

ST. JOSEPH AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
COORDINATING COMMITTEE
June 11, 2009

Voting members present:

Billy Kretzer, Vice Chairperson	City of Savannah
Julia Levinn	Village of Country Club
Vince Capell	City of St. Joseph
Bill Falkner	City of St. Joseph
Jerry Russell	Citizen Representative

Staff members present:

Bruce Woody	City of St. Joseph
Andy Clements	City of St. Joseph
Kelsy Marr	City of St. Joseph
Elaine Buckner	City of St. Joseph

Others present:

Shannon Kusilek	MoDOT District #1
Don Wichern	MoDOT District #1
Dave Gach	MoDOT State Highway Commissioner

OPENING REPORTS

Vice-Chairperson Kretzer directed the meeting.

Roll Call. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes. **Mr. Capell moved to approve the minutes of the February 12th meeting and March 25th (special meeting) as submitted. Mr. Russell seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.**

Opportunity for public comment. No member of the public appeared to comment.

NEW BUSINESS

Coordinating Committee Meeting Time. Ms. Marr said she had another request from a Committee member to change the meeting date. She polled the voting members and received general approval of the current date, time, and having lunch provided, therefore it won't change.

Section 5310 Application. Staff received one request for Section 5310 capital replacement funds from Heartland Health. Staff recommends approval. The van is used to transport patients home from the hospital. **Mr. Russell moved to recommend approval of Heartland's application and placement in the TIP. Mr. Capell seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.**

FY 2010-2013 TIP. Projects have been submitted by several agencies for the new TIP including road and bridge, transit, bike/ped, airport, and safety improvements. Public involvement is complete and no comments were received. This week Federal Highway submitted requirements for operation and maintenance to ensure that fiscal constraints are in place for each project.

Project sponsors elaborated on their specific projects.

Mr. Capell moved to approve the TIP with Federal Highway's requirements included. Ms. Lavinn seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Letter of Support Request for US 169 Improvements. A letter of support for potential earmark funds for capacity and safety improvements along US 169 from Rte. AC to Rte. A has been requested by the St Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Clements remarked that the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) reflects the MPO's adopted priorities, which is updated every five years. It is important to marry proposed projects with the LRTP. Capacity and safety improvements along US 169 are not current priority projects for the MPO.

Mr. Capell commented if it is worth requesting an earmark, shouldn't it be a near term priority of the MPO? Additionally, the community gives the Ferguson Group its ten priority transportation projects. Elected officials have already been asked to focus on those. This letter of support is an additional request and not anticipated as part of our local partnership's request for earmarks. In the future, these requests should be coordinated. It sends a mixed message if our elected officials have our ten top requests and then receive another one from the Chamber without the support of the MPO.

Commissioner Gach said he lives in that area and the intersection is getting to be very congested from Rte. AC to Rte. A. Mr. Capell said he would support the letter of recommendation, but future planning processes should be tightened up. Mr. Wichern asked about the Ferguson Group's priorities. Mr. Capell listed: 1) US 59/US 752 (Alabama) Overpass; 2) Cook Road from W. Haverill to St. Joseph Avenue; and 3) Riverfront access. St. Joseph has CIP funding for the match for 1) and 3) if federal funds come through. Mr. Wichern said Congressman Graves asked for their #1 priority and the intersection of Rte. A and Rte. AC is not in the St. Joseph City limits. **Mr. Capell moved to support the letter, Mr. Russell seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.**

Vice-Chairperson Kretzer, speaking for the City of Savannah, thanked the MPO for their cooperation and involvement in Savannah's projects.

OTHER/ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 13th, 2009 at 12:00 noon.

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