



KANE COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS

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

MAYOR JEFFERY D. SCHIELKE, Council Chairman
THOMAS B. RICKERT, Council Director
HEATHER TABBERT, Regional Planning Liaison

The Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee Of the Kane County Council of Mayors

January 6, 2005
Minutes

In attendance:

Chris Tiedt	Civil Engineer I	City of St. Charles
Karen Miller	Planner	Kane County Development
Tom Rickert	KCCOM Director	Kane County Council of Mayors
Heather Tabbert	Reg. Planning Liaison	Kane County Council of Mayors
Ed Barsotti	Executive Director	League of Illinois Bicyclists
Jim Eby	Dir. Of Planning	Batavia Park District
Larry Gabriel	Supt. Of Parks	Geneva Park District
Shane Hamilton	Staff	South Elgin Parks and Rec.
Peter Mesh	Consultant	Wight and Co.
Doug Sullivan	Government Affairs	Pace
Mike Ferencak	Planner	Village of Sugar Grove
Dave Peterson	Bicyclist	Geneva Resident
Jim Reuter	Dir. Of Parks and Rec.	Village of South Elgin
Monica Meyers	Executive Director	Kane County Forest Preserve
Rich Hirschberg	Resident	City of Elgin
Drew Ullberg	Director of Planning	Kane County Forest Preserve

I. OPENING OF MEETING

Monica Meyers called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Jim Eby moved and Drew Ullberg seconded approval of the minutes of the February 5, 2004 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Director/Coordinator Update

FY2006 CMAQ Program

Project proposals for the FY2006 CMAQ Program are currently being accepted by the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS). Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility projects that reduce automobile travel are eligible for CMAQ Funding, as well as Bicycle Parking and Bicycle encouragement projects. Project applications are due to CATS by 4:30 p.m. on January 28, 2005. Project application information booklets and application forms can be found on the CATS website at: www.catsmpo.com.

Heather Tabbert reported that North Aurora received CMAQ funding in FY2005 for Phase I of the Ruby Bikeway. Rickert added that he sits on the CMAQ selection committee, and if any agencies would like to submit bicycle and pedestrian projects, he would be happy to review the project with them.

IDOT Public Involvement Meetings for the State Bicycle Plan

The Illinois Department of Transportation is conducting public involvement meetings for the State Bicycle Plan, with a meeting in our region being held at Waubensee Community College in Sugar Grove on Tuesday January 25, 2005 from 1-3 p.m. Ed Barsotti added that there would be two main sections of the plan: an inventory of existing and planned projects by district and priorities for enhancement program funding.

2004 Trail Count – DuPage County Trail System

In Summer 2004, DuPage County, in cooperation with CATS, conducted a count of trail users at 10 locations along the DuPage County Trail System. The purpose was to obtain current information on the type and amount of users on the system. We are often asked for statistics on trail use, especially on the Fox River Trail. Perhaps we can organize a similar count in Kane County for this summer. DuPage County is also looking into using electronic counters, which are less labor-intensive. Tabbert asked Committee Members if this project would be of interest to them, or if they have a need for the data. Monica Meyers asked what kind of data we would be collecting, or have been collected in other trail counts. Tabbert responded that we could collect data on the number of users, the type of users (bicyclist, walker, runner), the trip type (recreation, training, commuting), etc. Barsotti added that the data could also be used for economic development purposes. The Committee decided to form a sub-committee to work on organizing a trail count.

Illinois Prairie Path (IPP) Trail Clean-Up Day

Don Kirchenberg of the IPPc contacted Heather Tabbert regarding Trail Cleanups for the Kane County portions of the IPP. There will be an annual Earth Day Trail Cleanup on Saturday, April 23, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. Last year there was a good turnout for DuPage portions, but not for the Kane County segments. Committee members discussed possibly organizing groups to clean portions of the trails within Kane County Communities.

Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) Soles and Spokes Plan update

The Final Report for Task 2: Existing Conditions and Regional Trends has been completed and accepted by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force. Tasks 3 (Best Practices) and 4 (Policy Development) will be developed simultaneously. More information can be found at www.solesandspokes.com.

Kane County and Forest Preserve Project Updates

IL Route 56 Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge for the Virgil Gilman Trail: Drew Ullberg reported that this project is currently in the construction phase, with 23% complete. Temporary bicycle and pedestrian access has been set up.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge over Mill Creek to connect with the Mid-County Trail: Project is currently in Phase I.

South Street Underpass: Kane County staff is currently coordinating with the UP Railroad to receive a variance for using the Railroad's Right-of-Way.

Silver Glen / Randall Road overpass: The bridge will cross over Randall Road on the north side of Silver Glen Road.

Dean Street / Randall Road underpass: This project will be let in spring / summer of 2005.
Mid-County Trail

B. Municipal / Park District Update

Larry Gabriel reported that the City of Geneva is working with the Forest Preserve to develop the trail over Mill Creek near Fabyan Parkway. The City also will be studying the structural integrity of the bike/ped bridge near the Mill Race Inn. Jim Eby reported that Batavia has several proposed trails that are being built. The Tanglewood subdivision trail, that runs along the Nicor line is going in, Deerpath trails will provide access to the west along the Mirador trails, and they park district received an OSLAD grant to work on building new bridges on the island properties on the Fox River. David Peterson, Geneva bicyclist, reported that there were several people on the trails today, even with the snow. Ed Barsotti reported that several communities are working on bike/ped plans, including the City of Geneva's Bikeway Implementation Plan and the City of Aurora's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. He added that there is renewed interesting completing the Fox River Trail gap in downtown Aurora (where the trail is currently diverted on-road). Doug Sullivan reported that all Pace buses are equipped with racks that hold two bikes. He also reported that Pace is currently working on a restructuring in the Aurora / Naperville area, and public input is welcome on the plan. City of Elgin Citizen Rich Hirschberg provided detailed comments on the public bicycle map update.

III. UPDATES TO BIKE / PED PLANNING MAP AND 2004 KANE COUNTY BICYCLE MAP

A. Review and update Kane County Bike / Ped Planning Map and Updates for the 2005 edition Kane County Bicycle Map

Heather Tabbert discussed revisions for both the planning map and the public bicycle map. Some main points for updating the planning maps include confirming the locations of all trails, updating the status of the trails (existing/proposed/conceptual), and removing old trail lines that are no longer proposed. Once the planning map has

been properly updated, all changes will be sent to the cartographer to transfer changes to the public Kane County Bicycle Map. The public map is not in a GIS format; so all changes must be made by hand, instead of inserting an updated layer.

Tabbert requested any suggestions for additions or changes for the 2005 edition of the public map. This includes any ideas for a new cover picture, inside pictures, additional information or layout ideas. Rickert added that we could look into different icons to help reduce the clutter on the map. Meyers requested that all agencies get any changes into Tabbert by the end of January. The public map will be sent to the printer in March for an April distribution. Distribution of the map will be the same as it was last year—everyone must come to the Kane County Division of Transportation office to pick them up.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS / NEXT MEETING

A. Other Business

None.

B. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on March 17, 2005 at 1:00pm. Heather Tabbert will be sending out meeting announcements for the date of the Trail User Survey Sub-Committee, which will tentatively meet in late February.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.