KCATT MEETING MINUTES

for

November 24, 2009
Coeur d'Alene Library
702 E. Front Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

Call to Order:

Chairman Kevin Howard called the KCATT meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Welcome / Introductions:

Kevin Howard requested all those present to introduce themselves:

Kevin Howard (Chair)	Worley Highway District
Kevin Jump (Vice Chair)	City of Rathdrum
Gordon Dobler	City of Coeur d'Alene
John Pankratz	East Side Highway District
Robert Palus	City of Post Falls
Andrea Storjohann	ITD – District One

Staff.

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
Marv Lekstrum	Lakes Highway District
Monty Montgomery	Lakes Highway District
Rod Twete	Lakes Highway District
Ralph Paul	IDEQ
Paul Good	Avista
Donna Montgomery	Citizen
Jim Deffenbaugh	Panhandle Area Council
Melissa Cleveland	J-U-B
Clif Warren	Mobility Manager District 1

Approval of October Meeting Minutes:

John Pankratz made a motion to approve the October 27, 2009 meeting minutes. Robert Palus seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Project Updates:

John Pankratz reported that work on the Fernan Lake Road project for the East Side Highway District has been put on hold for the winter with the exception of some bridge work. Construction will resume again next spring.

Robert Palus reported that the City of Post Falls has started some design work for several improvement projects for next year, which include the widening of Idaho Street from 10th Avenue up to 20th, and a Spencer Street extension off Seltice Way near Exit 7 that will include a new signal.

Andrea Storjohann reported that ITD's Beauty Creek Bridge project is almost complete. She noted that this project was on the STIP when she arrived 10 years ago. Their stimulus funded Wyoming to SH 53 project is out for advertisement and bids will open on December 8.

Gordon Dobler reported that the City of Coeur d'Alene is preparing for next year's projects which will involve utilities.

Kevin Jump reported that the City of Rathdrum has a contractor bidding for their pedestrian pathway project. Their gas project is substantially complete; they are wrapping up a few planner issues. The City is still in the process of acquiring right of way for their intersection improvement project at SH 41 and Wright Street. Construction is anticipated to commence late spring or early summer. They will start construction soon on a slab that will hold their brine tank. Also, a letter was issued to the Utilities about the discontinuation of their right of way work.

Kevin Howard reported that Worley Highway District began construction on their hazard (flooding) mitigation project on Loffs Bay Road in the Mica Bay area on November 16. He stated that there will be no cuts in the soil; it is all filled with silt free rock. They held a final design meeting last week for their Elder Road project which should go out for bid sometime in December or the first part of January.

Robert Palus added that effective December 1 the City of Post Falls will have a roadway cut prohibition in effect until spring, except for emergency circumstances.

Utility Updates:

Paul Good reported that Avista will work on their Appleway substation next year. Also 3 ½ miles of transmission line will be added at their new Idaho Road substation up to Meyer and Wyoming. Extensions are planned from Pleasant View at Poleline Road to Beck Road and Strahorn Road to Rimrock Road south of Lancaster Road.

KMPO Planning Updates:

Ryan Stewart noted that all KMPO Planning Updates are included on the agenda; however, he noted that the next KCATT meeting is scheduled for December 15 as noted in agenda item #10. He asked whether the December 15 meeting date would work for the committee. Ryan reminded the committee of forthcoming action items including the election of officers and approval of the KMPO Travel Demand Model. Don Davis noted that ITD has a legislative outreach scheduled for 9 am that morning but that an ITD representative would still be able to attend the KCATT meeting.

Andrea noted that the KCATT meeting cannot be held at the ITD District 1 office due to the legislative outreach event. Gordon confirmed that the December KCATT meeting could be held at the Coeur d'Alene Library on December 15.

ITD Board Update:

Andrea reported that ITD has a new Director, Brian W. Ness, who will serve beginning January 11, 2010. Ness had a 30-year career with the Michigan Department of Transportation and has an extensive background in transportation planning.

Current Business:

a) Riverstone Area Transit Center Update – John Austin

Jim Deffenbaugh, Director of the Panhandle Area Council (PAC), provided a Riverstone Area Transit Center Update handout which outlined the next steps in the process in making the Transit Center a reality. His report noted that the City of Coeur d'Alene's approval process for developing the proposed site for access purposes would take several months to complete. The completed NEPA study has been submitted to FTA for approval and the cost was paid for by the property owner. Ron Harvey from ITD is working on the property appraisal, the cost of which will also be borne by the property owner and when completed, will commence negotiations with the property owner. It is hoped that site acquisition funding will come through a FY 2010 Appropriation request, while the construction costs will be covered under the stimulus funds and hopefully Lake City Development Corporation (LCDC) funds as well. To help offset the debt service on the building, a potential tenant, Kootenai Area Transportation System (KATS), has been identified.

Gordon Dobler stated that the City met with John Austin 2 weeks ago regarding the improvements needed to make the site viable and noted that the developer seemed

reluctant to proceed. He expressed disappointment that John did not approach the City prior to seeking the KMPO Board and County Commissioners' approval. Ryan Stewart noted that he talked with Don Davis regarding ITD's role in assisting with the right of way and stated that ITD cannot proceed unless a funding source for right of way acquisition and planning is identified. The stimulus funding is for construction purposes only. He noted that he left a message for John Austin asking that the funding source be identified. Ryan added that the FTA's initial instructions regarding the use of stimulus funds were misleading, but later clarified that its use was to follow the guidelines of Section 5307 funding. Consequently, ITD needs a funding account in order to proceed. Don Davis stated that ITD needs a federally recognized key number, which would require KMPO Board authorization.

Ryan emphasized that funds for site acquisition have not been identified and stated that it is unlikely that the Appropriations request will be approved this fiscal year. It was noted that the stimulus funds would need to be obligated by December 31, 2009 and that some agreement would need to be in place. There was a discussion regarding the time frame relative to next month's KCATT and Board meeting schedules and what to do with the stimulus funds if they could not be obligated by the deadline. Ryan cautioned the committee that a recommendation would also need to be made by the Kootenai County Commissioners and PAC as well prior to KMPO Board action to amend the TIP. There was consensus by the committee to defer any action on the matter to PAC.

b) ARRA Public Transportation Projects Update

Ryan Stewart stated that he believes the delivery of all the stimulus funded vehicles has occurred. He noted that the Coeur d'Alene Tribe is still actively pursuing funding for a maintenance facility and their transfer facility in Worley, which he believes they have secured.

c) KMPO Model Update – Bonnie Gow

Ryan Stewart reported that Bonnie Gow has been incorporating the most recent jurisdictional comments into the 2015 and 2030 models and is close to completing the models. It is expected to have the models ready for KCATT recommendation at next month's meeting and Board adoption in January.

d) Call for STP-Rural Projects

Kevin Howard reported that KCATT must have their recommendations for prioritized STP Rural Project funding to the next KMPO Board meeting next week. East Side Highway District, Worley Highway District, and the City of Rathdrum were all identified as applicants for STP funds, which must be submitted to ITD by the end of December.

Kevin stated that the process will be similar to the review and prioritization of the Local Highway Investment Program Applications to the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC) for capital construction projects held several weeks

ago. It was suggested that the same subcommittee perform the review and provide a KCATT recommendation to the KMPO Board at next week's meeting. Since applications are to be submitted to ITD, it was also recommended to replace the ITD subcommittee representative with Eric Shanley representing the Lakes Highway District. Applicants were directed to forward STP project summaries to KMPO staff for distribution to subcommittee members and that staff coordinate with the subcommittee as to a date, time, and location to meet.

e) KMPO Non-Motorized Plan Recommendation – Ryan Stewart

Ryan Stewart reported that the last draft of the Non-Motorized Plan was forwarded to KCATT on November 3 for review. Ryan provided a handout summarizing the comments received to date along with proposed changes made to the document as a result. He noted that the plan is a living document that will be updated on a regular basis. As proposed infrastructures are adopted by the various jurisdictions they can be incorporated as an amendment into the Plan.

Andrea Storjohann made a motion to recommend the KMPO Non-Motorized Plan for KMPO Board adoption. John Pankratz seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

f) Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) Discussion Update – Ryan Stewart

Ryan Stewart stated that at the November KMPO Board meeting, the Board requested an update on the Regional Public Transportation Authority concept and the White Paper he had prepared late last year that had been presented to KCATT. He noted that there was extensive discussion on the matter and that a motion had been made, which died, to forward a recommendation to the various jurisdictions to consider a resolution for the formation of an RPTA in Kootenai County. The Board expressed concern regarding the details of an RPTA and requested staff to present additional information to KCATT and the Board on the following:

1) How would an RPTA function in the current environment; would it be another layer of government or replace what existing bodies are currently doing? Ryan stated that an RPTA is not another layer of government, but would merely replace what Kootenai County is currently doing; i.e., serving as the designated recipient for Section 5307 Public Transportation funding. An RPTA would also consolidate the functions of what KATS, NICE, and Citylink are doing in terms of the administration and oversight and possibly the operation of public transportation services in Kootenai County.

2) How would an oversight body be formed and function as an RPTA? Ryan stated that the KMPO Board could also serve as the RPTA Board meeting back to back if necessary.

3) How would an RPTA be funded? Ryan stated that the State of Idaho does not have a designated local funding option for an RPTA under the Idaho Code. Other

RPTAs in Idaho function via a formalized agreement. Currently, those jurisdictions benefiting from Citylink and KATS voluntarily provide contributions from their General Fund to match and/or leverage federal funding for these services. The primary source of funds is through Section 5307.

Ryan expressed gratitude to those jurisdictions supporting public transportation in Kootenai County, especially the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. He stated that he would provide further information at future KCATT and KMPO Board meetings. Kevin asked whether a KCATT recommendation will be requested since the matter has already been brought before the Board. Ryan stated that a request has been made that no action be taken by the Board until the Public Transportation Roundtable can form a recommendation. KCATT may also wish to provide a recommendation.

Ryan noted that the recommendation derived from the Kootenai County Public Transportation Plan developed in 2005 and adopted by the Board was to recommend to the participating jurisdictions to put forth a resolution for a public vote on the formation of an RPTA.

Upcoming KMPO Board Items

It was noted that the Board will be asked to approve the Non-motorized Transportation Plan as well as the prioritized list of STP projects for funding.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

_____

Donna Lively
Recording Secretary