

## KCATT MEETING MINUTES

for

August 22, 2023

Idaho Transportation Department District One Headquarters  
600 W. Prairie Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815

### **Call to Order:**

Chair Kevin Jump called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. and welcomed attendees.

### **Welcome / Introductions**

Kevin Jump, Chair.....	City of Rathdrum
Michael Lenz, Vice Chair .....	Post Falls Highway District
Kevin Howard .....	Worley Highway District
Rob Palus .....	City of Post Falls
Ben Weymouth .....	East Side Highway District
Todd Feusier.....	City of Coeur d'Alene
Eric Shanley.....	Lakes Highway District
Marvin Fenn.....	Idaho Transportation Department
Rob Beachler .....	Idaho Transportation Department
Alan Soderling.....	City of Hayden

### **KMPO Staff**

Glenn Miles.....	Executive Director
Ali Marienau .....	Transportation Planner

### **Alternates and Guests**

Heather McDaniel .....	Idaho Transportation Department
Terry Werner.....	Citizen
Matt Gillis .....	Welch Comer
Laura Winter .....	Ruen-Yeager
Daniel Baker .....	HDR
Brian Klatt .....	JUB
Lois Duncan.....	Kootenai Electric
Dan Smith .....	IDEQ

### **3. Approval of July 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes – Action Item**

**Rob Palus moved to approve the July 25, 2023 minutes as submitted. Kevin Howard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

### **4. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes per person)**

There were no public comments provided.

### **5. Member Project, Transit & Utility Updates**

Alan Soderling, City of Hayden, provided an update on the Ramsey Road extension project, noting the installation of some utilities. Beginning next week, they will be doing a mill and inlay project on Government Way from Prairie Avenue to Dakota Avenue.

Rob Beachler, Idaho Transportation Department, provided an update on the I-90/SH-41 interchange project; work on Seltice Way is expected to continue until mid-September. In regard to the SH-53 project, paving on the section from Hauser Lake Road to Bruss Road is expected over the next four days; they will be addressing punch list items on the section from Bruss Road to Latah Street. An update on the SH-53/Ramsey Road signal project was provided; they are hoping

to receive the signal structure sometime in September. Work continues on the I-90 Cedars to Dudley project. The US-95/IC 430 to Lacrosse Street project is wrapping up; they are working on punch list items. Mr. Beachler provided an update on the Spokane River Bridge project, noting it is expected to be completed by October. FY 2024 bridge repair projects were noted.

Eric Shanley, Lakes Highway District, noted the Board had approved an estimated \$9.4 million contract for the District's Garwood operations facility; groundbreaking is expected over the next four to six weeks. Approximately \$2 million in overlay work was completed on Ramsey, Seasons, and Twete Roads. Approximately 25 miles of chip seal projects were completed this year. Mr. Shanley noted the District is working to address issues involving the SH-53/Ramsey Road signal project. The Cape Horn Road widening and guardrail project is under construction; the District will be doing the paving for the project. Mr. Shanley commented on major subdivisions in the District, noting the supervision of the associated roadways. Right-of-way acquisition is expected to begin on the Lancaster Road/Huetter Road roundabout project. Mr. Shanley provided project updates on the Union Pacific Railroad/Old Highway 95 Bridge and the BNSF/Brunner Road railroad crossing projects. The District applied for a Strategic Initiatives grant for the Diagonal Road project.

Todd Feusier, City of Coeur d'Alene, noted their contract work had wrapped up. He reported on the \$1.4 million Northwest Boulevard/Ramsey Road project and ITD's assistance with that project. Chip seal projects will be completed this week. Maintenance and stormwater projects will be addressed.

Ben Weymouth, East Side Highway District, reported that they were wrapping up chip seal projects and will be doing some maintenance projects through the fall. He provided an update on the Rocky Canyon and Carlin Bay projects, noting they were nearing completion. The Canyon Road Bridge is in final design; they hope to have the Springston Bridge under contract soon. The District will be applying for a Strategic Initiatives grant for Canyon Road.

Rob Palus, City of Post Falls, reported that the roundabout project on Prairie Avenue at Fennecus Lane is nearly complete; Prairie Avenue will soon be open for traffic from Meyer Road to Fennecus Road. In anticipation of the roundabout project at Zorros Lane, Prairie Avenue will remain closed from SH-41 to Fennecus Lane; the contractor estimates the project will be completed mid-to-late October. The city continues work on the Chase Road railroad crossing project and is looking at ways to better handle stormwater. They are finishing fog seal projects and preparing for winter.

Vice Chair Michael Lenz, Post Falls Highway District, reported their Board approved the Bodine satellite shed near SH-53 and Pleasant View Road; construction is expected to begin September 1<sup>st</sup>. An update was provided on the Spokane Street Bridge and Beck Road rehab projects; the District is working with the cities of Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls on the projects. Maintenance projects have been completed. The District is considering widening the turning radius at the Hayden Avenue/McGuire Road intersection. The Millview Lane emergency repair project has been completed. There are currently two major and 24 minor active subdivisions in the District.

Chair Jump, City of Rathdrum, reported the Boekel Road/Meyer Road roundabout was opened to traffic on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Citywide pavement markings have been completed. In anticipation of the SH-53 widening project, the city's watermain replacement project has been completed.

Dan Smith, IDEQ, commented that the wildfire smoke has caused the region's air quality index to be high; the impact of high winds and rain on dust and smoke were noted. He mentioned IDEQ's app and EPA's AirNow, which are both resources for air quality data.

## **6. Planning Updates**

Ali Marienau reported that the urban area boundary adjustment was approved by the KMPO Board during their August meeting; the update has been sent to ITD for submittal to FHWA. The model update documentation is being wrapped up. An update to elements of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) will begin and will include items that are needed for jurisdictions to be eligible for Safe Streets for All funding.

## **7. Idaho Transportation Board Update**

Rob Beachler reported that the ITD Board held their annual tour and workshop last week. District 1 highlighted the top five projects in each county. Staff briefed attendees; several people attended.

Mr. Fenn thanked all those who had attended the ITD Board workshop, noting the Board enjoyed interacting with the public. A group of over 100 people are concerned about SH-97; ITD is currently doing an inventory of needs on the corridor. Mr. Fenn noted a number of highways where crews are focused on the removal of dead trees along the roadway; the issue may be related to the cumulative effect of roadway salt.

Mr. Beachler noted ITD would be holding the I-90 widening project open house today from 2 to 7:00 p.m. at the Best Western on Appleway Avenue in Coeur d'Alene.

## **8. Current Business**

### **a. DRAFT FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Action Item**

Glenn Miles noted that the FY-2024 Unified Planning Work Program outlines the activities for FY 2024 which begins October 1<sup>st</sup>. He provided an overview of upcoming tasks, noting routine tasks, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update and work planned with ITD on the Rathdrum Prairie study, which is currently underway.

**Mr. Rob Palus moved to recommend approval of the Kootenai Metropolitan Unified Planning Work Program for fiscal year 2024 for to the KMPO Board. Mr. Alan Soderling seconded, which passed unanimously.**

### **b. DRAFT FY 2024-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Review**

Mr. Miles noted the draft FY 2024-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was before KCATT for review. He highlighted the document, which includes projects that will be done in Kootenai County over the next six years. The current TIP has 18 amendments; more are expected. The draft TIP will have a 30-day public comment period, which begins August 25<sup>th</sup>; it will go out for ad this Friday. The TIP will be integrated, verbatim, into the Idaho Transportation Investment Program (ITIP), ITD's public involvement document. The ITIP becomes the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which is forwarded to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for approval. The project amendment procedure was reviewed. Additions or modifications should be forwarded to Mr. Miles; those involving LHTAC, should be coordinated with KMPO. The draft FY 2024-2030 TIP will be before the KMPO Board on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **c. ITD Strategic Initiative Grant Funding Applications – Action Item**

Ms. Marienau noted KMPO had received several requests from KCATT members seeking letters of support for their Strategic Initiatives Grant applications. The committee members were asked to highlight their project, how it fits into regional needs, the project's eligibility within the program, and an estimated cost. A breakdown of the \$100 million grant program was provided.

Mr. Miles explained the grant application process. After it has gone to ITD, it will be before the five Idaho MPO directors for prioritization and identification of those that will fit into the program. If

successful, he expects ITD will present it to the legislature as a program that was successful between ITD and the local jurisdictions. Mr. Miles commented on the potential – and benefit of receiving the funds on an ongoing basis. He noted the importance of putting priority regional projects forward, which can be delivered in a timely manner.

KCATT members announced the project applications they will be submitting for the Strategic Initiatives grant:

Alan Soderling reported that the City of Hayden would be applying for funding to support the Ramsey Road/Honeysuckle roundabout; the project is estimated at \$2 million.

Lakes Highway District will be submitting an application for the Diagonal Road project, which dovetails into an ITD project on SH-41. Mr. Shanley provided an overview of the project; the project is estimated at \$2.5 million.

Todd Feusier explained that US-95 improvements, that were supported through the FASTLANE grant, created “growing pains” on Government Way. The City of Coeur d’Alene will be applying for a grant seeking signal and ADA upgrades for the corridor; the project is estimated at \$5 million.

Ben Weymouth reported East Side Highway District would be seeking \$1.6 million for improvements to Canyon Road, an I-90 alternative route; an overview of the project was provided.

The City of Post Falls will submit an application for the rehabilitation of Spokane Street, which will include the I-90 on/off ramps at Exit 5. Rob Palus noted Exit 5 ties into the I-90 Business Loop (Spokane Street) on the north and the Post Falls Highway District’s Spokane River Bridge on the south. The total project cost is \$1.42 million; the city will be seeking \$1.17 million.

Kevin Howard reported that Worley Highway District would not be submitting an application.

The Post Falls Highway District will submit an application for the widening of Huetter Road from Seltice Way north approximately 1,500 feet. Michael Lenz provided an overview of the project, noting the District would like to incorporate the project into ITD’s I-90 – Spokane Street to Northwest Boulevard project; the preliminary estimate of the project is \$7.5 million.

Chair Jump reported that the City of Rathdrum will submit an application for improvements at a high accident location, the Greensferry Road/Hayden Avenue intersection. The project is estimated at \$2 million.

Mr. Miles noted all projects totaled an estimated \$15.6 million.

Mr. Feusier and Mr. Weymouth discussed the scalability of their projects; Mr. Shanley commented on what Lakes Highway District had already contributed to their project, noting they could go out to bid this fall.

Mr. Miles appreciated their comments and the flexibility on some of the projects. The matter will not be presented to the KMPO Board, as they do not have the authority to select the Strategic Initiatives grant awards.

**Rob Palus moved that KCATT authorize KMPO staff to pen and sign the appropriate letters of support for the Strategic Initiatives Grant applications for the City of Hayden, Lakes Highway District, City of Coeur d’Alene, East Side Highway District, City of Post Falls, Post Falls Highway District, and City of Rathdrum.**

Mr. Shanley requested clarification on the motion.

Mr. Palus commented that KCATT authorized the letters; Mr. Miles noted KMPO staff would draft and sign the letters of support.

**Mr. Eric Shanley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**9. Upcoming KMPO Board Items**

- a. DRAFT FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program – KCATT Recommendation/Action Item
- b. DRAFT FY 2024-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Review

Mr. Miles noted the FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program would be before the KMPO Board as a recommendation for approval. The Strategic Initiatives grant applications will be mentioned.

**10. Other Business**

- a. KCATT Member Items

Mr. Miles commented on the Traffic Management Center (TMC) public outreach efforts, noting there were 15,000 post cards sent out and two quarter-page ads placed in the Coeur d'Alene Press. The results from the online survey showed 1,567 surveys were submitted. A nationally recognized pollster and survey firm performed a qualitative analysis on the survey and recommended that 288 submissions be terminated, as they appeared to be artificially manipulated. With that, the results show 60 percent of the respondents supported the TMC, 19 percent did not support the TMC, and the balance were neutral. Mr. Miles commented on the attempt to artificially manipulate the results and distort the outcome; the results show the majority of the general public support the TMC. Moving forward, KMPO will be doing more online and live-call surveys.

He reported that Iteris was able to get through the financial and benefit cost analysis, which requires a 20-year life cycle analysis. The cost to build and operate the facility over a 20-year period was estimated at \$14.2 million; the benefit to the community, at net-present value, was estimated to be \$139 million. The Benefit-Cost ratio was 10.3.

Mr. Beachler thanked Mr. Miles for his effort throughout the process.

**11. Next Meeting – September 26, 2023**

**12. Adjournment**

**Without objection, Chair Kevin Jump adjourned the August 22, 2023 meeting.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

  
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Recording Secretary