

KANE/KENDALL COUNCIL OF MAYORS

41W011 Burlington Road
St. Charles, Illinois 60175
(630) 584-1170

CHICAGO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
300 West Adams Street
Chicago, IL 60606

MAYOR JEFFERY D. SCHIELKE, Council Chairman
THOMAS B. RICKERT, Council Director
HOLLY V. SMITH and ERIN E. WILLRETT, Regional Planning Liaisons

Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors

May 3, 2006
Draft Minutes

Members in attendance:

Brent Eichelberger	Administrator	Sugar Grove
Francis Klaas	County Engineer	Kendall County
Jeffrey Schielke	Mayor	Batavia
Larry Keller	President	West Dundee
Manny Gomez	Assistant Director	KDOT
Marilyn Michelini	President	Montgomery
Stephen Pickett	President	Sleepy Hollow
Sue McLaughlin	Administrator	North Aurora

Others in attendance:

Andrew Plummer	Municipal/Regional Consultant	RTA
Brian Fairwood	Associate	TranSystems
Bunny Anderson	Liaison for Engineering Projects	Tollway
Chad Riddle	Fed. Aid Program Engineer	IDOT
Erin Willrett	Regional Planning Liaison	KKCOM
Frank Gortram	Consultant	RHA
Greg Chismark	City Engineer	St. Charles
Heidi Files	Transportation Planner	KDOT
Holly Smith	Regional Planning Liaison	KKCOM
Joe Evers	City Engineer	Elgin
Joy Schaad	Director of Community Liaison	CATS
Karen Young	Engineer	Batavia
Mary Ann Wilkinson	Village Clerk	Burlington
Matt Washrowiak	Consultant	Baxter & Woodman
Mike Pubentz	Director of Public Works	Montgomery
Noel Basquin	City Engineer	Batavia
Reed Sheppman	Project Principal	Stanley Consultants
Roger Valente	Area Programmer	IDOT
Ron Naylor	Sr. Project Manager	EEI
Salvatore Diberwardo	Chief Structure Engineer	Ciorba
Steve Coffinbargar	Chief of Planning & Programming	KDOT
Sue Rushing	Gov't Affairs Representative	Pace

I. OPENING OF MEETING

Chairman Mayor Schielke called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. All meeting attendees introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Greg Chismark moved and Larry Keller seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2005 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR JEFFERY SCHIELKE, Council Chairman, City of Batavia; **PRESIDENT LARRY KELLER**, Council Vice-Chairman, Village of West Dundee; **PRESIDENT JOHN C. SCHMITT**, Village of Algonquin; **MAYOR TOM WEISNER**, City of Aurora; **PRESIDENT DOUG PORCH**, Village of Big Rock; **PRESIDENT MIKE BLOCK**, Village of Burlington; **PRESIDENT BILL SARTO**, Village of Carpentersville; **PRESIDENT JERALD BARTELS**, Village of East Dundee; **PRESIDENT JAMES WILLEY**, Village of Elburn; **MAYOR EDWARD SCHOCK**, City of Elgin; **MAYOR KEVIN BURNS**, City of Geneva; **PRESIDENT TOM WAJDA**, Village of Gilberts; **PRESIDENT JEFFREY R. MAGNUSSEN**, Village of Hampshire; **PRESIDENT BARRY KRECZMER**, Village of Lily Lake; **MAYOR JAMES MORRIS**, Village of Lisbon; **PRESIDENT ROSS DEURINGER**, Village of Maple Park; **MAYOR JANET BLUE**, Village of Millington; **PRESIDENT MARILYN MICHELINI**, Village of Montgomery; **PRESIDENT GARY L FRULAND**, Village of Newark; **PRESIDENT JOHN HANSEN**, Village of North Aurora; **PRESIDENT CRAIG WEBER**, Village of Oswego; **PRESIDENT VERNE WESTER**, Village of Pingree Grove; **MAYOR WILLIAM R. ROBERTS**, City of Plano; **MAYOR TOM THOMAS**, City of Sandwich; **PRESIDENT STEPHEN PICKETT**, Village of Sleepy Hollow; **PRESIDENT JIM HANSEN**, Village of South Elgin; **PRESIDENT SEAN MICHELS**, Village of Sugar Grove; **MAYOR DONALD P. DeWITTE**, City of St. Charles; **PRESIDENT MARK MARION**, Village of Virgil; **PRESIDENT EILEEN PHIPPS**, Village of Wayne; ; **MAYOR ARTHUR PROCHASKA**, City of Yorkville; **CHAIRMAN KAREN McCONAUGHAY**, Kane County Board Chairman; **JOHN CHURCH**, Kendall County Board Chairman; **CARL SCHOEDEL**, County Engineer, Kane County Division of Transportation; **FRANCIS KLAAS**, Director, Kendall County Highway Department; **THOMAS B. RICKERT**, Council Director; **ERIN WILLRETT and HOLLY SMITH**, Regional Planning Liaisons

III. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approving FY07 Regional Planning Liaison Services

Holly Smith stated that the Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors receives federal transportation planning funds to perform various planning and programming activities for Kane County and Kendall County. These funds are directed to the Kane County Division of Transportation in order that the County may provide transportation planning staff to the Council of Mayors and regional coordination activities. In FY2007, it is anticipated that Kane County will receive \$104,246.70 in federal funding, with a local match of \$53,446.99 for a total contract amount of \$157,693.69. Staff recommends Council approval authorizing the Council Chairman to execute a Planning Agreement and Memorandum of Agreement. The Chairman stated that this is an annual process and that the planning liaison services are an invaluable resource. Marilyn Michelini moved and Joe Evers seconded the motion to approve the resolution approving the FY07 Regional Planning Liaison Services. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Approving FY06 – FY11 STP Program

Mike Pubentz, Chairman of the Transportation Sub-Committee referred to the copy of the FY06-FY11 program in the packet. He stated that there had been some funding changes on the federal level due to the new marks received, therefore, some projects had been moved around in order for the program to remain fiscally constrained. There were some new LAPP projects added to the program. The Chairman affirmed that recissions will be more problematic within the next couple of years. Greg Chismark moved and Joe Evers seconded the motion to approve the FY06 – FY11 STP program. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. Director / Planning Liaison Update** – Erin Willrett provided the update:

FY2007 CMAQ Program

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program is a federally funded program of surface transportation improvements designed to improve air quality and mitigate congestion. The Illinois Department of Transportation administers the program. A detailed list of what was submitted from the county and municipalities are in the attached newsletter. For further information, visit www.catsmpo.com/prog-cmaq.

Regional Planning Board

Randy Blakenhorn has been named as the new Executive Director of the Regional Planning Board. As the Executive Director he will lead its efforts in comprehensive planning for land use and transportation in northeastern Illinois. He will report to the board while overseeing daily operations of an 80-person planning staff. Blankenhorn has been working as Urban Program Planning bureau chief for the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), where he has been employed since 1984. For IDOT, he has been responsible for metropolitan planning and programming, which includes airport, public transit and railroad capital programs, regional air quality and environmental planning, deployment of Geographic Information Systems and other technology, and coordination of state and federal transportation plans and programs. For more information visit www.prbchicago.org.

Walkability Workshop

The Village of Huntley will be hosting a walkability workshop on May 17, 2006. The workshop will give staff and officials the resources necessary to implement walkable communities and healthier streets. Dan Burden of Walkable Communities Inc. will be conducting the workshop. It will include a walking audit of current conditions and a brainstorming session in which recommended changes be drawn on a map. For more information on Walkable Communities Inc. please visit www.walkable.org.

Kane County Paratransit Coordinating Council

Recent efforts of the KCPCC have focused on securing funding and strengthening and expanding partnerships. Pace Suburban Bus submitted a Community Transportation Association of America Community-Based Planning Grant Application for user-side taxi subsidy program coordination efforts for the KCPCC. The KCPCC is also working with Work, Welfare and Families to possibly secure State of Illinois funding for a dispatching center similar to the Ride DuPage Model through the Governor's office. If funding is achieved, the money would potentially be used to match New Freedom or JARC funding. The next meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at the Kane County Judicial Center, Multi-Purpose Room - Ground Level, 37W777 Route 38, St. Charles, Illinois.

Metra Alternative Analysis Studies

The most recent transportation bill provided possible funding to Metra to begin four New Start Processes, two of which, the proposed Suburban Transit Access Route (STAR) Line and upgrades to the Union Pacific West Line, fall within the KKCOM area. Council staff is participating on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for both projects.

The project timeline for both new start initiatives listed below.

- Project Initiation: develop purpose and need and identify initial alternatives (February—March)
- Screen initial alternatives (January – May)
- Refine and evaluate feasible alternatives (May – August)
- Select locally preferred alternative (September – November)

For more information on the New Start Processes visit, metraconnects.metrarail.com.

Bicycle / Pedestrian Planning

Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee members have begun to make updates to the Kane County Bicycle Map. The updated map, which includes existing, proposed, and conceptual bicycle and pedestrian facilities, will be ready for print in early spring and distributed to municipalities, park districts, chambers of commerce, tourism agencies, and local bike shops. To request a copy of the map, contact Erin Willrett at 630-444-3142 or willretterin@co.kane.il.us.

Prairie Parkway

IDOT held two public meetings on April 4th and 5th regarding the current status of the Prairie Parkway Study. The main purpose of the meetings was to present and receive public input on the roadway alternatives that were announced last year. The initial alignments of the proposed alternatives result from environmental field investigations and engineering studies. Based on the current schedule, the preferred alignment will be finalized at the end of 2006. A draft of the final EIS is set to be released in the fall of 2006. Federal approval for the final alternative is on schedule for late 2007. For further information, visit www.prairie-parkway.com.

- b. **Executive Committee Report** –Chairman Jeff Schielke announced the next Executive Committee Meeting, which is the Annual Meeting and Luncheon. This year’s event will include a special presentation and short bus tour of the Joliet Arsenal Redevelopment site including BNSF Railroad’s Intermodal Transfer Facility, the CenterPoint Intermodal Center, the Abraham Lincoln Veterans’ Memorial Cemetery and the Midewin National Tall Grass Prairie. The meeting will be held at DSC Logistics in Elwood. It will begin at 10:00 a.m. Please RSVP to Janet Bright at CATS if you are able to attend.
- c. **Transportation Sub-Committee Report** – Mike Pubentz, Chairman of the Transportation Sub-Committee, provided the report. The committee met last on March 16th and they focused on reviewing the projects from the September 2005 Call for Projects. Projects will be considered for programming at the May 18, 2006 meeting.
- d. **Surface Transportation Program Update** – Chad Riddle gave a brief synopsis of the current STP Program projects and had a handout of his latest status sheets. Mr. Riddle highlighted one project that have been let or completed since the last update: the Village of Montgomery’s Main Street LAPP Project.
- e. **Regional Planning Board Report** – Marilyn Michelini, Regional Board Member, President of the Village of Montgomery, discussed the hiring of the Executive Director for the RPB, Randy Blakenhorn. President Michelini sits on the public participation committee and they are currently going through the 206 applications for the citizens advisory board. The next meeting is on May 10, 2006 at CATS/NIPC offices located on the 8th floor of the Sears Tower.
- f. **CATS Report** – Joy Schaad gave the CATS update. She discussed the CMAQ program’s new mark of 25 million because of budget recissions and impacts. 156 applications were received and 243 million dollars were applied for in federal funds. The CMAQ committee is looking at developing a multi-year program because of the lack of funding. The STP program will also be affected by state appropriations. The legislative outlook looks good for the state-wide line item that makes it possible to borrow and lend state-wide. The data collection program is available through CATS, requests are due by May 16th. The
- g. **NIPC Report** – There was no report.
- h. **Transportation Improvement Program Update**
 - i. **IDOT Program Report** – Roger Vallente reviewed the management and monitoring schedule. There are no new projects in the multi-year program for Kane / Kendall. There were, however, a number of cost changes. The scope of projects has been upgraded to 3P surfaces which in turn provided a cost increase. The Chairman stated that he appreciated the good efforts by IDOT staff in keeping our visions clear.
 - ii. **Illinois Tollway Report** – Bunny Anderson gave the Illinois Tollway Report. She distributed updated reports on I-355 South Extension, DeKalb Toll Oasis, open road toll plaza. Ms. Anderson stated that efforts to alert municipalities of construction projects in their respective geographic areas will continue. The chairman asked about the tollway projects at IL 47 at I-88 and IL 47 at I-90. Ms. Anderson stated that they are looking at interchange options and in the feasibility study there is a full interchange option. For theses projects costs participation will be asked from the municipalities.
 - iii. **RTA Report** – Andrew Plummer gave the RTA report. The RTA is currently focusing on the update of the strategic plan. The goal is to have it out by fall of 2006. It will go to state legislature a year from now. The plan has a continuous communications link and it is also done in conjunction with the service board. The public kick-off meeting will be within the next month.
 - iv. **Metra Report** – There was no report.
 - v. **Pace Report** – Sue Rushing gave the Pace report. Pace submitted 2 applications for CMAQ funding in conjunction with Kane County for the extension of the route along Randall Road to the McHenry County line and for infrastructure improvements along the Randall Road corridor/Route 529. There is a new feature on the Pace website – Web Route, it’s a new mapping system that will aid passengers determine their route. July 1st Pace will be taking on CATS ride-share program along with the van pool program.

vi. **Kendall County** – There was no report.

vii. **Kane County Report** – Manny Gomez reviewed the primary construction activities.

viii. **Municipal Reports** – There was no report.

V. Other Business

VI. Next Meeting – The Full Council is on-call for their next meeting.

VII. Adjournment – Joe Evers moved to adjourn the meeting, Greg Chismark seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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MAYOR JEFFERY D. SCHIELKE, Council Chairman
PRESIDENT LARRY KELLER, Council Vice-Chairman
THOMAS B. RICKERT, Council Director
HOLLY SMITH and ERIN WILLRETT, Regional Planning Liaisons

Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors

September 6, 2006

Draft Minutes

Members in attendance:

Brent Eichelberger
Carl Schoedel
Craig Weber
Dan Dinges
Francis Klaas
Greg Chismark
Jeffery Schielke
Joe Evers
John Crois
Larry Keller
Marilyn Michelini
Sue McLaughlin

Administrator
County Engineer
President
Dept. of Public Works
County Engineer
City Engineer
Mayor
City Engineer
City Administrator
President
President
Administrator

Sugar Grove
Kane County
Oswego
Geneva
Kendall County
St. Charles
Batavia
Elgin
Yorkville
West Dundee
Montgomery
North Aurora

Others in attendance:

Andrew Plummer
Brad Sanderson
Bunny Anderson
Camie Ferrier
Chad Riddle
Heidi Files
Holly Smith
Janet Bright
Laura Jibben
Manny Gomez
Mike Pubentz
Nan Newlon
Noel Basquin
PJ Fitzpatrick
Roger Valente
Ron Naylor
Steve Coffinbargar
Sue Rushing
Tom Rickert

Municipal/Regional Consultant
Consultant
Liaison for Engineering Projects
Civil Engineer III
Federal Aid Program Engineer
Sr. Transportation Planner
Regional Planning Liaison
Technical Analyst
VP
Assistant Director
Director of Public Works
Project Manager
City Engineer
Sr. VP
Area Programmer
Sr. Project Manager
Chief of Planning & Programming
Gov't Affairs Representative
Deputy Director

RTA
EEI, Hampshire
Tollway
SEC Group
IDOT
KDOT
KKCOM
CMAP
Benesch
KDOT
Montgomery
EEI
Batavia
RHA&A
IDOT
EEI
KDOT
Pace
KDOT

I. Opening of Meeting

Chairman Jeffery Schielke called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. All in attendance introduced themselves.

II. Approval of May 3, 2006 Minutes

President Marilyn Michelini made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Joe Evers. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Action Items

A. Approving 2005 STP Call for Project Programming Recommendation

Transportation Sub-Committee Chairman, Mike Pubentz, presented the recommendation for programming new projects for the Fall 2005 Call for Projects. The process began with a request for proposals in August 2005, followed by application analysis during early 2006, and program selection in May 2006. The Sub-Committee utilized a conservative 5-year total programming mark of \$20 million to select projects. Mr. Pubentz referenced a copy of the recommended additions, outlined in an updated STP program spreadsheet. The new LAPP projects include: Spring Street (South Elgin), River Street (Montgomery), State Street (Hampshire), Hanks Road (Sugar Grove), and Wheeler Road (Sugar Grove). Other new projects include: Indian Trail (Aurora), Main Street (Batavia), Red Gate Bridge (St. Charles), Anderson Road (Elburn/Kane Co.), Golfview (Carpentersville), Cross (Sugar Grove), Stearns (South Elgin/Kane Co.), and Longmeadow (Multiple Municipalities/Kane Co.). Temporarily, the new LAPP projects are listed in FY2011 and all other new projects are listed in the multi-year program. The Transportation Sub-Committee plans to assign the new projects to specific, appropriate fiscal years at their September 21, 2006 meeting. The resulting programming changes will be presented to the Full Council for approval at their next meeting. President Marilyn Michelini made a motion to approve the recommendation, seconded by Greg Chismark. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. General Business

A. Director / Planning Liaison Update

Council Director, Tom Rickert, reported that the FY2007 CMAQ Program was released for public comment and will be considered for final approval by the Policy Committee on October 12, 2006. In the Council's region, the following six projects, with CMAQ funding from FY07-09 totaling approximately \$3 million dollars, are included in the recommended program: 1) North Aurora's Oak Street Bike/Pedestrian Bridge, 2) Aurora's Transportation Center Expansion of Lot 3 Commuter Parking, 3) KDOT's Burlington Road at IL 47 intersection improvement, and 4) three signal interconnect projects – Aurora's New York from Farnsworth to IL 31, Aurora's IL 25 from North Ave to Illinois, and KDOT's Randall Rd from Main to Orchard. The proposed FY2007 program is available on-line at www.catsmpo.com/prog-cmaq-fy2007.

Mr. Rickert indicated that the 2006 edition of the Kane and Northern Kendall Counties Bicycle Map is available. A digital version of the map is available at www.co.kane.il.us/dot/COM/Bicycle. Please contact Erin Willrett to request a copy of the map via email at willretterin@co.kane.il.us or by phone at 630-584-1170.

In the coming months, a number of conferences and workshops are planned. Mr. Rickert pointed out the following upcoming offerings: 1) Long Range Planning for Commuter Rail Workshop hosted by Kane County on September 27, 2006 at Walter Payton's Roundhouse, Aurora, for municipalities with Metra stations in the comprehensive plans, 2) APA Upper-Midwest Four State Conference, October 4-6, 2006 at Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, 3) IDOT Fall Planning Conference, October 19 & 20, 2006 at the Four points by Sheraton Fairview Heights, Fairview Heights, Illinois, and 4) Rail-Volution, November 5-8, 2006, at Marriott Magnificent Mile Hotel, focusing on TOD development.

Regional Planning Liaison, Holly Smith, reported that the RTA has issued a call for projects for the FY06 JARC/NFI programs, due November 1, 2006. The RTA is also taking the lead on the development of a Regional Human Services Transportation Plan, which will proceed concurrently with the FY06 program development activities. The Plan will serve as a project selection guide for programming JARC/NFI dollars in forthcoming years, FY07 and beyond. The Regional Transit Authority also recently requested pre-applications for the 2007 Regional Technical Assistance Program. The goal of the program is for preliminary transit planning and technical assistance. One pre-application was submitted by staff - Randall Road Route 529 Plan to Improve Access to Bus Service. The study will prepare a plan to improve access and ridership through infrastructure and service enhancements.

Ms. Smith also indicated that Metra is utilizing an Alternatives Analysis process to determine the Locally Preferred Alternatives (LPA) that best meets the needs of the Suburban Transit Access Route (STAR) line and the UP-West Line. The final LPA recommendations will be identified and forwarded to the Federal Transit Administration for evaluation in late 2006. PACE has received funding from SAFETEA-LU to develop a Regional TSP Deployment Plan and to design, demonstrate and evaluate TSP on the Halsted Street corridor in southern Cook County. PACE has selected the Randall Road/Orchard Road corridor throughout the County to be included in the development of the Regional TSP Deployment Plan. The Regional TSP Deployment Plan will collect data and prioritize routes based upon a cost benefit analysis. TSP technology gives buses an automated "conditional" priority at signalized intersections should it be needed in order to maintain their bus schedules.

Council Staff is currently involved in the North Central Planning Area Study to develop land use and transportation recommendations for the area bounded by I-90 to the north, Silver Glen Road to the south, IL Rte. 47 to the west, and Randall Road to the east. Staff continues to work with the Villages of South Elgin, Hampshire, Pingree Grove, Gilberts and the City of Elgin to complete the data collection required for the Place's model. A charrette is planned in the Fall to model land uses for the 4 Priority Places located in the planning area, which will be incorporated into the final plan.

Ms. Smith also updated the Council on current paratransit activities. The Kane County Paratransit Coordinating Council (KCPCC) is holding special meetings to discuss potential Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Initiative (NFI) funding applications. The Council's two ideas for submission for funding include: 1) the extension of the Randall Road Route 529 service north to Algonquin and 2) a centralized dispatch center and taxi subsidy program. The Council is preparing a formal request to Pace to be the lead on both funding applications. The Kendall County Paratransit Working Group is pursuing a partnership with the Voluntary Action Center (VAC) of DeKalb, which will improve the likelihood of securing 5311 funding. Currently, staff is working with the VAC to prepare grant proposals (including 5311, JARC and NFI) and to further define the potential service and implementation strategy. Next steps for the Kendall Group include meeting with local government officials to discuss the possible service scenarios and funding participation.

B. Executive Committee Report

Chairman Schielke reported that Executive Committee met on August 22, 2006. The Committee approved new FFY 2006 to 2012 Surface Transportation programming marks. There was also a discussion regarding the Flex Match Initiative Program. This program would allow councils to use a wide variety of public and private contributions of funds, land, materials and engineering to be counted toward the non-federal match (local match). The Committee decided that each council will determine how they want to proceed to provide input to the development of a policy. Meetings will be held with all stakeholders to produce a policy that will be in the best interest of the councils.

Randy Blankenhorn, Executive Director for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), the new name for the merged agencies formally known as the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC); gave an overview of the draft strategic report on vision, governance, and funding for the agency. The Committee engaged in a lively discussion and offered suggestions for the report. The report was submitted to the Governor and the Illinois General Assembly on September 1, 2006. The next meeting of the Executive Committee was tentatively scheduled for mid- November.

C. Transportation Sub-Committee Report

Mike Pubentz indicated that there was no further report beyond the action item approved earlier in the meeting.

D. Surface Transportation Program Update

Chad Riddle provided the Council's STP program status sheets, which detailed the current status of each project and estimated dates for the completion of design approvals, construction lettings, etc. Mr. Riddle indicated that the sheets reflect updated information resulting from an early August meeting with the Council's Regional Planning Liaisons. Since the Council's last meeting in May, no projects were awarded over the summer months. The following projects within the Council's area are on the November letting: 1) Orchard at Jericho in Montgomery, 2) Stearns Road Wetland Mitigation in South Elgin, 3) Illinois Route 31 and Route 38 contract in Geneva, 4) Wilson Street in Batavia, and 5) Illinois Avenue in Aurora.

E. CMAP Board Report

President Marilyn Michelini indicated that the CMAP Board submitted a report outlining the agency's vision and funding strategy to the General Assembly in early September. The Board received great response and input from multiple agencies in the development of the report. The Board unanimously approved the document at their August 30, 2006 meeting. President Michelini believes that the CMAP is moving in the right direction, and the agency's new name – Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning – is reflective of CMAP's role in the northeastern Illinois area.

F. CMAP (CATS/NIPC) Report

Janet Bright indicated that there was no report beyond the information provided in Mayor Schielke's COM Executive Committee Summary and President Michelini's CMAP Report.

G. Transportation Improvement Program Update

IDOT Program Report

Roger Valente provided an updated Management Monitoring Schedule, which indicated changes in the program since the Council's May 2006 meeting. Mr. Valente discussed each of the changes. Following his presentation, members inquired about the Illinois 47 bridge over I-88, which Mr. Valente clarified was strictly a rehabilitation project of the existing structure. Mr. Valente also addressed questions about the Illinois 56 and Kirk project, indicating that KDOT was the project lead and it was on target for a June 2007 construction letting. He concluded by stating that IDOT would begin the next MYB process within the next two months. The funding marks, not yet received, along with a review of the status of all projects currently in the program will dictate future programming decisions.

Illinois Tollway Report

Bunny Anderson provided summary sheets detailing current Tollway activities. Of particular interest to the Council was the I-88 rebuilding and widening improvement project from Washington to Finley. In conjunction with this project, the Naperville Road interchange improvement will start soon. Ms. Anderson also highlighted the Tollway's Open Toll Plazas program and the I-355 project, which is on budget and on schedule for opening in late 2007. Members inquired about the I-88 widening project from Farnsworth to Orchard Road. An update on the status of this project is not yet available, but it will be included in future Tollway reports to the Full Council and also posted on the agency's website.

RTA Report

At the May 2006 Full Council meeting, Andy Plummer introduced the RTA's strategic planning effort, Moving Beyond Congestion. Mr. Plummer indicated that the agency is still recruiting Partners in Transit to help with the sharing and collecting of information. To date, only three local governments in the Council area have committed to being partners in the process: Kane County, Aurora Township, and the Village of Gilberts. Mr. Plummer encouraged members to become involved in the process. He distributed sign-up sheets, and also indicated that interested parties could sign-up on the RTA's website. A resolution template is also being developed and will be available soon.

Metra Report

No report.

Pace Budget Report

Sue Rushing reported that Pace has submitted their 2007 budget to the RTA. Funding marks have not yet been received, but are expected mid-September. The 2007 budget operating expenses will exceed the 2006 budget primarily due to the high cost of diesel fuel. System revenues will finish \$3.3 million unfavorable in the 2006 budget largely due to Pace's acceptance of CTA's 7-day/visitor/U-pass. RTA has capped reimbursement to Pace at \$2.0 million for acceptance of these passes resulting in the loss. Pace proposes a \$165 million suburban service budget for 2007. For 2007, a majority of 5307 funding will support operations due to a lack of adequate operating funds. A backlog of capital needs is growing as Pace has deferred capital investments since 2003 due to shortfalls in operating financial assistance. Pace expects to fund a limited capital program in 2007 largely based on CMAW and discretionary grants. The proposed capital program includes paratransit vehicles, vanpool vehicles, and traffic signal priority projects. Effective July 1, 2006 Pace assumed operation of paratransit service for the entire region, making Pace's paratransit system one of the largest in the nation. The Kane County budget hearing will be held on Tuesday, October 23, 2006 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium at the Kane County Government Center.

Kendall County Report

No report.

Kane County Report

Manny Gomez provided the following project updates: 1) Design Approval for the Stearns Road Bridge Corridor Environmental Mitigation expected in November, 2) Anderson Road Phase I expected in December 2007, 3) McLean Boulevard ROW issues are under review and staff is working on developing new construction options, 4) IL 56 at Kirk Road comprehensive plans were submitted in August with a June 2007 target letting, 5) Orchard at Jericho has a November 11 target letting, 6) Randall at Illinois 64 Stage 1 construction is on target for completion in Fall 2006, Stage 2 will commence next Fall, and 7) Kirk at Illinois 38 has run into unexpected utility delays, possibly delaying Stage 1 completion until next year.

Municipal Reports

Sue McLaughlin reported that the Village of North Aurora will likely closeout the Illinois Route 25 and 56 intersection project very soon by accepting the water main.

V. Other Business

A. Local Agency Federal Flexible Match (FFM) Program

Chairman Schielke referred to the handout detailing the proposed program. There are some benefits, but it might negatively impact the total amount of federal money available to locals. Council Director Rickert indicated that the CMAP Work Program Committee has discouraged IDOT from moving forward with the program due to the potentially damaging funding outcomes.

VI. Next Meeting

The Full Council is on-call for the next meeting, likely to occur in late 2006/early 2007.

VII. Adjournment

Carl Schoedel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 p.m., seconded by Joe Evers. The motion passed unanimously.