

**Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 16, 2010 – 8:15 A.M.
McHenry County Division of Transportation
Main Conference Room
Woodstock, Illinois 60098**

Chairperson Anna May Miller
Ed Dvorak Paula Yensen
Virginia Peschke Daniel Ryan
Sandra Salgado Scott Breeden

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Dvorak called the meeting to order at 8:15 A.M.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Paula Yensen, Scott Breeden, Sandra Salgado, Ed Dvorak, Daniel Ryan and Virginia Peschke

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Chairperson Miller

OTHER ATTENDEES

In attendance were: Joe Korpalski, Director of Transportation/County Engineer; Jeff Young, Assistant County Engineer; Wally Dittrich, Division of Transportation, Design Manager; Cynthia Schaupp, SAO/Division of Transportation Liaison; Mark Mathewson, MROWCO; Rick Mack, Community Affairs Manager for Metra; John Milano, Metra; Joe Gottemoller, Metra legal counsel; Kevin Harder, H. R. Green Company; John Ambrose, Baxter & Woodman, Inc.; Robert Rollings, Bollinger, Lach & Associates, Inc. (BLA); Charles Eldredge, McHenry County Economic Development Corporation; Julie Hoberg, HDR; Brian Smith, AECOM; Glenn Schirmer, Chastain & Assocs.; Brad Anderson, EEI; Mary Moltmann and Kevin Keesee, Fleming Road Alliance; Diane Evertsen, resident; Mark DeVries, Division of Transportation, Maintenance Superintendent; Ed Markison, Division of Transportation, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; Loren Schmitt, Division of Transportation, Road Supervisor; Dave Dhom and Scott Dunker, Division of Transportation, Maintenance workers; Mark Dammyer, Division of Transportation, Construction Manager; Jason Osborn, Division of Transportation, Principal Transportation Planner; Ray Beets, Division of Transportation, Permit/Developer Project Manager; Chalen Daigle, Planning Liaison; Debra Kroll, Division of Transportation, Administrative Specialist.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mary Moltmann, Fleming Road Alliance (FRA) reported that Ms. Lisa Rhodes and Mr. Kevin Keesee have been selected as the representatives to the Citizens Advisory Group by the FRA; Mr. Ed Bennet and Ms. Moltmann will serve as alternate representatives.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – May 19, 2010

On a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the meeting minutes of May 19, 2010 were approved as presented.

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

PRESENTATIONS

Ridgefield Metra Station

Mr. Rick Mack of Metra discussed the proposed Ridgefield Metra Station, with focal points on four (4) new start projects, the process, the project purpose, ridership distribution, as well as improvements and upgrades. The proposed station is part of Metra's plan to upgrade its Union Pacific Northwest Line, which runs from Harvard to Chicago. The plan calls for new stations in Ridgefield, Johnsburg, Prairie Grove and the east side of Woodstock, as well as new rail yards in Johnsburg and Woodstock.

Also discussed were the site location and the concept plan.

Mr. Kevin Harder of SEC Group/the H. R. Green Company the engineering consultant for Metra, reviewed storm water management, traffic information, and existing traffic volumes.

After further discussions and questions, the Committee's direction to the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) was to move forward with discussions with Metra officials, developing an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) which determines and identifies improvements, upgrades and assessment of cost accountability for the Ridgefield station location.

Long Range Transportation Plan

McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff informed the Committee that the MCDOT is prepared to undertake an update of the County's Long Range Transportation Plan and went on to explain staffs' proposed process and noted that this was an excellent time to re-evaluate priorities, re-evaluate available dollars and to take a look at economic conditions. The desire is to contract with a consultant to help develop and implement the public involvement process.

The plan is to follow a fair and open process that will be undertaken professionally with great deference given to stakeholders. The plan process must demonstrate the competence of the MCDOT and other transportation agencies to maintain and improve the transportation infrastructure in the County, while being good stewards of tax payer dollars.

MCDOT staff further explained the next steps needed to be taken:

- Request for Proposals / Qualifications will be presented to the Committee before posting
- Anticipate Interviews and Consultant Selection
- Public Participation / Involvement Plan
- First Public Meetings
- Two (2) to Three (3) Year Process

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CRYSTAL LAKE PARK DISTRICT FOR A SHARED-USE PATH ALONG WALKUP ROAD

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of a resolution approving an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Crystal Lake Park District for the construction and maintenance of a shared-use path along Walkup Road.

Walkup Road will be widened from its current two (2) lanes to three (3) lanes with additional turn lanes and traffic signals at selected intersections. The project also includes a 10-foot wide shared-use path from Illinois Route 176 to Pleasant Hill Road. The path will provide a link between Downtown Crystal Lake, Veteran Acres Park, access to the McHenry County Conservation District's trail network, the residential areas along Walkup Road and Prairie Ridge High School.

During Phase I Preliminary Engineering, it was determined that adjacent to Veteran Acres Park, additional right-of-way would be required to construct the shared-use path. Through coordination with the Park District, it was agreed that an easement would be granted to the MCDOT to construct the path. Also coordinated with the design was the avoidance of the large oak trees. To reduce the impacts to the oak trees, a retaining wall will be built on the park for the path. Per the agreement, the MCDOT will maintain in perpetuity the structural retaining wall, while the Park District shall maintain the path itself along and within Veteran Acres Park. There is no cost to the County for the easement or the Park District for the construction of the path per this agreement. This agreement has been reviewed and approved by the McHenry County State's Attorney (SAO).

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the resolution approving an intergovernmental agreement with the Crystal Lake Park District for a shared-use path along Walkup Road 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 MCHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A PRAIRIE TRAIL BRIDGE OVER JAMES R. RAKOW ROAD

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of the resolution approving the intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the McHenry County Conservation District (MCCD) for the construction, maintenance, and funding of a Prairie Trail bridge for the County's Rakow Road project as well as associated exchanges of right-of-way controlled by both agencies for the construction of the road and bike bridge.

The MCDOT and the MCCD were able to secure \$856,000.00 in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding for the construction of a grade separated bike path over Rakow Road, just east of Pyott Road. This partnership will create a safer environment for vehicles using Rakow Road, as well as users of the MCCD's Prairie Trail, who will not have to cross seven (7) lanes of traffic on Rakow Road. The IGA stipulates that the MCCD will fund half of the cost of the local match required to obtain the CMAQ funding in the amount of \$42,800.00. The agreement also states that the MCCD will be responsible for ownership and maintenance of the bike bridge in perpetuity and transfers MCCD owned land along Rakow Road to the MCDOT at no cost for the construction of Rakow Road and the bike bridge. In addition, the MCDOT will convey at no cost to the MCCD, land purchased by the MCDOT to facilitate the Prairie Trail connection to the old railroad right-of-way where the bridge is being constructed.

The IGA has been prepared by the MCCD based on the IGA's for similar projects and meets the requirements of the MCDOT. The agreement has been reviewed and approved by the McHenry County State's Attorney Office (SAO). The funds for the construction of Rakow Road have already been appropriated via a separate resolution approved by the County Board and corresponding IGA with IDOT.

On a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the resolution approving an intergovernmental agreement with the McHenry County Conservation District for construction of a Prairie Trail bridge for the County's Rakow Road project was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE ILLINOIS ROUTE 47 CORRIDOR STUDY AND SUPPORTING FUTURE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE HIGHWAY

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff is requesting the approval of the resolution endorsing the Illinois Route 47 Corridor Study and supporting future efforts to improve the highway.

Illinois Route 47 is a Strategic Regional Arterial (SRA) and is part of the National Highway System. It is the central commuter and trucking route in the County. The MCDOT, the Kane County Division of Transportation, and the City of Woodstock had all applied in 2007 for an Illinois Tomorrow Grant to study the highway. The State of Illinois decided to award a grant if the three (3) agencies combined their applications into one (1) contract. After a few meetings, an agreement was reached in November 2007 and Kane County took the lead on the study. McHenry County paid \$10,111.00 for this effort.

This resolution will communicate to our local, State, and Federal partners that the County supports local, State, and Federal efforts to make improvements to Illinois Route 47.

In particular, this resolution will be useful to show the County's support for an effort underway to make improvements in the City of Woodstock in order to relieve the traffic bottleneck related to the Woodstock railroad overpass and intersection traffic operations.

It was noted that this project is posted on the Kane County Department of Transportation's website for public informational purposes.

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the resolution endorsing the Illinois Route 47 corridor study and supporting future efforts to improve the highway was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING, EXECUTING, AND FILING APPLICATIONS FOR JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE, NEW FREEDOM, AND SUB-REGIONAL PLANNING GRANTS WITH THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff is requesting the Committee's concurrence for execution and filing of applications for three (3) Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Federal grants for two (2) projects: the McHenry County Service Integration and Coordination and the McHenry County Services Restructuring Study. In total \$1.7 million in Federal grants are being sought. To use these funds the County's local share amount is estimated at \$400,000.00. The County is seeking the full Federal amount allowed in the Job Access Reverse Commute Program (JARC) and the New Freedom Initiative Grant (50% of eligible costs), and the Sub-regional Planning Grant Program (80% of costs).

JARC grants are aimed at improving job access and reverse commute opportunities through transit operations. New Freedom grants are aimed at improving general mobility throughout a region through transit operations in particular improving mobility for disabled individuals. The Sub-regional Planning Grant is designed to study transit operations as part of a larger comprehensive effort such as the County's long-range transportation effort.

These grant application concepts were presented to the Transportation Committee, the Finance and Audit Committee, County Administration, and the County Board.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the resolution authorizing, executing, and filing applications for Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC), New Freedom, and Sub-Regional Planning grants with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of the resolution approving the inclusion of the identified groups into the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) Adopt-A-Highway Program.

Integrated Security Spec. new group	Ackman Road from Lakewood Road to Swanson Road
The Plote Companies new group	Rakow Road from Pyott Road to Pingree Road
All Four Wheels Driving School new group	Rakow Road from Pyott Road to McHenry Avenue

In order to augment the MCDOT's litter collection efforts, the County enacted an Ordinance to allow for volunteer groups to adopt various sections of highways for litter collection. With the approval of these agreements, the MCDOT has 127 groups enrolled in the program covering 134 centerline miles of the 214 available miles in the program which is roughly 63%.

The ordinance requires that the volunteer groups enter into an agreement with McHenry County defining the responsibilities of the group and the County. This resolution approves the County to enter into an agreement with three (3) groups for three (3) sections of highway.

On a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the resolution approving the inclusion of the three (3) identified groups into the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) Adopt-A-Highway Program was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Construction updates on County projects were provided by MCDOT staff:

Fleming Road update was provided by MCDOT staff:

- A Fleming Road Advisory Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 22, 2010 at the McHenry County Division of Transportation at 9:00 A.M. This committee is comprised of seventeen (17) members/groups.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- **APWA Chicago Metro Chapter Loader Competition** – Mr. Scott Dunker, Division of Transportation, Sign Shop employee took 3rd place at the APWA Rodeo Truck and Loader competition. Mr. Dunker will be recognized at the APWA Chicago Metro Chapter celebration in December. Congratulations were offered by all.
- **Staff Recognition-** Mr. Dave Dhom, Division of Transportation, Road Crew employee was recognized for 25 years of service to MCDOT and the County. Mr. DeVries noted Mr. Dhom's accomplishments and congratulations were offered by all.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Land Acquisition, Meeting Minutes, and Pending Litigation

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the Committee went into Executive Session at 9:35 A.M. to discuss land acquisition, pending litigation and to review meeting minutes.

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

REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the Committee went into Regular Session at 10:13 A.M.

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

Ms. Salgado noted that “no action” was taken in Executive Session.

The Executive Session Meeting minutes of May 19, 2010 were reviewed and by direction of the Committee will be forwarded to the State's Attorney Office (SAO) for review and release.

MEMBER COMMENTS

None

NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION

8:15 A.M. on July 7, 2010 – McHenry County Division of Transportation

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the meeting adjourned at 10:14 A.M.

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