



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING **Springfield, MO Chamber of Commerce Hawthorne Room July 11, 2006**

Attending: Robert Walster, Billy Dryer, Stan Whitehurst, Stacy Burks, Kenneth Bacon, Eric Kellstadt, Steve Coller, Dawne Gardner, Jenny Jones, Bill Marshall, Jim Smart, Bill Monday, Natasha Longpine, Bob Becker, Steve McIntosh, Tom Huff, David Rauch, Nancy Edson, Frank Washburn, Howard Fisk, Phil Hutchins, Joel Keller

Staff: Dan Watts

Introductions:

Call to Order: Steve Coller

Approval of minutes:

Robert Walster motioned Bill Monday seconded. May 9 minutes approved.

Partner Agency Reports

MoDOT District 7--Eric Kellstadt

There is not a lot to report. The "safe and sound" bridge program has been delayed until fall at least. There was a problem with the performance bond for length of project. It is a rather large project with a thirty year life. There are no financial institutions that will provide that bond. It passed the senate but not house. MoDOT is currently looking for legislative fixes or contractual options to fix the issue. The "Safe Routes to School" selections have been announced. In SMCOG's area there are two infrastructure awards one going to Hurley Schools and the other to Springfield. There were no infrastructure awards in district 7. There were three non-infrastructure awards in district 8. Those were Hurley, Niangua, and Willard. MoDOT is proceeding with those and they will follow similar procedures as the transportation enhancements program.

MoDOT District 8--Dawne Gardner

I44/ US65 interchange will be head to head traffic on 65 south bound bridge until the north bound bridge is replaced. The removal of the north bound bridge was scheduled for 52 hour closure on I44 but it got done in 24 hours. MoDOT is happy with how it went. Current projects are Route 65 from Hollister and AR line. Branson West route relief. Route 215 rehab south of Aldridge. In Dallas County US65 widening C and 65. Stone County east of Hwy13 to Indian Point resurfacing. Dallas County: US 65 resurface south of 32 in Buffalo to north of EE. District 8 enhancements program has taken place, although we are not ready to release yet. It should be next week or two. The OTO process has taken place and will be released in August after the board meeting. Billy Dryer asked if land acquisition on 215 east of Pleasant Hope had taken place. Dawne Gardner commented that information had been given to bridge engineer but he has been on vacation. Billy Dryer commented that the farm near the bridge will sell on August 4th and that the farmer will donate land before it is sold. Dawne Gardner commented that MoDOT will only move forward if the bridge is scheduled for replacement. Ken Bacon

asked about I44 to Crystal Cave he has seen some surveying widening road. Dawne Gardner answered that she is not familiar with that project, but she will check. MoDOT will be doing a widening project from I44 to Valley Water Mill road, on Route H. Steve Coller asked about Branson West project. Bob Becker commented that it should be completed by the first of the year. It was scheduled for May. Stan Whitehurst asked about the I44 corridor study. Dawne Gardner said she was not sure about public meetings but thinks it is at the Library Station on July 17th. Steve McIntosh commented that when the new terminal opens the public will need a way to get to it and that is the focus of the meeting.

OTO--Natasha Longpine

Transit Development Plan: recommendations are going through the OTO Technical Committee. The Transit Coordination Plan is finished and the first step in implementation is the creation of a local coordination board. The TIP is in review currently. IF there are any questions just let us know. BPAC is working on a bicycle pedestrian plan. OTO is also starting a freight plan study.

Senator Bond's Office--Stacy Burks

This year is not going to be overly exiting coming out of the senate. The Senator is now the Vice Chairman. We have seen a wholesale change as far as the appropriations. Three accounts appear to be gone as far as earmarking ability. We will know by end of week what is secured out of the senate. There is not as much money to go around. Projects will be awarded Thursday and I will be in touch. The senate is taking up defense authorization bill. Tom Huff asked if there is anything on Hwy14, Ozark to Nixa. Natasha Longpine commented that she thinks that is in scoping in the OTO area.

Senator McCaskill's Office--David Rauch

Not much of a formal report. Regarding the earmarking issue, McCaskill is involved. She seems in favor of competitive requests. She is holding back for a year and studying the issue. We are waiting to see how congress is handling the issue.

Congressman Blunt's Office--Steve McIntosh

The house supposedly next week will be dealing with transportation appropriations, but not on the floor. It should be next week. Earmarks will be allowed. They will be allowed later. The house is doing earmarks but it is confusing. We will find out next week. Hwy 71 should open at the end of August. It will have a freeway status. Over 50 percent of the money for this project was through earmarks. It wouldn't have been done without earmarks. Stacy Burks commented that on the senate side, a senator's name will be attached to the earmark. Earmarks will not be added on the conference side.

Howard Fisk asked about air quality standards and asked Stacy or Steve to comment. Stacy Burks: Not sure yet; it is early in the process. Howard Fisk asked if there will be money to follow that. Stacy Burks commented that she is not sure. Kansas City meets the standards now and there is a question if they will be after the standards are lower. You will see pilot projects like carbon sequestration but as far as whole sale money to make changes we are just not sure. Lowering the standards would include Springfield.

Howard Fisk commented that it would change the way inspections take place and could be very expensive.

Phil Hutchens asked about CAFE standards and commented that cars will have to average 35 miles per gallon and trucks will have to meet some of the same standards as cars. Stacy Burks commented that the technology doesn't exist yet. Toyota has come to the hill and stated this.

Election of Officers for FY08—Dan Watts

Steve Collier nominated for chairman by Phil Hutchins and Robert Walster seconded. Motion approved.

Billy Dryer nominated for vice chairman by Phil Hutchens and Robert Walster seconded. Motion approved.

Investment Priorities—Dan Watts

Ken Bacon motioned and Bill Monday seconded to accept the investment priorities. Eric Kellstadt offered amended language to the first rank priority regarding paving and shoulders to all minor routes of 1000 or greater AADT.

Billy Dryer motioned to accept priorities with corrected language. Frank Washburn seconded. Motion passed.

Development Review Presentation--Dawne Gardner

A copy of PowerPoint is available in SMCOG office.

Public Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan—Dan Watts

The responsibility for creating coordinated transportation plans has been given to RPCs statewide. OTO has already worked on their plan and it is going to be going before the OTO technical committee for approval. SMCOG is going to be holding its first meeting on August 8th. The plan will affect three funding categories: 5310, 5316, and 5317.

Next meeting is September 12th.

Other Business:

None

Adjourn:

Phil Hutchens motioned to adjourn and Howard Fisk seconded. Motion passed.