KCATT MEETING MINUTES

for

January 27, 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
Kevin Howard (Chair)	Worley Highway District
Kevin Jump (Vice-Chair)	City of Rathdrum

Staff.

Glenn Miles	Transportation Manager
Carole Richardson	Transportation Planning Engineer
Bonnie Gow	Transportation Planner
Ryan Stewart	Senior Transportation Planner
Tiara Schmidt	KMPO Planning Intern
Jenny Wash	Administrative Secretary
Donna Lively	Administrative Secretary

Alternates and Guests.

Jimmie Dorsey	East Side Highway District
Marv Lekstrum	Lakes Highway District
Melissa Cleveland	J-U-B
Mark Boyle	DEQ
Ralph Paul	DEQ
Dick Edinger	East Side Highway District
Matt Gillis	Welch Comer Engineers
Rod Twete	Lakes Highway District

Approval of December Meeting Minutes:

It was noted the minutes should be corrected to indicate the Avista representative as Diana Best and not "Diana Bass," under "Welcome/Introductions" and "Utility Updates." Also noted was a correction on page 3, paragraph 2 under "Current Business: c) STP Rural Funding." The term FTP should read STP.

Kelly Brownsberger made a motion to approve the December 16, 2008 meeting minutes as corrected. Gordon Dobler seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

KMPO Planning Updates:

Carole Richardson reported that the 2030 land use projections are still in progress and that the methodology will be presented to KCATT for review/approval at next month's meeting.

Per ITD correspondence, the existing approved functional class for Huetter Road is shown as a minor arterial. Due to the proposed new freeway facility at Huetter Corridor, making it a frontage road, it has been requested to reclassify it as a major collector. There being no objections, Carol noted that staff would make the change as an administrative adjustment.

Project Updates:

Nearly all jurisdictions represented reported being in a winter maintenance mode.

Andrea Storjohann reported that work is being conducted on the Worley North structures. Also, there are projects up for advertisement. With regard to the Greensferry I-90 access, the hearing was in December, the draft Environmental Impact Study (EIS) is complete, and ITD would like to tentatively include it on next month's KCATT agenda. Scott Ellsworth with CH2M-Hill is the contact, and she will send out an email notification today.

Gordon Dobler reported that there are no projects in construction, but have summer projects in the design stage.

John Pankratz reported that a consultant will be conducting biological assessments for FEMA in assessing last year's flood damage at various locations. Also, there are several subdivisions coming before the Board for planning approval.

Robert Palus reported that construction on the 15th Avenue bike/pedestrian facility as part of their enhancement program will commence late March early April, weather permitting. Avista will start relocating utility poles in preparation for the project within several weeks.

Kevin Howard reported that the environmental report went to ITD yesterday for the Elder Road project. Also, they are in the right of way acquisition process on the Kidd Island Road loop intersection.

Utility Updates:

No representation present.

ITD Board Update:

No representation present.

Current Business:

Kevin Howard requested that item f) on the agenda, Air Quality Update, be moved to the top of the current business items so as to keep all KMPO staff items together.

f) Air Quality Update

Mark Boyle reported that there is an upcoming rulemaking meeting in Boise on February 3rd to address minimum requirements for vehicle emissions testing. The regional office will host a satellite phone conference from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm to discuss what Idaho needs to have in the inspection program. It is hoped that a draft rulemaking proposal will result. DEQ intends to have a final rule by August 2009 in preparation for legislative action in January 2010.

Mr. Boyle introduced Ralph Paul as being the DEQ staff member that will be the KCATT contact/representative. He also reported that the WSU study was received and the results will be shared with KMPO staff. Later in the meeting, Mr. Miles asked whether COMPASS was given funds to conduct an airshed analysis through DEQ with regard to vehicle emissions. Mr. Boyle responded stating that COMPASS was given funds for an emissions inventory and for monitoring purposes, but was uncertain as to where the funds were derived.

a) Economic Stimulus Update

Glenn Miles stated that he attended a meeting in Boise last Friday to discuss how stimulus projects can be processed in a timely manner and in a way that was fair and equitable for everyone. He noted that based on the current House Bill, Idaho will have to obligate $50 million within 90 days. If funds cannot be obligated within the required time frame, it will be returned to the federal government for redistribution to those states that have met this requirement. It is anticipated that there will be a large amount of funds for redistribution, since many states will be unable to obligate their funds within the required 90 day window. Currently, the state intends to take a first come, first served approach to processing projects.

To ensure a consistent methodology is used in reviewing projects, a completed 25-point PS&E checklist, along with supporting documentation, will be required in addition to the standard 1414 form. Carole Richardson noted that this checklist was sent out yesterday. Jurisdictions are asked to review and prioritize their projects based on the checklist. Local jurisdictions will be requested to provide state/local agreements for each project and all current federal requirements for projects must also be met to qualify for funding.

Andrea Storjohann asked whether the cost estimates include consultant administration for construction, since ITD does not have the resources to provide this. Mr. Miles noted that each jurisdiction will be responsible for hiring a construction management. He noted that the Senate's bill could provide for a $5.5 million local competitive program beyond what is being proposed, based on complaints that not enough money was getting down to locals. This would provide additional funds that could be used for construction management purposes.

A question asked regarding when redistribution funds might be available. Mr. Miles stated that as it stands now, it would be 30 days after the 90 day obligation window. A question was also asked about whether simple, non-federally funded projects that are ready for construction qualify, and if so, how would they be submitted. Mr. Miles stated that a temporary key number would be provided and the request would then be submitted to ITD with the 1414. He noted that TIP/STIP amendments shouldn't be the concern as they can be processed within 30 days. The issue becomes securing right of ways, ADA compliance, and biological assessments.

Carole Richardson noted that staff intends to publish a list of illustrative projects for public notice purposes by the end of the month that will include everything on the stimulus project list. Mr. Miles added that Idaho is expected to receive $10 million toward their enhancement program (non-motorized, bike/pedestrian projects) and it appears that the 90-day obligation window does not apply. According to ITD only two projects statewide totaling $850,000 are on list. He encouraged jurisdictions to consider adding projects in this category, such as Centennial Trail resurfacing projects. The question was asked whether road widening for shared facilities projects such as bike lanes fit this category. The response was that it does fit the category, so long as the funds are specifically for non-motorized purposes.

b) FY2010 Appropriations Requests

Ms. Richardson reported that an email from the Idaho congressional delegate was received last month soliciting special earmark transportation projects for the 2010 Annual Appropriations Bill. Requests for these additional funds are due February 13, 2009. She referred to a draft list of potential earmark projects and a checklist containing suggested criteria included in the KCATT meeting packet for members to use in prioritizing and selecting the projects to be earmarked. The result of this process will be presented to the KMPO for consideration at the February 5th KMPO Policy Board meeting.

In light of recent reports of proposed earmark reforms, Glenn Miles outlined earmark funding, stating that the process will continue until formal changes are made. He stated that the intent of earmarking is to go after important projects that are beyond the reach of normal funding process. Projects selected for earmarking should be for the greater good of the region and should not be focused on a particular jurisdiction. Also, the earmark amount received is based on congressional seniority, the committee(s) served by the congressional representative and what seat they are on the committee(s).

KCATT members concurred with the proposed projects and criteria and proceeded to prioritize the list based on whether the project was interjurisdictional, had broad community support, was tangible, could be delivered in three years, and whether matching funds were likely. The project list was further categorized by transit projects and transportation projects and, per discussion, was prioritized as follows:

Transit Projects:

1. Citylink maintenance facility
2. Coeur d'Alene Transit Center

Transportation Projects:

1. I-90 Post Falls Access Improvements
2. Government Way from Dalton to Hanley
3. US-95 Wyoming to SH-53

Although Mr. Miles emphasized that jurisdictions sponsoring the projects incur the risk of having to provide up to a 20% local match to fund the project, it was determined that the identified projects had the necessary backing and funds to cover any such risk. The final prioritized transit and transportation earmark project list will be presented to the KMPO Policy Board for consideration at their February meeting.

c) Non-Motorized Plan Update

Carole Richardson introduced Tiara Schmidt as the staff member assisting with the Non-Motorized Plan. Ms. Schmidt provided a handout outlining the project scope. On February 10 at 10:30 am a kick off meeting for the advisory group will be held at the Coeur d'Alene Library. It was noted that the Non-Motorized Plan will be incorporated into the long range plan as required.

d) Public Transportation Roundtable Update

Ryan Stewart reported that the Public Transportation Roundtable met on January 13th and the four main topics of discussion were the: 1) Non-Motorized Plan, 2) Transit Center Location Study update, 3) public transportation project stimulus list (submitted to the state last Tuesday), and 4) a white paper prepared by Mr. Stewart that outlines the history, and feasibility of forming a Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) in the Kootenai area. He noted that local jurisdictions and other groups are being contacted to determine the interest and level of support for a

RPTA. The biggest hurdle in establishing a RPTA is that there are no local funding options.

e) Transit Center Proposal Update

It was determined that no further update on the Transit Center Proposal was needed as the topic was briefly discussed during the FY2010 Appropriations Request review earlier in the meeting.

g) US95 Access Study Recommendations

Carole Richardson reported that the US-95 Access Study recommendations will go before the KMPO Board at their meeting next week. She noted that the Coeur d'Alene Chamber Public Policy Committee supported the study and recommendations with the exception of the removal of the Bosanko signal. It appears that the quarter mile signals are a big limiting factor for improving operations corridor wide. She will consult with David Evans and Associates to examine how leaving the signal in will effect the overall corridor operation and provide a comparison to the Board next week. Business owners are at an impasse with one outcome, that being "satisfactory." Mr. Miles noted that at the ITD Board meeting, all crossing were approved for closure. Businesses are only entitled to have access to US-95, not unlimited directional access. Mr. Miles complimented those involved in the study, stating that it is a good proposal to move forward. Ms. Richardson noted that all Board-approved recommendations will be presented to the ITD Board meeting in Boise on February 18.

Upcoming Board Items

Items that will go before the Board in February include the KCATT Earmark request recommendations, US95 – David Evans and Associates Contract Amendment, US95 access Study Recommendations, and the Economic Stimulus Projects list. Ms. Richardson noted that an illustrative list will be published prior to next week's meeting.

Time and Place of Next Meeting:

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

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

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Donna Lively
Recording Secretary