together detailing existing conditions data on SH 97.

Committee members were asked if the time of this meeting works for all of them. Bill Spencer suggested moving it to 2:00 or 3:00 p.m. but agreed the day works for him.

Jim Dorsey said that the main problem he sees on SH 97 is bicyclists. Maxine Christensen concurred. Ms. Fueston asked if the speed limit is an issue and committee members agreed that it is the lack of enforcement that is an issue. There is only one sheriff's deputy that patrols SH 97, and only for 20 hours per week. Mr. Miles said they would try to get a law enforcement presence on the committee for future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned.