

MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting
October 2, 2008
Idaho Transportation Department District 1 Headquarters
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Board Members in Attendance:

Lynn Humphreys, Chair	Post Falls Highway District
Clay Larkin, Vice Chair	City of Post Falls
Jimmie Dorsey	East Side Highway District
Marv Lekstrum	Lakes Highway District
Damon Allen	Idaho Transportation Department
Tom Feely	Worley Highway District
Vic Holmes	City of Rathdrum
Rick Currie	Kootenai County
Anson Gable	City of Hayden
Al Hassell	City of Coeur d'Alene

Board Members Absent:

James Mangan	Worley Highway District
Norma Peone	Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Staff Present:

Glenn Miles, Executive Director
Carole Richardson, Transp. Planning Engineer
Jennifer Wash, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board was called to order by Chair, Lynn Humphreys at 1:30 pm.

2. Approval of August Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Vic Holmes made a motion to approve the September 4, 2008 meeting minutes. Mr. Jimmie Dorsey seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Public Comments –

4. Administrative Matters – Glenn Miles

Voucher 4a

Mr. Jimmie Dorsey made a motion to approve the payments:

a) KMPO Vouchers for August 2008 in the amount of \$59,287.67.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Vic Holmes and unanimously approved.

5. Public Transportation

a) Status Report on Citylink Service

Mr. Alan Eirls, Citylink Transportation Manager, handed out the Citylink report and updated the Board on ridership for the month of August. He also stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Stone, the owner of Riverstone properties, which informed Citylink to move from Riverstone. They are in the process of looking at alternative sites to become Citylink's permanent site.

Mr. Humphreys met with Mr. Stone, along with Mayor Bloom, to discuss Mr. Stone's notice to Citylink to terminate using the Riverstone site for their buses. Mr. Humphreys advised that Mr. Stone has authorized the use of the Riverstone site for another 90 days. Mr. Stone's concern was the use of his facility as a permanent Park and Ride and as his business continues to grow he did not want his facility to be a transportation hub.

b) Status Report on KATS Service

Mr. Joe Crowe handed out the KATS-Link report, but had to leave for a prior engagement. Mr. John Austin gave an update for the month and stated numbers are low on shuttles, but the general routes are steady.

c) Financial Report – John Austin

Mr. John Austin reported last month he was asked to look into advertisement and fare rates for Citylink and how it would affect the operation. He stated fare revenue cannot be used as matching funds for federal aid. In effect, the amount of fare money collected would have the effect of reducing current FTA funds that flow to Kootenai County. It would only be possible to recapture the federal aid if additional matching funds could be found. There would also be additional costs for collecting fares such as hiring a person to collect the money and another person to audit.

6. KCATT Recommendations – Jeff Zaugg

KCATT Chair Jeff Zaugg referred to two KCATT recommendations for Board approval, the first one being the Unified Planning Work Program. KCATT has been reviewing this program over the months of August and September and Mr. Zaugg stated they have forwarded a recommendation to the Board for adoption.

In reviewing the paragraph on unfunded regional needs, Mr. Clay Larkin asked to have I90 access in the Greensferry area added to the list

Mr. Larkin also asked how KMPO would be addressing critical public transportation services and what would be the funding strategies be. He also had a question on the freight feasibility study as well as any new information on the joint responsibility to investigate a regional public transportation authority in Kootenai County.

Mr. Miles stated that one of the work program items is to update KMPO's public transportation plan and bring it back to the Board at the end of the fiscal year with recommended strategies for additional funding and potential legislative measures.

In terms of the freight trans-load center feasibility study, Mr. Miles explained that the County is planning to apply for funding from the State to help match funds that have been received for the Inland Pacific Hub initiative. The Inland Pacific Hub effort could assess the feasibility study of a potential trans-load facility other freight facility that could be developed. The purpose of the Inland Pacific Hub project is to look at how we can take advantage of transportation and other assets in Kootenai County to encourage economic growth and development.

Ms. Richardson addressed the question on the regional public transportation authority investigation for Kootenai County stating that at this month's Public Transportation Roundtable a guest speaker from Targhee Regional Transportation Authority, Idaho Falls RPTA, has been invited to speak about how their RPTA was formed. This will give the roundtable members a chance to start learning about what is involved in setting up an RPTA as well as the benefits and trade-offs so that the Roundtable will be better able to advise the Board on this issue.

Mr. Al Hassell also suggested adding language to the unfunded needs discussion in the UPWP about the Lancaster and Government Way projects.

Mr. Jimmie Dorsey made a motion to adopt the Unified Planning Work Program with the additional corrections and additions noted. Mr. Marv Lekstrum seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

The second KCATT recommendation brought forward by Mr. Zaugg was the Federal Functional Classification Map, which shows how the future transportation network is intended to function within the county. Mr. Zaugg stated KCATT has collaborated among the various jurisdictions represented with regional and local transportation issues and networks to update the map. KCATT recommends Board adoption of the new map.

Mr. Al Hassell made a motion to adopt the Federal functional Classification Map. Mr. Vic Holmes seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

7. Director's Report – Glenn Miles

Mr. Glenn Miles announced that the Public Transportation Roundtable has been following the IMAP process, which is ITD's new initiative to address public transportation on a statewide basis. A status report was distributed widely this past Monday stated what the status of IMAP is in the state, and this report indicated that KMPO has been nonresponsive to the IMAP process. Mr. Miles wanted to make it clear that he has met with Pam Lowe, Scott Stokes, Randy Kyrias on IMAP and has expressed some concerns and reservations about the process and the program. Mr. Miles offered suggestions to clarify agency roles and public expectations about IMAP. Mr. Miles also noted that part of IMAP's goal is to address a Federal requirement for human services coordination transportation plan. KMPO has already prepared and adopted this required plan for Kootenai County, which this Board adopted in June 2007. Mr. Miles pointed out that KMPO was the first MPO in the State of Idaho to adopt this federally required plan, and hence Mr. Miles felt it a little remiss to indicate that KMPO was non-responsive to that requirement.

8. Other Business

a) FY09-13 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Miles explained to the Board that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) indicates all of the funded projects that exist in Kootenai County that receive federal or state funds for all the jurisdictions through 2013. He emphasized that federal aid funds cannot be used for any transportation project in Kootenai County unless the project is in KMPO's long range plan and in the TIP. The TIP document is updated annually.

Mr. Miles stated that SAFETEA-LU is set to expire next year, and it is uncertain what the next federal funding program is going to look like, although they are expecting a fairly large reduction in the amount of federal aid funds available to the state.

Mr. Clay Larkin made a motion to approve the FY09-13 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Jimmie Dorsey seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

b) KMPO Development Review Policy

Ms. Carole Richardson reminded the Board that last month KCATT recommended approval of a development review policy for KMPO. She indicated that this policy outlines what local agencies may expect of KMPO if our assistance is needed during development reviews. KMPO would only get involved at the request of a local jurisdiction and would limit the reviews to the larger more regionally significant developments and comp plan amendments. KMPO's review would not substitute for traffic impact study. If a local jurisdiction desired a more in depth analysis by KMPO, the request would first be brought before the Board for authorization.

Mr. Jimmie Dorsey made a motion to approve the KMPO Development Review Policy. Mr. Vic Holmes seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

c) Air Quality Update – Mark Boyle

An air quality report was passed out to the Board. Mr. Mark Boyle of the Department of Environmental Quality gave an update on the latest air quality data for the region. He stated that they are waiting for further results from Washington State University, and with WSU's report, DEQ will be able to evaluate current emissions inventory for Kootenai County as well as explain how the 2008 ozone data will be used. At the end of December or the first part of January, DEQ will have more solid results which will be presented back to the Board at the January or February meeting.

d) Garwood to Sagle Update – Jason Minzghor

Mr. Jason Minzghor, Project Development Engineer for ITD District 1, gave an update on the Garwood to Sagle project. He stated that in June, the IT Board wanted ITD to hold off on the preliminary design until they came up with a cost based analysis. This project has approximately 180 million dollars of GARVEE Funds to fund a 500 million project, so the IT Board wanted to make sure ITD was building the right project.

To maximize the funds the preferred alignment was changed and interchanges added along the corridor. The changes were presented to the IT Board and in September they gave the authority to proceed on with this plan. The environmental impact statement is still in process and will be complete in spring. Until the environmental impact statement is complete, the project is still subject to minor changes. Mr. Minzghor mentioned that there is a newsletter coming out and on November 12th and 13th there will be public information meetings.

9. Board Member Items

Mr. Clay Larkin announced the Association of Cities has called about 24 mayors to Boise on October 17th to participate in a five hour transportation statewide funding discussion. He stated that if anyone has anything to bring forth please contact him with the issue. Mr. Larkin emphasized that this is our chance to let our voice be heard in Boise.

Mr. Jimmie Dorsey advised that informational brochures for the vehicle registration fee have been printed and distributed to all the Board members. He mentioned that this brochure was created and printed using private funds and will be available to the public.

Mr. Lynn Humphreys reported that a letter was prepared to Bob Wilbur thanking him for his many years of service to KMPO and to the Post Falls Highway District. As an update he reported that Mr. Wilbur is currently in the hospital due to health issues.

10. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Jennifer Wash
Recording Secretary