

MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting
December 4, 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
Vic Holmes	City of Rathdrum
Rick Currie	Kootenai County
Anson Gable	City of Hayden
Tom Feeley	Worley Highway District (replacement)

Board Members Absent:

Norma Peone	Coeur d'Alene Tribe
Al Hassell	City of Coeur d'Alene
James Mangan	Worley Highway District

Staff Present:

Glenn Miles, Transportation Manager
Carole Richardson, Transportation Planning Engineer
Jennifer Wash, Administrative Assistant
Donna Lively, SRTC Administrative Secretary
Ryan Stewart, Sr. Transportation Planner

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 November Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Rick Currie made a motion to approve the November 6, 2008 meeting minutes. Mr. Jimmie Dorsey seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Public Comments – There were no comments given.

4. Administrative Matters – Glenn Miles

Voucher 4a

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

- a) KMPO Vouchers for October 2008 in the amount of \$44,289.29.**

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

5. Public Transportation

a) Status Report on Citylink Service

Mr. Alan Eirls handed out the Citylink report and updated the Board on ridership for the month of November. Although ridership dropped slightly, possibly due to the decrease in gas prices, it remained consistent with November of last year. A meeting was held on November 25th at City Hall to address Riverstone Development's request to relocate the Citylink bus stop. Citylink is considering using a lot at Seltice and Riverstone Drive. The lot would be resurfaced with compacted gravel and a transformer and lights would be installed for safety measures. They hope to have the lot in use by the first of the year. They will consider installing a fence should vandalism occur.

b) Status Report on KATS Service

Ms. Helen Stephens handed out the KATS-Link report. She noted that numbers are low on shuttles.

c) Financial Report – John Austin

Mr. John Austin stated that they will present the budget to the Board early next year. It is anticipated that the city's request for funding (\$86,000 this year) will remain unchanged. Contracts for transportation providers will expire in April and they are working on an agreement with County Commissioners to update them. Mr. Austin noted that requests for proposals will be going out and that prequalification for paratransit riders will be conducted.

6. KCATT Recommendations – Jeff Zaugg

Mr. Jeff Zaugg presented KCATT's recommendation to solicit KMPO's support for ITD's proposed legislation for Transportation Access Plans. He also presented a draft letter supporting the proposed legislation on behalf of KMPO for Board consideration. Mr. Zaugg noted that ITD also requested that individual jurisdictions draft letters in support of the proposed legislation. The Board expressed support for ITD's proposed legislation for Transportation Access Plans.

Mr. Jimmie Dorsey made a motion to either prepare a letter of support or sign the prepared letter of support for ITD's proposed legislation for Transportation Access Plans. Mr. Marv Lekstrum seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

7. Director's Report – Glenn Miles

Mr. Glenn Miles reported that Legislator Hart sent draft legislation to the five MPOs requesting input. The legislation would utilize a portion of sales tax revenue from car sales for transportation purposes, specifically, acquiring right-of-way corridors within metropolitan areas. The legislation would protect these right-of-ways for future transportation use. The legislation specifies that the right-of-ways must clearly be identified, approved, included in the MTP, and that the funds cannot be used for construction. Mr. Miles informed the Board that staff would like to make recommendations and present it to the Board for consideration at its January meeting.

Mr. Miles introduced two new SRTC/KMPO employees: Ms. Donna Lively, Administrative Secretary for the SRTC, and Mr. Ryan Stewart, Senior Transportation Planner. Mr. Stewart came to SRTC from Spokane Transit Authority where he worked as their transit planner. He is representing KMPO on the Transportation Roundtable and drafted the request for proposal for the Transit Center Location Study. He is currently reviewing the five proposals received for the study.

Mr. Miles requested that the Ruen-Yeager contract for the Huetter Road Corridor Study be extended to February 28, 2009. This will allow all comments to be received and presented to the Board prior to the termination of the contract.

Mr. Miles reported that he has been elected Chair of the Urban Balancing Committee, which met November 19th in Boise, ID. He reported that they were successful in obtaining additional funds for projects, including \$695,000 for construction on Dalton Gardens - Hanley Avenue Stage II (Davenport to 15th), and \$90,000 for consultation services on Stage III – Government Way to 4th. In addition, they will receive \$150,000 toward their 2010 budget. Mr. Miles stated that the Government Way Project in Coeur d'Alene will also receive \$41,000 to cover the cost difference under the negotiated contract, and for Government Way – Dalton to Hanley, they were able to obtain \$1 million toward utilities and right-of-ways for fiscal year 2010. He noted that they are still in need of an additional \$194,000 for right-of-way expenses on the completed Mullan Avenue – Greensferry to Post Falls project, and expressed confidence that the funds will be secured. He stated that the amendments will go to the ITD Board for approval in January, and noted that the \$3 million held in reserve for other projects is still untapped.

Mr. Miles reported that several weeks ago, a Corporate CEO meeting was held in Sun Valley to discuss transportation issues from the business perspective. He noted that there was general support for transportation, but given the Governor's message, accountability and efficiencies must be included as part of any revenue package.

Mr. Miles reported that with regard to the Federal Economic Stimulus Package, Transportation will play a major part. It is believed that the bill will be signed once President elect Obama takes office. It is anticipated that a provision will limit funds to "shovel-ready" projects only, i.e., those ready for bid within 180 days of the bill being signed. Kootenai County projects currently eligible are: City of Post Fall's Greensferry,

Pleasantview and Rathdrum's portions of Bridging the Valley, and City of Hayden's/ITD Hwy 95 4 lane addition. It is also anticipated that another provision will limit fund use for project delivery, i.e., construction purposes only. Mr. Miles stated that project selection criteria will focus on effects on safety and job creation/sustainability. He also noted that it is believed that project funding would be 100%, thus and no local match requirement would be needed. However, jurisdictions will need to conduct their own risk management, as projects will need to be ready for bid without the guarantee of funding. He recommended that jurisdictions consult with ITD to determine which local projects would have lasting employment value and be economically beneficial once completed. The KMPO Board requested that staff and KCATT develop a local list and collaborate with ITD for a final list.

Mr. Damon Allen reported that ITD was given 24 hours to prepare a list of bid-ready projects. ITD also prepared a list of projects that could easily be ready within the 180 day time-frame. It included \$190 million in projects that did not require extensive right-of-way acquisition or environmental study/documentation, such as overlays, guardrails, and signs. Mr. Humphreys asked for clarification with regard to the project selection criteria, noting the routine highway maintenance projects mentioned by Mr. Allen in light of the federal criteria noted by Mr. Miles. Mr. Allen clarified that not all the projects that ITD listed would be eligible for the stimulus package funds. After Board discussion, it was agreed that ITD collaborate with KMPO in finalizing local transportation projects, including those involving transportation alternatives, e.g., non-motorized.

Mr. Clay Larkin made a motion requesting KMPO staff to develop a local list of transportation projects and collaborate with ITD in preparing a final list in preparation for the federal stimulus package. Mr. Jimmie Dorsey seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

In closing, Mr. Miles noted that ITD will be presenting a TIP amendment in January pertaining to changes in the design concepts and scope of two projects that will affect Kootenai County. Once ITD provides the amendment, it will be forwarded to KCATT for review and be subject to the public comment process.

8. Other Business

a) US95 Access Study Steering Committee Recommendations

Ms. Carole Richardson gave a brief presentation outlining the US95 Access Study Steering Committee Recommendations. She noted that there will be a US95 Access Management Study Open House, whereby the committee recommendations will be presented to the public, on Thursday December 18, 2008, from 5-7 p.m. at Centennial Distributing, located at 701 W. Buckles, Hayden, ID. She asked that with Board approval, the recommendations will be presented to the ITD Board in January. The Board complimented Ms. Richardson and those involved in preparing the recommendations. Mr. Humphreys asked for clarification as to what action Ms. Richardson wants the Board to take at this time, given that the public comment period

has not closed. Mr. Miles noted that it would be premature at this time for the Board to adopt the recommendations until all public comments have been received and considered and a final report is presented to the Board. Although it was agreed that no additional changes are forthcoming, the Board agreed to consider the recommendations for adoption at its January Board Meeting. Mr. Damon Allen stated that he would include a placeholder in the January ITD Board Meeting for the KMPO-adopted recommendations.

b) 2009 Election of Officers

The Board solicited nominations for KMPO Chair and Vice-chair positions. Mr. Jimmie Dorsey and Mr. Clay Larkin were nominated for Chair. The Board submitted ballots for Chair. Upon KMPO staff review, it was determined that Mr. Jimmie Dorsey received the majority votes for Chair.

Mr. Rick Currie made a motion to elect Mr. Jimmie Dorsey as KMPO Board Chair. Mr. Marv Lekstrum seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Mr. Rick Currie made a motion to re-elect Mr. Clay Larkin as KMPO Board Vice-chair. Mr. Marv Lekstrum seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

c) 2009 Meeting Schedule Adoption

Mr. Vic Holmes made a motion to adopt the 2009 Meeting Schedule. Mr. Marv Lekstrum seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

9. Board Member Items

Mr. Rick Currie reported that he will not be able to attend the February 2009 KMPO Board meeting.

Mr. Damon Allen thanked everyone involved in the access project and thanked Mr. Lynn Humphreys for his chairmanship.

Mr. Clay Larkin thanked the Board members for their participation in and support for the organization, noting how far it's come over the past two years and the challenges forthcoming in 2009.

Mr. Jimmie Dorsey thanked the Board for their vote of confidence in electing him Chair for 2009.

Mr. Anson Gable also thanked Board members and staff and noted that they are expecting a visit from Governor Otter.

Mr. Lynn Humphreys thanked Board members for their appreciation and stated that he plans to remain on the Board for some time. He thanked Board staff and expressed appreciation for the “team” effort in addressing the needs of the community.

10. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Donna Lively
Recording Secretary