

KCATT MEETING MINUTES

for

February 24, 2009

ITD District 1 Conference Room

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Call to Order:

Chairman Kevin Howard called the KCATT meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Welcome / Introductions:

Kevin Howard requested all those present to introduce themselves:

Andrea Storjohann	ITD - District One
Eric Shanley	Lakes Highway District
Gordon Dobler	City of Coeur d'Alene
John Pankratz	East Side Highway District
Robert Palus	City of Post Falls
Kelly Brownsberger	Post Falls Highway District
Jeff Zaugg.....	City of Hayden
Kevin Howard (Chair).....	Worley Highway District
Kevin Jump (Vice-Chair)	City of Rathdrum
Scott Clark	Kootenai County

Staff.

Carole Richardson	Transportation Planning Engineer
Bonnie Gow	Transportation Planner
Donna Lively	Administrative Secretary

Alternates and Guests.

Jimmie Dorsey	East Side Highway District
Marv Lekstrum	Lakes Highway District
Monty Montgomery	Lakes Highway District
Rod Twete	Lakes Highway District
Bill Melvin.....	City of Post Falls
Melissa Cleveland	J-U-B
Ralph Paul	DEQ
Dick Edinger	East Side Highway District
Paulette Mitchell.....	Verizon-Engineering
Dianne Best	Avista
Damon Allen	ITD
Don Davis	ITD
Matt Gillis	Welch Comer Engineers

Scott Ellsworth CH2M-Hill
Dick Jacobson CH2M-Hill
Bob Beckman CH2M-Hill

Approval of January Meeting Minutes:

The following corrections were noted the January Meeting Minutes. On page 2 under “Project Updates,” the last sentence under John Pankratz’s comments should read, “Also, there are several subdivisions coming before the Highway District Board for final approval.” On page 3, the last sentence under Kevin Howard’s comments should read, “Also, they are in the right of way acquisition process on the Kidd Island Road and Hull Loop.”

Andrea Storjohann made a motion to approve the December 16, 2008 meeting minutes as corrected. Jeff Zaugg seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

KMPO Planning Updates:

Carole Richardson reported that the ITD Board accepted the US-95 Study Recommendations from KMPO at their February 18, 2009 Meeting and asked that ITD continue to work with those who were not in favor of the recommendations at Bosanko Avenue. The recommendations are now ready for adoption by the City of Hayden. Jeff Zaugg noted that the city is ready to move forward with the changes, which will be addressed at the first council meeting in March. The City of Coeur d’Alene will wait a month or two before adopting, to see if anything further transpires with business owners at the Bosanko intersection. Ms. Richardson thanked all those present who participated on the Steering Committee.

A public survey for the non-motorized planning project will be available on the KMPO website on Wednesday, February 25. KCATT members were encouraged to log on and take the survey, which will be used to collect data on sidewalk and bicycle facility usage.

Ms. Richardson also announced the upcoming ITD Project Development Conference scheduled for April 7-8.

Project Updates:

Don Davis reported that the Highway 53 Corridor and the 41 Corridor Master Plan update have been on hold since October due to ITD Headquarter’s desire to take a practical planning approach, i.e., the most efficient way to conclude the planning process. There has also been an effort from headquarter’s to obtain cooperative agreements with land use agencies in the state, counties and cities for the purpose of confirming ITD and agency cooperation in the land use review and comments process. This will provide the framework for developer agreements with regard to county or highway district traffic mitigation. These agreements are voluntary for now.

Mr. Davis noted he will provide future briefings of these agreements to KCATT and KMPO.

Andrea Storjohann announced that last week they received a notice from the Governor's office stating that there is a hiring, overtime and expenditure freeze applicable to all state agencies. ITD is seeking an exemption for emergency maintenance operations and crucial services, such as snow plowing. She added that projects that they are currently committed to inspect and administer will be unaffected.

Kevin Jump reported that the City of Rathdrum is in winter maintenance mode. Installation of carrier pipes where casing pipes were installed last fall under Highway 41 will begin today and continue for a couple of weeks.

Eric Shanley reported that the Lakes Highway District is still in winter maintenance mode. Influx of minor subdivision plats.

Gordon Dobler reported that the City of Coeur d'Alene is in the planning stage for summer projects. Currently, resources are going toward the Fourth Street reconstruction. Welch-Comer is moving forward on the Government Way design project. Also, the city and county will be inserting branch lines this spring in conjunction with the ITD fiber installation project along I-95.

Scott Clark reported that the planning commission completed its revision recommendations for the County Comprehensive Plan. All changes will be posted on their website and a comment period will be provided. County impact fees are coming soon that will provide funds to local fire and highway districts. Changes to the Capital Improvement Plans will be considered at the March 11 Planning Commission Meeting and will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for a final vote on implementation at their March 19 meeting. Committee members expressed concern regarding overlap on the impact fees; Scott Clark agreed to forward documentation pertaining to the fees to Carole Richardson for committee review.

John Pankratz reported that the East Side Highway District is still in the winter maintenance mode, but that there are projects currently in the planning stages. Also, the Fernan Lake Road will be under full construction later this spring.

Robert Palus reported that construction on the 15th Avenue bike/pedestrian facility as part of their enhancement program will commence in March, weather permitting. Avista will start relocating utility poles in preparation for the project within several weeks. A citizen's open house is scheduled for this Thursday to provide additional information and allow for comments on the project. A presentation on the Post Falls CMAQ study for the Seltice/Mullan area was given to the City Council last week and the consultant was directed to proceed in providing further analysis of the alternatives and the impacts of the alternatives relative to congestion, air quality, and safety. They also requested that cost and economic impact details be provided.

Design work has commenced on a traffic signal at Seltice Way and Cedar, and road widening and a roundabout project will commence construction this summer.

Kelly Brownsberger reported that the Post Falls Highway District is still in winter maintenance mode

Jeff Zaugg reported that the City of Hayden is wrapping up with winter maintenance and have been posting load limits on roads showing damage. They are also preparing for and prioritizing maintenance work for this summer.

Kevin Howard reported that the Worley Highway District is in the winter maintenance mode. Loads limits have also been placed on every road in the district.

Utility Updates:

Paulette Mitchell with Verizon-Engineering reported that their offices have moved from Government Way to Prairie. They are currently planning cable relocation at Fernan Lake Road and engineering the removal of fiber out of Highway 95 South to the casino and Worley and into the new highway build. The highway crossing at Garwood and Highway 95 is complete, but are in need flaggers from the railroad at Garwood.

Dianne Best with Avista reported that they've begun pole replacement at 15th Avenue, prep work on Idaho Road, added a pole at the new roundabout, and working on a reconector out of Rathdrum due to recent pole replacement in that area.

ITD Board Update:

No update provided.

Current Business:

a) I90 Post Falls Access Study—Scott Ellsworth, CH2M-Hill

Scott Ellsworth with CH2M-Hill introduced himself and his associates, Dick Jacobson and Bob Beckman. They provided a status update and PowerPoint presentation on the I-90 Post Falls Access Study, noting that they hoped KCATT will reach a recommendation for the Board with regard to any one of the alternatives proposed in the study. Mr. Ellsworth and his associates outlined the scope of the study and provided a detailed presentation outlining each alternative. Following the presentation, KCATT was asked to select an alternative for recommendation to the Board at their meeting next week. Carole Richardson noted, however, that KCATT was not prepared to make such a decision today, since this was their first introduction to the alternatives and the details of the study. The question was asked as to whether the project participants had selected an alternative and were prepared to present it to KCATT for action. After lengthy discussion, KCATT determined to

postpone making a recommendation until further review of alternatives could be made or a recommendation is received from the project's participants.

Gordon Dobler made a motion to postpone the selection of an alternative outlined in the I-90 Post Falls Access Study to a future KCATT meeting, pending receipt of supporting documentation and a jurisdictional recommendation. Kelly Brownsberger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

b) ITS Project update—Andrea Storjohann, ITD Assistant District Engineer

Andrea Storjohann provided a map of the No. 1 local ITS project which connects Highway 95 with interstate 90. Currently, there is empty conduit from the Washington State line to the Montana State line. This project would connect I-90 up to Wyoming Avenue north along Highway 95 and provide 8 cameras that will pan, tilt, and zoom for surveillance use by law enforcement or ITD for traffic monitoring. The County is also a partner in the project in that conduit will be connected to the dispatch and sheriff's office. ISP will be connected as it will soon house ITD districts 1 & 2 dispatch and possibly the Pocatello/Idaho Falls area since they are losing one of their dispatch centers. Additional conduit will be set aside for future use. The City will also partner in the project.

The project will upgrade traffic signal controller equipment to adaptive signal control, a recommendation from the US-95 access study. The environmental study is complete and the right of way certification has been submitted and a cooperative agreement with Kootenai County and ISP will be in place. ITD hopes to have the final design schedule in May and for construction to commence in August. Total concept cost is estimated at \$1.3 Million. ITD has \$900,000 programmed for construction, which would supply the fiber backbone and install the 8 circuit cameras. To upgrade the signal controllers and get to adaptive signal technology would take an additional \$400,000. They also hope to have a wireless link to the Spokane Regional Transportation Management Center (SRTMC) for traffic control purposes.

ITD is requesting \$400,000 of the KMPO ITS money to be applied to the project and is asking KCATT to make the recommendation (ITS funds available for 2009 stands at \$525,000). Carole Richardson noted that these are STP Urban funds. Previous discussions about the use of KMPO funds for US95 were premised on the understanding that ITD would bring something to the table that would benefit the local system. One suggestion proposed previously was that ITD could provide state funds needed to match Bridging the Valley projects, to offset the use of Urban ITS Set-Aside funds on the state highway system. Andrea stated that the US95 ITS project also benefits the city and county as partners in the project. Additional funding would allow the signal controllers and cabinets to be updated. ITD believes that it would be more efficient and cost effective to provide the upgrades now, and possibly even the adaptive signal technology. Gordon Dobler asked if the funds requested by ITD would actually install adaptive signals on US95. It was noted that the \$400,000

requested would only pay for controllers and cabinets at this time. Installation of adaptive signals and a wireless connection to the SRTMC would be done later. KCATT members asked if a full funding proposal could be presented before a decision is made. Damon Allen suggested that ITD can meet with their traffic engineers to develop a cost/implementation schedule to present to KCATT next month for a recommendation to the Board.

Gordon Dobler made a motion to continue the discussion regarding the ITS Project to the March 24 KCATT meeting so that a full proposal can be presented by ITD for KCATT recommendation. Jeff Zaugg seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

c) Air Quality Update

Ralph Paul reported that Part II of the Inspection/Maintenance Rulemaking will take place on March 17 at 8:30 am at the local DEQ office. Also, monthly monitoring results are being posted on their website.

d) Economic Stimulus Update

Carole Richardson provided an informational handout regarding the signed Economic Stimulus Bill. The handout included current updates, a flowchart outlining how the funds will be distributed, and an actual copy of the Bill. Ms. Richardson suggested that KMPO should submit unfunded Enhancement project applications from last year to ITD for stimulus funding consideration. Ms. Richardson further explained her understanding of how the federal stimulus funds will be disseminated and answered KCATT questions. She asked that a subcommittee of Urban Planning Committee members convene to recommend stimulus projects for the urbanized area to be presented to the Urban Planning Committee scheduled to meet this Friday. Gordon Dobler, Jeff Zaugg, Rob Palus, Kevin Jump and Eric Shanley agreed to meet on this.

Ms. Richardson added that clarification was received with regard to the rural minor collector issue. Although these are federal aid routes, no funds have been set aside for rural minor collectors.

Ms. Richardson reported that stimulus projects located in economically distressed areas are to be given priority. A recent Kaiser Family Foundation report ranked Idaho as the third most economically distressed state in the nation. She has looked at income levels and foreclosure rates and Kootenai County falls about in the middle of all Idaho counties. The Kaiser report showed Nevada and Florida as being rated first and second, respectively. The results are believed to be based on recent changes in economic conditions.

Ms. Richardson noted that there will be a Webinar on Thursday, February 26 at ITD from 11 am to 2 pm regarding the economic stimulus bill. The Webinar is sponsored by the National Highway Institute and the Federal Highway Administration.

e) KMPO Model Growth Projections

Bonnie Gow provided a handout of the KMPO Model Growth Projections. Ms. Richardson noted that staff has developed current population estimates based on actual dwelling units for 2007. Staff has also worked with land use jurisdictions to update anticipated growth rates to be used for 2030 model forecasts. She asked that KCATT approve the growth projections so that staff can continue progress on the model.

At the KCATT meeting in March, HDR will provide an update on their model calibration work for KCATT.

Gordon Dobler made a motion to approve the growth rate projections for the KMPO Model. Robert Palus seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Upcoming Board Items

Carole Richardson reported that the KCATT-approved Public Involvement Policy has yet to be presented to the Board for approval. She asked Kevin Howard to make that recommendation to the Board at their March 5, 2009 meeting. A question was asked as to whether unfunded CMAQ projects qualify for stimulus funding. Ms. Richardson noted that since Kootenai County is in a non-attainment area, the state is not required to spend CMAQ funds here; however, she will check to confirm whether any CMAQ projects will qualify.

Time and Place of Next Meeting:

The next KCATT meeting will be March 24, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. ITD District 1 Conference Room.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Donna Lively
Recording Secretary