KCATT MEETING MINUTES

for

May 26, 2009
ITD District 1 Conference Room
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Call to Order:

Chairman Kevin Howard called the KCATT meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Welcome / Introductions:

Kevin Howard requested all those present to introduce themselves:

Andrea Storjohann	ITD – District One
Scott Clark	Kootenai County
Robert Palus	City of Post Falls
Kelly Brownsberger	Post Falls Highway District
Kevin Howard (Chair)	Worley Highway District

Staff.

Glenn Miles	Transportation Manager
Ryan Stewart	Senior Transportation Planner
Donna Lively	Administrative Secretary

Alternates and Guests.

Don Davis	ITD – District One
Jimmie Dorsey	East Side Highway District
Dick Edinger	East Side Highway District
Bob Miller	Post Falls Highway District
Monty Montgomery	Lakes Highway District
Christine Fueston	Ruen-Yeager & Associates
Ralph Paul	IDEQ
Kevin Picanco	David Evans & Associates
Donna Montgomery	Citizen
Stan Griswold	The Land Group, Inc.

Approval of April Meeting Minutes:

Robert Palus made a motion to approve the April 29, 2009 meeting minutes. Kelley Brownsberger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

KMPO Planning Updates:

Glenn Miles reported that all KMPO Planning Updates are included in today's meeting.

Project Updates:

Andrea Storjohann reported that ITD is currently working on three main construction projects. The Worley North project is slowly getting started due to wet conditions. The North/South connections remain to be finished but the project is anticipated to be completed by August. The Appleway to Wyoming paving project has the southbound inlay to be completed in addition to the overlay. The crossing guards/flaggers were present for ADA purposes and noted approximately 80 pedestrian crossings per day at Prairie alone. On the SH-53 to Ohio Match project, traffic was switched to the southbound alignment while the northbound lanes are being worked on. The project is currently on track and on schedule.

Scott Clark reported that the County's Comprehensive Plan has public hearings scheduled for Wednesday evening, Thursday morning, and on Monday, June 1. He added that they are still waiting to hear back from all jurisdictions regarding the impact fees and to have responses compiled for a forthcoming advisory committee meeting.

Jimmie Dorsey reported that the only project under construction for the East Side Highway District is the Federal Highway's Fernan Lake Road project, which is moving ahead of schedule. There is one right-of-way issue that remains to be resolved, but they hope to have it resolved in the next day or two. Otherwise, they are in the summer maintenance mode.

Robert Palus reported that the City of Post Falls' 15th Avenue project has 3/4s of the sidewalk in place and are putting in curbs and gutters. They anticipate completing the project towards the end of June. The City of Post Falls will be mobilizing in June to construct a roundabout at Spokane and Poleline, which is on schedule, and hope to construct one at Poleline and Idaho as well.

Kelly Brownsberger reported that the Post Falls Highway District has no projects to report on, but that they are getting into their summer maintenance.

Kevin Howard reported that the Worley Highway District is working on right-of-way acquisition on their project, and will complete their Magnesium Chloride application either today or tomorrow.

Utility Updates:

No representation present.

ITD Board Update:

Andrea Storjohann reported that the ITD Board has acted on the Wyoming to SH-53 "gap" and are proceeding with the design of the project until funding can be identified.

Current Business:

a) Transit Center Location Study Presentation

Ryan Stewart introduced Stan Griswold from The Land Group, Inc. the consultant hired to conduct the Transit Center Location Study. Stan reported that they have completed the first phase of tasks to gather data and conduct preliminary analysis of potential sites. He stated that the location has been narrowed down to a specific area based on criteria needs of transit providers. Stan noted that potential transit center location sites focused in the area around the I-90 interchange, Ramsey Road, and Northwest Boulevard. The factors making this determination included: access onto Seltice (due to minimal disruption to existing key Citylink routes), good link to existing trails, and near popular destination areas (including those within walking distance). He noted that Citylink has a desire to house a light maintenance facility at the proposed transit location site, since the main facility is located in Worley. It was determined that a minimum 3 acre site would be needed.

Stan displayed exhibits indicating the following potential sites: 1) within the Riverstone Development (Riverstone Drive/Seltice), 2) Appleway and Lee Court at the northeast corner of intersection, 3) the lot adjacent to the Conoco Station, 4) the lot north of the Conoco Station, and 5) south of the Holiday Inn Express on Seltice. He noted that the Nygaard study identified a possible site downtown, but this option was not pursued due to the number of street closure events held in downtown Coeur d'Alene.

Based on a preliminary review of these sites, the top 3 locations are Riverstone, Appleway/Lee Court, and north of the Conoco Station. Stan added that a more detailed analysis and preliminary site plans are forthcoming.

Ryan Stewart provided an update on the Study timeline noting that a Steering Committee Meeting will be held within the next two weeks, a Public Workshop/Open House to be held shortly thereafter, and then a draft report to be presented to the KMPO Board in July outlining the preferred site and two alternate sites. He added that KCATT will be kept apprised of the study on a regular basis until a final report is completed.

The question was asked as to whether or not these locations were environmentally sound. Stan responded that the Appleway/Lee Court site has been identified as a

historic site and Brownfields funds may be available and will be explored. He added that other factors in determining preferred sites include availability, cost, and property owner assistance. Currently, the highest scored site is at Riverstone near the temporary Citylink facility.

Glenn clarified that a draft recommendation/report will be made at the July KMPO Board meeting with a final recommendation by August.

b) State Highway 97 Corridor Study Recommendation

Ryan Stewart reported that no comments were received during the 30-day comment period. Glenn Miles stated that the City of Harrison called with some questions; however, they did not follow up with any comments. Consequently, the Study is submitted as the final draft for KCATT recommendation for KMPO Board adoption. Glenn noted that the Study has been widely viewed, since there were 600 to 700 hits on the KMPO website for reviewing this document.

Robert Palus made a motion recommending that the State Highway 97 Corridor Study be presented to the KMPO Board for approval. Andrea Storjohann seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

c) Huetter Road Corridor Study Recommendation

Glenn Miles reported that the recommendations from the Huetter Road Corridor Study have already been adopted by the Board; however, the final report containing the additional environmental documentation is ready for Board adoption.

Andrea Storjohann made a motion recommending that the Huetter Road Corridor Study Final Report be presented to the KMPO Board for acceptance. Kelly Brownsberger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Glenn noted that the purpose for requesting adoption of the final report is to close the contract with Ruen-Yeager & Associates.

d) ARRA Public Transportation Projects Discussion

Ryan Stewart reported that information from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) was received clarifying the eligibility of using public transportation stimulus funding for the proposed Transit Center. Funding is to be used for construction purposes rather than towards plans and studies. He noted that he will be meeting with Glenn Miles and John Austin, with the Panhandle Area Council, tomorrow to strengthen the wording in the Grant line item to make it clear that once a preferred transit center site is identified, which has had its environmental review done or is a Brownsfields site, then it will be eligible to have stimulus funding applied towards construction. He noted that KCATT will be kept apprised of the results of the meeting with John Austin and the ongoing FTA discussions.

Glenn Miles added that one of the tags associated with stimulus funding is that the funds can be used towards design and right-of-way acquisition; however, a commitment must be made identifying the resources that will be used to construct the project within three years. He stated that the Panhandle Area Council, the administrator for the designated grant recipient, which is the County, is charged with obtaining the answers needed to complete the process and secure the funding.

e) Air Quality Update

Glenn Miles reported that the final draft rules are out and affect only Ada and Canyon Counties. Additional rulemaking will be required should Kootenai County be identified for inclusion. He referenced a letter submitted by Mayor Larkin of Post Falls to the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) questioning the implementation of the rulemaking when the administration had already taken care of the issue. He added that he anticipates discussions and legislative changes when the rulemaking goes back to the legislature for approval.

Ralph Paul reported that ozone monitoring commenced in May and will be included in their monthly report.

f) Non-Motorized Plan Update

Ryan Stewart reported the Non-Motorized Plan Workshop was held last Tuesday, May 19, 2009 from 6 pm to 8 pm at the trailhead pavilion at Qemilin Park in Post Falls. The workshop was used to address current needs and solicit feedback from the public. He stated that approximately 25 people attended including representatives from jurisdictions, bicycling and pedestrian advocacy groups, and the general public. Visuals were provided depicting both the existing non-motorized infrastructure and that being proposed. Maps were available for participant mark-up reflecting their recommendations. The results of the workshop will be compiled into a report for presentation later this year.

g) KMPO 2030 Model Land Use Update

Glenn Miles reported that KMPO staff, Bonnie Gow, has set appointments to meet with jurisdictions regarding their 2030 and 2015 land use projections for the KMPO Travel Demand Model. Electronic and hard copy documentation has been sent to all jurisdictions within Kootenai County for their review and edits. He added that the results will be disseminated in June.

h) I-90 Post Falls Access Study Modeling Assistance Update

Glenn Miles reported that a series of conference calls have occurred regarding the I-90 Post Falls Access Study modeling assistance requests and it appears that CH2M-Hill will be meeting with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to give their read as to what model set should be used to finalize the interchange justification report. He noted that the challenge is that the Study began several years ago when the KMPO model was in transition. Significant improvements have been made to the

model used in the Study, including refinements to the Beck Road interchange and land use data, as well as adjustments to the lanes on I-90. The question was asked as to the timeframe for resolving this issue. Glenn stated that it is up to FHWA, although they may be meeting within the month.

i) Urban Project Selection Criteria Subcommittee Update

Glenn Miles stated that at an earlier KCATT meeting, a subcommittee was formed to identify and select projects for potential future funding opportunities. He noted that the challenge; however, is that based on what he has heard, Congress will not reauthorize transportation funding until April of next year. He reported that the Urban Balancing Committee will be meeting in June to discuss minimal funds recently received by the ITD Board.

He stated that he was reluctant to have the subcommittee meet to prepare a full depth scoring/criteria process due to a number of uncertainties. He solicited KCATT input on a suggested ad hoc process whereby jurisdictions submit deliverable projects that will be placed in a preferential order via a process yet to be determined.

Glenn reported that the following "high priority projects" were submitted for potential funding: US-95 from Appleway to SH-53 ($6.5 million), the Transit Center, and two Bridging the Valley projects: Pleasantview ($26 million) and Rathdrum ($12 million).

Glenn added that he received a call from Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad stating that they will support the grade separations for Rathdrum, Pleasantview, Barker, Pines, and Park. He stated that he will contact them today to request that they submit their support letters to the congressional delegation.

Glenn again asked KCATT for their opinion on having an ad hoc process to solicit projects vs. a full blown, in-depth call for projects. He stated that these would include reasonably priced projects not over $2 million.

Glenn also notified KCATT that the reporting process developed under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) will be come the norm rather than the exception.

Glenn provided clarification as to the projects to be submitted through the ad hoc process stating that preliminary development funds could be sought. With regard to the time frame, he stated that he would seek KMPO Board approval for a mini call for projects with TIP amendments projected by this fall.

Andrea Storjohann made a motion recommending that the KMPO Board approve a call for urban projects for preliminary development funding. Robert Palus seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Upcoming Board Items

It was noted that upcoming Board items included the State Highway 97 Corridor Study and the Huetter Road Corridor Study KCATT recommendations, along with the request for a call for urban projects for preliminary development funding.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 a.m.

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Donna Lively
Recording Secretary