

MEETING MINUTES

Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Meeting
September 1, 2005
Idaho Transportation Department District 1 Headquarters
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Board Members in Attendance:

Mark Soderling	Lakes Highway District
Dick Edinger	East Side Highway District
Vic Holmes	City of Rathdrum
Norma Peone (alternate)	Coeur d' Alene Tribe
Lynn Humphreys	Post Falls Highway District
Clay Larkin	City of Post Falls
Dixie Reid, Chair	City of Coeur d'Alene
James Mangan	Worley Highway District
Andrea Storjohann (Alternate)	ITD District 1 Assistant Engineer
Anson Gable	City of Hayden

Board Members Absent:

Gus Johnson	Kootenai County
Francis SiJohn	Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Staff Present:

Glenn Miles, Executive Director

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board was called to order by Chair, Dixie Reid, at 1:35 pm.

2. Approval of May Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Lynn Humphreys made a motion to approve the July 7, 2005 meeting minutes. Mr. Dick Edinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Director/Public Comments

Mr. Miles indicated that given the large amount of items on the agenda, he would defer to those items. There were no public comments.

4. Administrative Matters

a. Vouchers

Lynn Humphreys made a motion to approve the payment of the June and July 2005 KMPO Vouchers in the amount of \$10,743.31 and \$11,450.71 respectively, and the KCATT Transportation Plan Update Key 9025 Vouchers for June and July in the amount of \$39,737.66 and \$7,035.14. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

b. Regional Transportation Mitigation letters

Glenn Miles informed the KMPO Board that he had been requested to prepare and send a letter regarding the transportation mitigation needs along SH 97 on the east side of Lake Coeur d' Alene. The letter contained recommendations on how to support funding for the SH 97 corridor study and currently programmed safety improvements from Beauty Bay Hill to I-90. After consultation with the Board Chair, Mr. Miles indicated that he sent the letter, which has resulted in developer participation in the SH 97 corridor study and pending participation in the safety project. After discussion by the Board members, the Chair asked Mr. Miles to begin preparing a similar letter for the Lancaster Road Area on U.S. 95.

5. KCATT Recommendations.

The KCATT received a presentation from the ITD District 1 and CH2MHill on the Post Falls Access Study currently being conducted. The KCATT recommendation to the KMPO Board is to support advancing alternatives 2, 5, 6, and 7 into the environmental impact statement for further analysis.

6. Idaho Urban Balancing Committee.

Glenn Miles reported the Urban Committee completed its work on the end of the year plan with the ITD. The City of Idaho Falls had a project that was significantly delayed and as a consequence reprogrammed to 2010. Mr. Miles indicated that KMPO jurisdictions have projects coming up in 2006 and 2007, which could risk the same reprogramming issue if they are not able to achieve project obligations in July and August of 2006. Board Chair Reid reminded everyone that KMPO and the jurisdictions have a responsibility to ensure we can achieve our obligation commitments, otherwise those funds will be redirected somewhere else in the State.

7. Public Transportation Report.

John Austin reported that Kootenai County has completed their response to the Federal Transit Administration, brought about by the FTA Triennial Review.

Board Chair Reid requested the response be provided to the KMPO Board. Mr. Austin indicated that it would be forwarded to KMPO.

John Austin also indicated that he would be meeting with individuals from Benewah County to explain the current rural City Link Service and how to coordinate with transportation activities to St. Maries and vicinity. The Board was grateful to hear that discussion was going to take place.

Laura Stensgar, Pam Wagner, Bill Spencer, and Rose Taylor as well as other Coeur d' Alene tribe representatives gave a presentation to the KMPO Board regarding the bus wrap that will be placed on the new buses in the City Link service. They also provided a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed routes and service schedules. The Board expressed appreciation for all the hard work that has been done to initiate this service by the Coeur d'Alene tribe and willingness on the part of Laura to adapt the logo and bus wraps based on the KMPO comments and recommendations. Several board members commented on the attractive logo and wrap that will be used and expressed to Mr. Austin the hope that KATS vehicles can have a common logo and wrap on those as well.

Bill Spencer informed the Board the City Link rural service will begin on September 12, 2005 and a kick-off event will occur at the event center on September 8th. Residents in the south part of the county will be mailed and invitation to attend the special event.

8. Other Business

a. I-90 Post Falls Access Project Presentation

Amy Schroeder with ITD District 1 led the discussion with the KMPO Board on the reason for the project and the large amount of discussion and coordination that has gone into the development of the alternatives. Dick Jacobson of CH2MHill and his staff went through each of the seven alternatives that had been developed through the course of the study outlining the pros and cons of each alternative from a traffic, community continuity, freeway operation, and environmental perspective. Denna Grangaard, Environmental Coordinator, presented to the Board the various high level environmental screening analyses that had been conducted on the project. These analyses ranged from potential displacement and environmental justice issues to potential impact on known endangered species. The consultants indicated these reports were available at the ITD and through the project website.

At the conclusion of the presentation Board members expressed their individual and collective views on each of the alternatives and asked clarifying questions of the consultant team. Based on the Board discussions, it was the consensus of the Board that Alternatives 2 and 7 be used in the environmental impact statement, along with the no-build alternative.

b. Regional Travel Survey

Ed Hayes with SRTC/KMPO provided a PowerPoint presentation on the results of the 2005 Travel Survey conducted by NuStats Inc. Mr. Hayes provided each of the Board members copies of the results on a CD in an access database for their own jurisdiction's use.

c. Regional Travel Demand Model Development

Mr. Ed Hayes gave a presentation to the Board on the results to date on the regional travel demand model update. Mr. Hayes indicated that with the robust data provided through the Travel 5 Survey, the population and employment forecasts by Intermountain Demographics, and the information provided as well as reviewed by the local jurisdictions, we have a very good travel demand model. The model development is in such good shape that PTV America would like us to consider developing an activity-based model in addition to the traditional four-step model that is currently used.

Mr. Miles indicated that we could expect to see Bob Shull with PTV America at the October Board meeting to go over the attributes and ability of the model to begin addressing some of our ongoing and pending transportation studies being developed.

9. Board Member Items

Clay Larkin reminded the Board there would be a State Transportation Forum at Templin's on September 13th to discuss the 30-year Capital Program needs. Dixie Reid as a member of the Forum indicated there is a \$12.5 billion capital improvement need across the state, with ITD needing \$6.3 billion, and \$1.07 billion for Public Transportation. This equates to a \$265 million per year shortfall. The forum should wrap up its work in November.

Dixie Reid reminded Board members of the City Link kick-off at the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Event Center on September 8th, as well as welcoming Norma Peone, Tribal Council Member and thanking her for attending today's meeting on behalf of Council Member Sijohn.

10. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Glenn F. Miles
Executive Director