

**Transportation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 18, 2007 - 9:00 A.M.
McHenry County Division of Transportation
Main Conference Room
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, Virginia Peschke, Lyn Orphal, Anna May Miller, Sandra Salgado and Mary Lou Zierer

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

None

OTHER ATTENDEES

In attendance were: Kenneth Koehler, County Board Chairman; Peter Austin, County Administrator; Joseph Korpalski, Director of Transportation/County Engineer; Paula Yensen, Village of Lake in the Hills Trustee; Jake Smallhorn, Legislative Aide to State Representative Jack Franks; Bob Rollings, Bollinger, Lach & Associates, Inc.; Charles Eldredge, McHenry County EDC; Bill Geegan, Village of Huntley; Gary Overbay, Civiltech Engineering; David Stone, State's Attorney Office; Mark Mathewson, MROWCO; Ray Harris, Teng & Associates; Brian Smith, CTE Engineers; Julie Hoberg and John Lazzara, HDR Engineering; Regan Foster, Northwest Herald Newspaper; Veronica Armstrong, County resident; Wawanna Widoff, County resident; Jeff Young, Division of Transportation Assistant County Engineer; Mark DeVries, Division of Transportation Maintenance Superintendent; Ed Markison, Division of Transportation Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; Walter Dittrich, Division of Transportation Design Manager; Cha Lee, Division of Transportation Consultant Project/Design Engineer; Mark Dammyer, Division of Transportation Construction Manager; Ken Baker, Division of Transportation Township Engineer; Jason Osborn, Division of Transportation Principal Transportation Planner; Glen Lindsey, Division of Transportation Utility Coordinator and Debra Kroll, Division of Transportation Administrative Specialist.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Ms. Yensen, Village of Lake in the Hills Trustee is the new Liaison replacing Mr. Murawski. Ms. Yensen advised her new assignment is to be the Liaison for the Village with the Transportation Committee and is looking forward to attending future Transportation Committee meetings.
- Ms. Foster of the Northwest Herald Newspaper introduced herself as the reporter that would now be covering the McHenry County.
- Ms. Armstrong, County resident stated that on May 22, 2007 she attended the Village of Prairie Grove open meeting regarding the Wild Flowers of Prairie Grove, which at one time was the Terra Cotta project. The contractor announced at the meeting that traffic signals would be installed at Half Mile Trail and Illinois Route 31, at Ames Road and Illinois Route 31, and at Gracy Road and Illinois Route 31. Ms. Armstrong discussed signalization and the realignment of Ames Road that will connect to Edgewood Road. She stated that since Edgewood Road is the only road that connects Walkup Road to

Illinois Route 31 between Illinois Route 176 and Bull Valley Road, there should be signalization at Edgewood Road and Berry Court with Walkup Road.

- Ms. Wawanna Widoff, County resident wanted to express her thanks to the Committee, County Board members, and the public for the repudiation of a new gravel pit in her community.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 6, 2007

On a motion by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. Dvorak, the June 6, 2007 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

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

BID APPROVAL

Resolution Awarding a Contract for Building Demolition

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of the resolution approving bids received for the demolition of one (1) home for the Illinois Route 31 Western Algonquin Bypass improvement project.

At the February 21, 2007 Transportation Committee meeting, the Committee gave staff direction to move forward with the demolition at the County’s expense.

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is the lead agency for the land acquisition for the Western Algonquin Bypass project. IDOT purchased the property at 438 West Algonquin Road which contains one (1) residence. IDOT requested that the MCDOT take over the demolition of the home to assist with the expeditious removal of the structure for public safety purposes. IDOT did pay for an asbestos survey, which determined there was no asbestos present within the home. The home has been purchased and vacated.

MCDOT staff will oversee the completion of the demolition.

On a motion by Mr. Dvorak, seconded by Ms. Miller, the resolution approving the award of contract to Excavating Concepts for building demolition purposes 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 FY2007-2011 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution approving the FY2007-2011 Highway Improvement Program (HIP).

The Division of Transportation has monitored project cost estimates and project needs for the last year and has prepared this 5-year HIP. This is an annual process required by the Illinois Department of Transportation as part of the County’s agreement of understanding and is guided by the County’s 2020 Long Range Transportation Plan. Extensive planning over the last year has occurred resulting in this 5-year plan accompanied with the issuance of bonds for transportation needs.

The FY2007-2011 HIP includes over \$167 million in expenditures for twenty-two (22) bridge replacements, eight (8) intersection improvements, six (6) add lanes projects, two (2) new road/road extension projects, and three (3) roadway reconstruction projects.

Mr. Osborn provided background on the HIP.

Staff first looked at revenue and expenses and focused a lot of time on the cost estimates for all projects in the program for the previous year. As costs have risen substantially over the past few years, reports indicate that this trend will continue. This was accounted for in the program.

Based on the four (4) major funds, without a new funding source, the program would fall extremely low with funding causing projects to be pushed back or even dropped from the program.

By evaluating this problem, a bond was considered to bring projects to fruition and address the present funding concerns. This bond of \$50,000,000.00 will allow the 5-year HIP to be attainable.

There was one (1) key assumption in which Randall Road (approximately \$60-\$80 million) receives 80% Federal funding.

Staff has started on next year's program and will be revisiting trends and cost assumptions.

Chairman Shea added that we are very conservative on our future money from MFT and the County Option fund, both of which are taxes on gasoline. He stated that additional funding options are being looked into such as 0.25% sales tax not only for the RTA but for the County as well.

On a motion by Ms. Orphal, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the resolution approving the FY2007-2011 Highway Improvement Program was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation for income and expenditures to be used for accounting purposes to facilitate the use of the \$50,000,000.00 debt certificates that was issued July 9, 2007. The remaining expenditures for various MCDOT projects and programs for FY2007 can be expensed through the debt certificates. Such components include land acquisition, engineering and construction.

This resolution will enable the \$50,000,000.00 debt certificates to begin to be spent.

On a motion by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. Dvorak, the resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation 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 AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the authorization of the resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Illinois Department of Transportation to use federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds for the purposes of constructing a westbound right turn lane at the Algonquin Road and Lakewood Road intersection.

Through the efforts being undertaken as part of the crash database, the intersection of Algonquin Road and Lakewood Road was identified as an intersection with a high number of accidents. Upon further study, it became evident that a great amount (60%) of the crashes were rear-end type crashes occurring on the east leg of the intersection as vehicles slowed to make right turns onto Lakewood Road. An application was sent on February 10, 2006 for HSIP funds for the construction of a right turn lane at this intersection as part of the Algonquin Road widening project. Since that time, IDOT has notified the MCDOT of the award of funds (\$130,000.00) of which \$13,000.00 or 10% have been previously allocated as part of the Algonquin Road widening project.

The construction of this work is anticipated to be complete by fall of 2007. As part of the grant application, the County will monitor crashes at this location and provide annual statistics to IDOT.

On a motion by Ms. Orphal, seconded by Mr. Dvorak, the authorization of the resolution approving an intergovernmental agreement with the State of Illinois 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 AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF HUNTLEY

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the authorization of the resolution approving the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Village of Huntley outlining the cost participation for the installation of a traffic signal at the Algonquin Road intersection with Haligus Road.

The Village of Huntley is in the process of constructing the extension of Haligus Road from Algonquin Road north to Reed Road to improve the regional mobility of the traveling public. Haligus Road will then be a continuous roadway from Illinois Route 176 south to Kreutzer Road parallel to Illinois Route 47. The Village of Huntley conducted a Phase I study for the new extension and determined that a traffic signal was warranted at the Algonquin Road intersection with Haligus Road upon the completion of the extension. As part of the Village's project, temporary traffic signals will be installed at the Village's expense, until the McHenry County Division of Transportation can complete Phase II (Illinois Route 47 east to Lakewood Road) of the widening and reconstruction of Algonquin Road.

On a motion by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the authorization of the resolution approving an intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Huntley was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING TURN RESTRICTION IN RICHMOND TOWNSHIP

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution supporting the restriction of southbound left turns on Illinois Route 31 at West Solon Road in Richmond Township.

In an effort to improve the safety for the traveling public, State Representative Jack Franks, the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Richmond Township Road Commissioner have come to an agreement to restrict the southbound left turn movement from Illinois Route 31 to West Solon Road during weekdays from 2:30 to 3:30 P.M. The purpose is to divert high school traffic from Richmond-Burton High School that desire to access US Route 12 to travel north to US Route 12 via Illinois Route 31 instead of using the West Solon Road intersection with US Route 12.

IDOT has requested this support from the County as the area is located in an unincorporated area. The Township has already passed the resolution supporting this restriction.

On a motion by Ms. Orphal, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the resolution supporting a turn restriction in Richmond Township was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

Mr. Eldredge of the McHenry County Economic Development Corporation informed the committee of a petition for annexation northeast of the intersection proposing a two hundred (200) home sub-division, which would not have direct access to Illinois Route 31.

Discussions ensued.

Jake Smallhorn, Legislative Aide to State Representative Jack Franks, was asked about this issue and referenced a letter from Representative Jack Franks to the Division of Transportation

regarding this situation, but added that he was strictly an observer at this meeting and did not want to speak on behalf of Representative Jack Franks.

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

RESOLUTION AMENDING A COUNTY HIGHWAY PAVEMENT PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

Mr. Dammyer noted that this was the second time that staff has come before the Committee requesting additional funding for the Pavement Preservation program. Staff would like to illustrate for the Committee where the program is at, the budgeted and expended amounts at this point in time, and that we are still working within budget.

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution amending a County Highway Pavement Preservation and Maintenance contract for FY2007 (crack sealing program).

As work progressed on that contract it became apparent that the quantities estimated were too low to complete all of the roads included in the program. Staff is asking for an additional \$75,000.00 to the contract value to allow a proper level of crack sealing to be accomplished on all 23.25 miles of County Highway included in the initial contract.

Cracks were physically counted and quantities were determined last fall. The freeze/thaw cycles were very tough on pavements last winter and many additional cracks developed in the pavements. Future programs will include multipliers to address this increased cracking experienced. We observed very good results during the winter on the roads crack sealed last summer with very little to no frost heaving on those roads compared to untreated pavements. We therefore consider this additional work to be a well timed and cost effective investment in pavement preservation on the County Highway system. The budget impact is still within our appropriated amount for the entire program, basically because our paving program came in at less than what was estimated last fall.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Miller, the resolution amending a County highway pavement preservation and maintenance contract was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

The report was discussed.

OLD BUSINESS

Randall Road Phase I

Mr. Dittrich stated that earlier this year Phase I Preliminary Engineering for the Randall Road project was started. He noted that HDR Engineering Inc. will be conducting a brief presentation today on the status of the project.

Mr. Lazzara of HDR Engineering Inc. reported that the Randall Road Improvement Study extends from County Line Road to Ackman Road. Meetings with the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration and the coordination with those agencies has resulted in a categorical exclusion for the project have been held because there are not a lot of significant environmental impacts expected for the project.

The Phase I project process was discussed along with the goals and objectives of the expanded public involvement program, major project tasks, related projects in the area and the schedule.

The County Division of Transportation information contact person for this project will be Mr. Walter Dittrich, Division of Transportation Design Manager.

There will be a Public Meeting on July 25, 2007 from 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Crystal Lake South High School cafeteria at 1200 South McHenry Avenue in Crystal Lake.

The website has been developed and is now active which is www.randallroad.info

NEW BUSINESS

It was noted that a County aerial view map requested by Committee members was provided by Mr. Robin Pendergrass of RFP Photography.

McHenry County Senior Services Grant

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff made the committee aware of a funding application for the 2008 McHenry County Senior Services Grant Fund program. Staff has drafted and has shared a draft application with members of the Transit Plan Implementation Task Force to fund \$375,000.00 in coordination costs and additional transportation services for seniors in McHenry County. Staff, working with consultants and Pace, has estimated that this amount of funding could provide roughly an additional fifty (50) dedicated transit rides for seniors in the County during the week and one hundred forty-five (145) on Saturdays. This will roughly double the amount of transit rides provided each year for seniors in McHenry County. Coordinating the various senior transportation providers in the County through the use of a single call and dispatch center lays the foundation for coordinating the various municipal dial-a-ride programs and is therefore consistent with the County's Transit Plan.

The application will be made by the McHenry County Division of Transportation on behalf of the Implementation Task Force. In this manner, the Division of Transportation can track the use of the funds and Pace will provide the central call and dispatch center as well as additional vehicles as needed for this effort.

The Senior Services Grant Fund has approximately \$1.5 million dollars each year to award; \$375,000.00 is the maximum amount possible for a single grant application (15% of the \$1.5 million). The maximum amount possible is being sought at this time in anticipation of the coordinated senior transportation services being successful at attracting new riders.

Mr. Osborn conducted a brief presentation for the committee on the Senior Services Grant.

Discussions ensued and questions were asked regarding the restricted (seniors) population riders. The Committee concurred with the application desiring it to move forward.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Property Acquisitions and Pending Litigation

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Miller, the meeting went into Executive Session at 10:20 A.M.

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

Ms. Salgado left the meeting at 10:26 A.M. and Ms. Miller left the meeting at 11:20 A.M.

REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Orphal, the meeting went into Regular Session at 11:26 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 August 1, 2007 – McHenry County Division of Transportation

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Orphal, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

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

APPROVED