

**Transportation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 7, 2007 - 9:00 A.M.
McHenry County Division of Transportation
Main Conference Room
16111 Nelson Road
Woodstock, Illinois 60098**

Chairman Dan Shea
Vice Chairman Ed Dvorak Mary Lou Zierer
Virginia Peschke Lyn Orphal
Sandra Salgado Anna May Miller

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Shea called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Dan Shea, Ed Dvorak, Sandra Salgado and Virginia Peschke

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Notified absences: Lyn Orphal, Anna May Miller and Mary Lou Zierer

Chairman Shea advised that Ms. Zierer is "on the mend," but would not be attending today's meeting.

Also unable to attend today's meeting were Ms. Miller who was ill and Ms. Orphal who has become a grandmother.

OTHER ATTENDEES

In attendance were: Ken Koehler, Chairman County Board; Peter Austin, County Administrator; James Kennedy, McHenry County Board; Joseph Korpalski, Director of Transportation/County Engineer; Jeff Young, Division of Transportation Assistant County Engineer; Jamie Rein, State's Attorney Office; Mark Mathewson, Mathewson Right of Way Company; Joe Murawski, Village of Lake in the Hills Trustee; Chris Manheim, McHenry County Economic Development Corporation (EDC); Mark DeVries, Division of Transportation Maintenance Superintendent; Jason Osborn, Division of Transportation Principal Transportation Planner; Brad Cousin, Division of Transportation Traffic Engineer; Ray Beets, Division of Transportation Permit and Developer Project Mgr.; Holly Ostdick, Planning Liaison; Debra Kroll, Division of Transportation Administrative Specialist.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Chris Manheim, EDC, representing Charles Eldredge, presented the following items:

- o The Special RTA Task Force met last week regarding an opportunity for the RTA to recommence where McHenry County ended with recently conducted surveys and focus groups that will begin sometime in March, April and May. The RTA will endeavor to procure a comprehensive regional plan parallel to McHenry County's plan.
- o The Transportation and Development Committees are researching the prospect of the incorporation of a faction, fashioned after the City of Rockford's Lobbying Committee. Also the committee will be working on Regional programs, which include "JARC" (Job Access Reverse Commute) and "New Freedom."

Mr. Peter Austin followed up regarding Mr. Manheim's comment about the City of Rockford, stating that Mr. Koehler and he met last week with Congressman Manzullo staff and suggested that McHenry County follow the lead of Winnebago County with a public/private partnership in working with the Rockford Chamber and Winnebago County businesses and governments, in lobbying for more transportation dollars.

Chairman Shea cited a newspaper article stating that Wisconsin wants to establish a Metra train connection from Milwaukee to Kenosha, which would require the purchase of equipment. Chairman Shea questioned why an agreement with Metra couldn't be coordinated, for an extension that would utilize the same equipment.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 17, 2006 MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Dvorak, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the January 17, 2006 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

A vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING THE COUNTY ENGINEER

Mr. Peter Austin, County Administrator stated that the reappointment of Mr. Korpalski is an important step. Mr. Austin recommended that the contract move forward, so that the County can position themselves for the next six (6) years to continue the successes the County has experienced with Mr. Korpalski as the County Engineer.

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Mr. Dvorak, the resolution reappointing the County Engineer was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

BID APPROVAL

Resolution Approving the Purchase of Maintenance Equipment

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution approving the purchase of a four yard wheel loader for the Division of Transportation Maintenance section.

This was included in the FY2006/2007 budget for the Division.

Bids were received on July 12, 2006 by the Kane County Division of Transportation. The McHenry County Director of Purchasing reviewed the bids received from five (5) different vendors. The low bid meeting the Kane County and the McHenry County specifications was a base price of \$151,947.00. Additional equipment required for the McHenry County Division of Transportation altered the purchase price to \$156,660.00. The Director of Purchasing has recommended the award of this bid for a 2007 four yard wheel loader. The Division is receiving a 2007 wheel loader at the 2006 price, which the vendor is willing to honor.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke seconded by Ms. Salgado, the resolution approving the purchase of maintenance equipment was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR ANNUAL STRIPING PAINT

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution allowing participation in the State purchase for roadway striping paint for FY2007.

Bids are opened and accepted by the State of Illinois and the County can participate through the State Purchase Program. This is an annual item that needs to be bid and is funded through the Motor Fuel Tax fund.

The State Purchase plan was identified this year. The use of the State Purchase plan was initiated two (2) years ago. Past experience was that the County bidding the materials yielded higher bid prices than those received by the State. This is due to the large quantities of materials that the State of Illinois bids for this program and thus is very competitive and in turn, more economical for McHenry County to participate in the State of Illinois bid.

On a motion by Mr. Dvorak, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the resolution appropriating funds for the annual striping paint was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR ANNUAL GLASS BEAD MATERIALS

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution allowing participation in the State purchase for glass beads for traffic paint for FY2007.

Bids are opened and accepted by the State of Illinois and the County can participate through the State Purchase Program. This is an annual item that needs to be bid and is funded through the Motor Fuel Tax fund.

The State purchase plan was identified this year. The State Purchase plan has been used for the last two (2) years. Past experience with the County bidding was that the materials yielded higher bid prices than those received by the State. This is due to the large quantities of materials that the State of Illinois bids for this program and thus is very competitive and in turn, more economical for McHenry County to participate in the State of Illinois bid.

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Mr. Dvorak, the resolution appropriating funds for the annual striping paint and glass bead materials was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

RESOLUTION APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL ENGINEERING AGREEMENT

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of this resolution endorsing a supplemental design engineering contract with Ciorba Group, Inc. for the improvement project at the Harmony Road / US 20 intersection.

Ciorba Group was directed by staff to update the project plan and specifications to meet all pertinent Illinois Department of Transportation criteria for bidding the project for the 2007 construction season. The other component performed by Ciorba was to perform additional engineering and design.

The reason for the additional work was to allow for design revisions to avoid a conflict with a NICOR gas main, which is within County right-of-way located in private easement, which NICOR owns (cost to relocate would be \$50,000.00). This would allow for new submittals, due to a time lag between previous submittals which occurred while waiting for environmental clearances. Also included in this task is additional work required for wetland mitigation due to the extension of the project limits.

The anticipated cost of construction for this project is \$1.4 million. The project is anticipated to begin construction in the fall of 2007 or spring of 2008.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the resolution approving a supplemental engineering agreement was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS

Old Business

None

New Business

Presentations – Alden Road Bridge Replacement

TranSystems and Division staff will be discussing the current status of the Alden Road bridge replacement project. The intent is that after the presentation today, the Committee will be able to provide concurrence to the Division, bringing the project forward to a Public Hearing.

Brief Summary of Status:

- The project was initiated in 2003.
- The project was delayed 18 to 24 months, due to environmental concerns (none of which were ever substantiated).
- Sign-offs from the appropriate review agencies were received late in the fall of 2006. These environmental sign-offs are necessary to obtain concurrence from the FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) to present the project at a Public Hearing.
- After the Public Hearing, Design Approval is anticipated within four (4) months. Phase II will then commence within another six (6) months. Construction start is anticipated in 2009.

The project includes the bridge as well as the remainder of Alden Road in Alden. Knowing that major impacts will affect the town during the replacement of the bridge, in conjunction with the fact that severe pavement problems encompass all of Alden Road, the McHenry County Division of Transportation desires to complete all necessary repairs at one time to lessen impacts of reconstructing Alden Road. Federal dollars will help fund 80% of the bridge replacement and the remainder of the project (Alden Road in town) will be handled through County funds.

Todd Bright of TranSystems highlighted the following topics:

- Existing conditions
- Purpose and need
- Proposed improvements
- Property impacts
- Maintenance of traffic during construction
- Schedule

On a motion by Mr. Dvorak, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the committee offered their consensus to bring the project forward to a Public Hearing.

A vote was taken with all members present voting “aye”; motion carried.

Proposed CMAQ Applications

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff would like to make the committee aware of two (2) funding applications for the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) program. The Division of Transportation staff has prepared and submitted applications for a grade separated crossing of the prairie path at Rakow Road and a Park-N-Ride lot at Virginia Road and Illinois Route 31 for funding. Staff found a grade separated crossing of the prairie path at Rakow Road to not only increase safety of users, but also improvement of traffic flow. If the crossing remains at grade, that could affect the timing of the signal. The estimated cost for construction is between \$800,000.00 and \$900,000.00. This project will necessitate a 20% local match and the Division of Transportation staff is currently working with the McHenry County Conservation District to determine cost sharing numbers for the local match.

Staff additionally applied for a Park-N-Ride lot at the intersection of Illinois Route 31 and Virginia Road. The intersection will be re-aligned per the Western Algonquin Bypass study and excess land will be available. The Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) has completed a feasibility study and Phase I engineering for various locations throughout Chicagoland to implement Park-N-Ride lots. Virginia Road at Illinois Route 31 is one (1) location that was part of that study. CATS is in full support of the Division's application and commends the County on taking the lead as no other agency has initiated the construction of any Park-N-Ride lot identified in the study. The cost for Phase II engineering and construction is estimated at \$300,000.00 to

\$400,000.00. There will be no local match for this project. Some long term items are still to be determined regarding this project, such as maintenance.

CMAQ is an annual Federal funding opportunity administered through CATS. It is used to benefit the air quality throughout the region.

Chairman Shea commended Mr. Osborn and Ms. Ostdick on the excellent job executed in compiling comments and data for the request from the State for a review of an Interchange and Roadway Cost Sharing Policy that was issued by the Illinois Tollway. The Division received the packet January 10, 2007 which the Illinois Tollway needed comments back by January 17, 2007.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Minutes, Property Acquisitions and Pending Litigation

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the meeting went into Executive Session at 9:50 A.M.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”; motion carried.

REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Mr. Dvorak, the meeting went into Regular Session at 10:22 A.M.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”; motion carried.

Chairman Shea noted that “no action was taken” in Executive Session.

NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION

9:00 A.M. on February 21, 2007 – McHenry County Division of Transportation

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 A.M.

A vote was taken with all members present voting “aye”; motion carried.