

**Transportation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, March 01, 2006 - 9:00 A.M.
McHenry County Division of Transportation
Main Conference Room
16111 Nelson Road
Woodstock, Illinois 60098**

Chairman Dan Shea
Vice Chairman Ed Dvorak Don Larson
Virginia Peschke Lyn Orphal
Sandra Salgado Anna May Miller

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Shea called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Dan Shea, Anna May Miller, Lyn Orphal, Sandra Salgado, Virginia Peschke, and Ed Dvorak

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Don Larson

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In attendance were: Ken Koehler, Chairman of the County Board; Peter Austin, County Administrator; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; David Stone and Jamie Rein, McHenry County State's Attorney Office; Joseph Korpalski, Division of Transportation Director/County Engineer; Joe Murawski, Village of Lake in the Hills; Charles Eldredge and Karen Patel, McHenry County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC); Ted Lachus, Patrick Engineering, Inc.; Gary Overbay, Civiltech Engineering; Veronica Armstrong, County resident; Ken Kelgard, Division of Transportation Deputy County Engineer; Mark Dammyer, Division of Transportation Construction Manager; Jeff Young, Division of Transportation Design Manager; Brad Cousin, Division of Transportation Traffic Engineer; Jason Osborn, Division of Transportation/Transportation, Planning and Program Coordinator; Holly Ostdick, CATS Planning Liaison; Mark DeVries, Division of Transportation Maintenance Superintendent; Ed Markison, Division of Transportation Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; Debra Kroll, Division of Transportation Administrative Specialist.

- Veronica Armstrong, 6201 Edgewood Road, Crystal Lake, IL – Addressed the Walkup Road Improvement project and her concerns.
- Charles Eldredge, MCEDC – Advised that the survey would be out this week for ***Imagine McHenry County***. This is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote a grass-roots planning process for quality growth county-wide. Mr. Eldredge announced that there could be 10,000 hopeful responses. Brochures explaining this non-profit organization were distributed. Mr. Eldredge is hopeful that this vision for McHenry County will be accepted by all.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 15, 2006 MEETING MINUTES

On a motion made by Ms. Orphal and seconded by Ms. Miller, the February 15, 2006 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

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

PROJECT PRESENTATION – Algonquin Road (Illinois Route 47 to Randall Road

Ted Lachus of Patrick Engineering, Inc. was present to discuss their findings with regard to Algonquin Road, between Lakewood Road and Square Barn Road and the unsuitable soils that were discovered. Engineers determined that the soil in a 500-foot stretch of Algonquin Road is too wet to build on and is close to environmentally sensitive Exner Marsh. Six (6) design alternatives/options were explained and discussed (handouts were distributed to committee members).

Mr. Lachus explained each option, noting that Option #6 was the choice by Patrick Engineering, Inc. because of the following:

- Least expensive option
- Causing the least amount of adverse impact to the marsh
- Does not add any structures to the project
- Lower maintenance costs
- Maintains the 16-foot median

McHenry County Division of Transportation seeks approval from this committee regarding the preferred option (Option #6) for the alignment of Algonquin Road between Lakewood Road and Square Barn Road.

Discussions ensued.

On a motion made by Ms. Salgado and seconded by Ms. Peschke, the committee offered its approval and direction to proceed with Option #6.

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

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR ANNUAL STRIPING PAINT MATERIAL

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution allowing participation in State Purchase for roadway striping paint for FY2006.

Bids are opened and accepted by the State of Illinois and the County can participate through the State Purchase Program. This is an annual item that needs to be bid and is funded through the Motor Fuel Tax Fund.

The State Purchase plan was identified this year. The use of the State Purchase plan was initiated last year. Past experience with the County bidding the materials, yielded higher bid prices than those received by the State. This is due to the large quantities of materials that the State of Illinois bids for this program and thus, are very competitive and in turn, more economical for McHenry County to participate in the State of Illinois bid.

At the last Transportation meeting, the committee approved the glass beads placed in the paint to increase the reflectivity of the paint. This bid is for the actual paint.

On a motion made by Ms. Peschke and seconded by Mr. Dvorak, the Resolution Appropriating Funds for Annual Striping Paint Material and the appropriation of \$95,000.00 from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund 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 AND BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFER TO THE DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION FY2006 BUDGET

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution authorizing a budget amendment and the acquisition of right-of-way for highway purposes, for highway improvement purposes for the Algonquin Road – Illinois Route 47 to Randall Road reconstruction project.

The resolution is necessary for the project, as MCDOT has obtained the final appraisals for the remainder of the properties (total of 46) needed for the Algonquin Road widening project (Illinois Route 47 to Randall Road). The costs identified cover all of the properties included in the project (total of 73).

On a motion made by Ms. Salgado and seconded by Ms. Miller, the Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation and Budget Line Item Transfer to the Division of Transportation FY2006 Budget and the Resolution Approving the Acquisition of Right-of-Way for Highway Purposes was approved. The appropriation of \$3,600,000.00 from the County Option Motor Fuel Tax Fund was also approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR HIGHWAY PURPOSES

This resolution was approved under one motion with the Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation and Budget Line Item Transfer to the Division of Transportation FY2006 Budget.

See above.

CONSULTANT SELECTION – (Pingree Road and Crystal Lake Avenue Intersection Project)

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests that the Transportation Committee waive the formal consultant selection policy and approve the selection of Smith Engineering for the Pingree Road and Crystal Lake Avenue intersection project.

The County has been identified to receive federal funding in the amount of \$992,000.00 from Representative Manzullo and \$1,000,000.00 from STP funds for the project, totaling \$1,992,000.00. The County has been identified as the project lead, as the township cannot obtain STP funds from the McHenry County Council of Mayors. As a condition of receiving those funds, the County needs to complete Phase I engineering for the project. The Illinois Department of Transportation requires that the County follow its selection policy however, IDOT recognizes the process may be waived if a consultant has project history.

Time is of the essence. IDOT has put the County on a three-year clock to have construction initiated (FY2009). Smith Engineering has completed a preliminary design for Nunda and Algonquin Townships, including the site survey for the area. As such, they are the most logical choice for the County to use, as they already have most of the survey completed for the project and have the most knowledge of the intersection. Both townships and the City of Crystal Lake concur with the use of Smith Engineering for this project.

On a motion made by Ms. Miller and seconded by Mr. Dvorak, the committee approved awarding the project to Smith Engineering, waiving the formal consultant selection policy.

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

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Mr. Korpalski provided a brief overview of the report.

Before moving onto the next agenda item, Chairman Shea stated that he had become aware of a program that appears to have been organized between the Village of Richmond and the "Campaign for Sensible Growth" out of the Urban Land Institute, regarding a change in the potential bypass of Richmond, to improving the local roads; one of which is Keystone Road which is a County road. Chairman Shea asked Mr. Eldredge if he was aware of this.

Mr. Eldredge stated that about 3-4 years ago, the Urban Land Institute conducted a charette in Richmond. Approximately ten (10) experts in various disciplines received a package prepared by the Village of Richmond, giving our demographics and everything else we thought was relevant.

Then there was a 4-hour orientation and tour presented by the Village president, the head of Public Works. After the second day and much discussion, they presented to the community their thoughts. What came out of it was not intended to be proposals, but ideas for further exploration.

A feasibility study was conducted by Edwards and Kelcey and determined by the same, not to be a viable option.

2006 TO 2010 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

As a prelude to the Highway Improvement Program presentation, Mr. Korpalski offered a bit of history on transportation in this country.

He noted that this year, 2006, we celebrate 50 years in the interstate system. The interstate system brought unprecedented growth, prosperity and wealth to our country. It is the backbone of our U.S. economy.

However, we stand now in the face of a funding crisis. Not since the Eisenhower administration, has the United States seen such an investment in the transportation system and its infrastructure. An example made by Senator Barack Obama, that helped to quantify the funding crisis, was that a \$274 billion transportation bill was passed over a five-year period and to date, we have spent \$400 billion on the war against "terrorism."

Last week I attended a conference on Transportation and Highway Engineering at the University of Illinois. Through discussions with the Illinois Department of Transportation we know that the cost of doing business is going up. The transportation industry has seen a 22% increase from just two years ago.

Our 2020 Transportation Plan identifies the need for \$785 million for roadway improvements, yet we only have \$400 million available. Development and growth are obviously not paying for themselves.

At the January 16, 2006 Transportation Committee meeting many members asked the MCDOT staff to briefly explain how the Five-Year Highway Improvement Program is developed.

At this point in time, Mr. Korpalski turned the meeting over to Mr. Jason Osborn who conducted the Highway Improvement Program presentation. With the aid of the draft FY2006-2010 HIP (distributed to members), Mr. Osborn summarized key areas and issues of the program.

Mr. Osborn noted that just to cover the list of projects on the agenda through 2010, it will cost an estimated \$84.9 million.

Chairman Koehler stated that "we plead our case and we got betrayed."

Chairman Shea stated that "there just isn't enough transportation money, no matter what we do."

Mr. Korpalski added that "we will have to be creative, as to how to fund and pay for projects."

OLD / NEW BUSINESS

Old Business - None

New Business

Mr. Korpalski took pleasure in announcing the addition of Ms. Wynnyth Adair to the Division of Transportation staff. Ms. Adair will fill the position of Drainage Engineer starting March 01st.

Mr. Korpalski wanted to thank Mr. Ivetic, Mr. Peter Austin and staff in their efforts to aid the process of filling this position.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Property Acquisition

On a motion made by Ms. Orphal at 09:30 AM and seconded by Ms. Miller, the committee went into Executive Session to discuss property acquisition.

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

REGULAR SESSION

On a motion made by Ms. Miller at 10:11 AM and seconded by Ms. Orphal, the committee went back into Regular Session.

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 A.M. on March 15, 2006 – McHenry County Division of Transportation

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Salgado at 11:05 AM and seconded by Ms. Miller, the meeting was adjourned.

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