

MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting
March 3, 2005
Idaho Transportation Department District One Headquarters
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Board Members in Attendance:

Mark Soderling	Lakes Highway District
Dick Edinger	East Side Highway District
Anson Gable	City of Hayden
Vic Holmes	City of Rathdrum
Lynn Humphreys	Post Falls Highway District
Gus Johnson	Kootenai County Commissioner
Clay Larkin	City of Post Falls
Dixie Reid, Chair	City of Coeur d'Alene
Frances SiJohn	Coeur d' Alene Tribe
James Mangan	Worley Highway District
Scott Stokes	ITD District 1 Engineer

Staff Present:

Glenn Miles, Transportation Manager
Tanna Dole, Transportation Planner

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of February Meeting Minutes.

Mark Soderling made a motion to approve the February 3, 2005 meeting minutes. Lynn Humphreys seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Director/Public Comments

Glenn Miles said the House has posted a marked up version of the transportation reauthorization bill. Miles said the amount is approximately \$284 billion. The real contention seems to be the donor state issue, which is how much each state gets back of how of the total they put in. Miles said historically the donor states have been returned 90.5% of what they put in. Some of the larger donor states have wanted the return to go up 95%. Miles continued by saying in order for all states funding to remain whole the total for the reauthorization bill would have to be \$324 billion dollars. Idaho is a minimum allocation state and it will be unknown just how the new formula may effect the funding allocation. Miles said the Senate version is expected to go for mark up before Easter and the bill anticipated being out in June.

Miles also mentioned talking with Ross Blanchard from the Federal Highway Administration regarding the proposed ITS (Intelligent Transportation System) projects in the Kootenai Area. Blanchard supports the forward thinking and serious consideration of using ITS to better manage and coordinate traffic movement. Miles added that Blanchard stated FHWA is willing to help in any way they can to help in implementing ITS and would meet with KCATT if needed.

Miles reported receiving \$18,000 from the Statewide Ride Share Program. The program wishes to target the funds toward park and ride lots. Miles suggested improvements to the park and ride lot on Pleasant View at the Interstate 90 interchange. Miles anticipates a letter soon from the Ride Share Program outlining the details.

4. Administrative Matters

a) Approval of Vouchers

Glenn Miles reported there are no vouchers to be presented because of an out of sequence billing report. Vouchers for January and February will be presented at the March 3 board meeting and future vouchers to be back on a monthly schedule.

5. KCATT Recommendations

Glenn Miles said the KCATT Committee appointed a sub committee to meet and review the proposed Enhancement projects and propose a priority array. Based on all the factor, KCATT forwards the prioritized list to the KMPO Board for approval and transmittal to ITD.

The KCATT Committee recommends the following prioritized list of Transportation Enhancement Projects:

1. City of Rathdrum, SH 41 & 53 Pedestrian Pathways	\$ 283,680
2. City of Harrison, Old School Property Acquisition	\$ 399,000
3. City of Post Falls, Seltice Way Pedestrian Facility	\$ 496,000
4. City of Coeur d' Alene, Atlas Road Bike Path Extension	\$ 435,550
5. Boy Scouts of America/ESHD, Camp Easton Underpass	\$ 491,250
6. City of Coeur d' Alene, Bicycle Education Program	<u>\$ 32,000</u>

Dick Edinger made a motion to approve prioritization of Enhancement projects as recommended by the KCATT Committee. Gus Johnson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

6. Idaho Urban Committee

Glenn Miles said the next Urban Committee meeting is April 22.

7. Public Transportation Report

John Austin said the County FTA grant would be under review in May.

John Austin acknowledged Bill Spenser and Pam Wagner from the Coeur d' Alene Tribe and said they were working hard to put together the public transit partnership program. Dixie Reid inquired as to when the fixed route in partnership with the Tribe will be operational. Pam Wagner explained they are currently in a bidding process for new buses and it will be 90 to 120 days for delivery of the buses after a contract is negotiated. Wagner anticipated an August 1 start date. Glenn Miles said it would be necessary prior to the start date for the marketing plan to be presented to the KMPO Board for review.

Dick Edinger said there is interest from Bennewah County to connect with public transportation in Kootenai County. Edinger asked John Austin to make contact in Bennewah County and explore the potential for such a connection.

8. Other Business

a. US 95 – Garwood to Sagle Update

Lou Krug from HDR Engineering reviewed a brief history of the project, stating the project began two (2) years ago with the purpose of looking at improvements to US 95 in regards to the long-term needs of the community. Krug explained that the number of alternatives has been narrowed to a few that will be analyzed in detail as part of the draft Environmental Impact Statement. Krug said the draft EIS is partially completed but not ready to be published. Krug said all alternatives are similar in environmental effects. Krug brought plots of each alternative and described and discussed each. Krug emphasized the importance of endorsement from all stakeholders. Discussion ensued.

b. SRTC/KMPO Contract Renewal

James Mangan made a motion to renew the contractual agreement between Spokane Regional Transportation Council and the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization. Dick Edinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

c. GARVEE Bond Support Letter

Glenn Miles said the GARVEE Bond legislation had not been introduced yet but anticipated it to be introduced in the next week. Miles read the letter of support written on behalf of the KMPO Board.

9. Board Member Items

Clay Larkin requested an area be defined soon for the Huetter Road Corridor Study expressing concerns for the Cities of Post Falls and Coeur d' Alene in regards to defining AIC (Areas of City Impact). Glenn Miles said there would be a study update on the April meeting agenda and the study area would be defined as well preliminary conceptual alternatives and draft purpose and need statements.

Scott Stokes reported the bid for the portion of US 95 project south of Sun Up Bay will be opened on March 8. Stokes thanked the Worley Highway District and the Coeur d' Alene Tribe for their help in the project.

Glenn Miles mentioned a meeting for planners on March 7 with Intermountain Demographics to discuss and provide input regarding growth in Kootenai County. Miles continued by emphasizing the importance of placing population and employment with expert experience to insure confidence in the travel demand model forecast. Miles stressed the importance of this input because the model will be a decision making tool used on such projects as US 95, Interstate 90, the Huetter Corridor, and SH 97.

Gus Johnson expressed concerns for legislative actions that have impacted the counties. Johnson would like to see more reciprocal support between agencies.

10. Adjournment.

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

TANNA DOLE
Recording Secretary