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PLANNING TOMORROW'S TRANSPORTATION TODAY

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization

will meet

Thursday, July 9, 2009

1:30 P.M.

**New York Life Training Room
4250 River Center Court NE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa**

Public Comment

Action/Discussion Items

1. Approve Minutes from May 21st meeting (attached).

Board Options: Approve meeting minutes.

2. Support for Trail Grant Applications. The City of Cedar Rapids is requesting a resolution of support for submitting grant applications to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the following three projects:

- Dry Creek Trail: Phase 1
- Kirkwood Connector Trail
- Edgewood Road Multi-Use Trail over U.S. Highway 30

The funding program is the State Recreational Trails Fund program, which utilizes State funding and is administered by IDOT.

Board Options: Pass resolution of support for trail projects or deny request.

3. Final FY10 – FY13 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ten projects in the amount of \$21,101,854 have been submitted for Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding in FY13 from the Corridor MPO. Nine of them are road projects and one is a transit request for a hybrid bus. There is \$3,321,566 in STP funds available for FY13. A previously approved project will receive \$271,966 to fulfill its 80% funding award from the Corridor MPO, which will leave \$3,049,600 available to program. On June 11th, after considering the funding recommendations of the Metro-area Advisory Committee (MAC) and the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC), the Board made a preliminary decision to fund the following projects for FY13:

- Statewide Urban Design and Specifications Standard Manual (SUDAS) participation
- 42nd Street NE at I-380 Improvements Project
- County Home Road Improvements Project
- Edgewood Road NW Improvements – From Crestwood Dr. to O Ave. Project

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"Creating Sustainable Communities through Regional Planning & Civic Engagement"

An open house was held on June 26th where 10 citizens participated in an interactive presentation and were asked to fill out feedback forms on the preliminary funding decision and how future federal funds should be programmed. Two feedback forms were handed in at the end of the meeting and are included in the agenda packet.

The final TIP needs to be submitted to IDOT by July 15th.

Board Options: Approve draft FY10 – FY13 TIP for submission to IDOT.

4. **Complete Count Committee & 2010 Census (attached).** Attached is a memo explaining the purpose of Complete Count Committee and the importance of participation in the upcoming Decennial Census.
5. **Indian & Dry Creeks Watershed Study.** The City of Cedar Rapids is requesting that the Corridor MPO consider providing funding for this study that will be performed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and was initiated after the flooding event of 2002, which impacted Cedar Rapids, Marion, Hiawatha, Robins, and Linn County. The study will cost \$403,100 and the Corps will fund 50% of the project. The funding request is for \$150,000 of the local share, which is \$201,550. At this time the Federal Highway Administration has indicated that federal transportation funds cannot be used for this study. The City of Cedar Rapids has indicated that they will continue on with their portion of the project but will define the scope of the contract with the Corps to allow the other impacted jurisdictions to participate at a future time.

Board Options: No action is required.

6. **MAC STP Criteria Recommendation (attached).** The Metro-area Advisory Committee (MAC) met on June 25th to discuss the preliminary Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding decision and information they will need to make future funding recommendations. Attached is the list of additional information that the MAC has recommended be added to the existing STP application requirements.

Board Options: Incorporate MAC recommendation into the STP application process or direct staff to provide more information.

Informational Items

7. None.

Future Agenda Items

1. **SUDAS vs. Metro Design Standards**

Next Meetings

- **August 20th, 2009 at a location TBD**
- **September 17th, 2009 at a location TBD**

Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization
Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2009
Multipurpose Room of Hiawatha City Hall
1:30 P.M.

Member	Present	Not Present	Proxy
Lu Barron			Steve Gannon
Brian Fagan	X		
Kay Halloran	X		
Brent Oleson		X	
Bill Bogert	X		
Linda Langston	X		
Kim McCarty			Tom Treharne
Jerry McGrane		X	
Ian Cullis	X		
Tim Carson		X	
Paul Rehn	X		
Tom Theis	X		
Boyd Potter	X		
Pat Shey	X		
Jim Doyle			Aaron Anderson
Samantha Dahlby	X		
Scott Sylvester			Kris Gulick
David Zylstra	X		
Bill Voss		X	

Staff Present: Sushil Nepal, Adam Lindenlaub

Others Present: Cathy Cutler, Dave Elgin, Allen Witt, Robin Kash

Chair Brian Fagan called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

AGENDA

Public Comment

None.

1. Approve Minutes from the May 21st meeting.

Linda Langston moved to approve the minutes from the May 21st meeting. Boyd Potter seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

2. Draft FY10 – FY13 TIP Transportation Improvement Program.

Adam Lindenlaub explained that the Vice-Chair of the Metro-area Advisory Committee (MAC) Allen Witt was present to report on their review and recommendation of the STP submittals, which is their first time participating in this process. Witt gave the MAC's recommendation and reviewed the process used this year and noted that they need more information to make decisions. Fagan asked Witt to explain the MAC's recommendation. Witt reviewed the 10 criteria that the MAC used. Bill Bogert asked if there were any projects that the MAC believes should not be funded. Witt stated that was part of the process they used to eliminate projects from consideration. Witt said that the Mt. Vernon Road/19th Street, Tower Terrace Road (both Marion's and the joint Cedar Rapids/Linn County projects), and the Edgewood Road – Crestwood to

O Avenue projects were eliminated from consideration. The Edgewood Rd. extension from Blairs Ferry Road to Boyson Road project was eliminated but was close to the top ranked projects.

Lindenlaub reviewed the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee's (TTAC) recommendation and explained that the process was different this year due to the lack of congestion reduction data to rank the projects. Lindenlaub explained that TTAC used just the safety impact and annualized cost data to rank the projects and made their recommendation with the condition that the two recommended projects are re-ranked next year with new submittals using the congestion reduction data. Samantha Dahlby asked what would happen if the projects did not score well enough to receive a funding recommendation. Lindenlaub stated that the Board could have \$6 million to program for FY14. Aaron Anderson asked how TTAC's recommendation would impact project development. Dave Elgin stated that both the County and Cedar Rapids TTAC members acknowledged that continued work on the projects would be put on hold until they were re-ranked and received funding next year.

Fagan reviewed the Board's draft goal statements. Dahlby asked how SUDAS would work with a Complete Streets policy. Elgin stated that the SUDAS standards were created to meet infrastructure needs not to address policy issues.

Dahlby opened discussion on the funding of the hybrid bus for CR Transit. Dahlby stated that she believed it would benefit more of the metro area than any one of the other projects. Witt asked to speak and stated that the MAC did discuss that the transit system needs to be reviewed. David Zylstra stated that he wanted to see the funding of the bus have a big impact. Dahlby asked if stipulations could be placed on the funding. Lindenlaub replied yes. There was discussion regarding the impact of the funding of the bus on CR Transit and how this fit in to there overall plans. Langston stated she wanted to know more about CR Transit's plans before funding the entire bus. Fagan noted that this should be addressed in the long-range plan update.

There was discussion on how to reconcile the differences between the TTAC and MAC recommendations. Zylstra stated it would be good to have an opinion on each project from both TTAC and the MAC. Anderson noted that funding is the Board's decision and not TTAC's or the MAC's.

Potter moved to fund \$30,000 of the CR Transit request. Ian Cullis seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor except Dahlby, Fagan, and Kay Halloran.

Langston moved to fund participation in the SUDAS program. Bogert seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Zylstra moved to fund the 42nd Street NE at I-380 Improvements project. Dahlby seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor except Gannon.

Fagan asked for the MAC's review on County Home Road, Blairs Ferry Road, and Edgewood Road – Crestwood Drive to O Avenue projects. Fagan asked Elgin how far Cedar Rapids was in engagement with public on the Mt. Vernon Road and 19th Street project. Fagan asked if the County was planning on using local option sales tax funds on the County Home Road project. Langston said that they are not because they are funding it through the County's five year plan. Bogert stressed the need to reanalyze the projects with congestion data next year.

Langston moved to fund the County Home Road Improvements project. Zylstra seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Langston moved to fund \$528,629 of the Edgewood Road NW Improvements project. Bogert seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35.

What should be the priorities for transportation investments in the metropolitan area?

(Please rank highest to lowest starting with 1)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 | Transit |
| 4 | Trails |
| 1 | Roads (widening, extensions, intersection improvements) |
| 2 | Safety |
| 5 | Other |

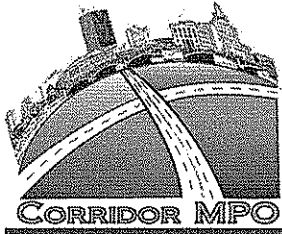
General questions and comments?

I think taking the initiative to start providing eco-conscious transportation (hybrid bus) is an important step to take now that can be built on in later yrs as there will be an obvious need to conserve fuel and more, especially with long range goals requiring action now to complete before it becomes too difficult.

I have traveled SW on Linden Dr, Marion & reached the Blairsperry Rd intersection lights had the green arrow to turn right & think traffic travelling west on Blairsperry get a green light at the same time & traffic turning off Linden Dr onto Blairsperry has to almost immediately merge. I don't think some drivers are conscious of this & this intersection should be checked/rechecked & revisited. There are times this intersection has significant traffic although it probably isn't considered a major intersection.

I have seen near accidents & usually avoid this intersection so am not sure the lights/arrows are still mis-syn'd.

Also - north on 40th to C & taking a right onto C - the slope to the left obscures the view of traffic - it seems necessary to inch out too far to be sure traffic is clear from the left before turning right onto C. Also not a major intersection but sometimes has significant traffic.



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FY10 - FY13 Transportation Improvement Program Feedback Form

Is there anything about the preliminary funding decision that you disagree with?

Nope

Is there additional information about any of the projects that you would like to share with the Corridor MPO Board?

I am pleased to see the 42nd street interchange receiving attention

What should be the priorities for transportation investments in the metropolitan area?

(Please rank highest to lowest starting with 1)

- 2 Transit
- 3 Trails
- 4 Roads (widening, extensions, intersection improvements)
- 1 Safety
- 5 Other

I have often found that transit issues and trails issues are safety issues as seen in the 42nd street interchange. However I think that transit issues (such as buses) are often overlooked on the impact they can have. I am pleased to hear you are doing a study on the current CR bus system to improve it. Please include public feedback. I believe usage is low because of the current layout,

not because of demand.

General questions and comments?

Thank you for sharing this important issue.