



Public Information Task Force

Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2006

1:00 – 2:30 pm

Lake County Division of Transportation

600 W. Winchester Road

Libertyville, Illinois 60048

1.0 Roll Call

- √ Hartnett, Sherry – Chair (Baxter)
- √ Chekouras, Joe — County of Lake
- √ Giertych, Al — Lake County DOT
- √ Motley, David — City of Waukegan
- √ Vancil, Susan — Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
- A Zingle, Susan — Public Member

Staff: Russell Medley, LCP

2.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3.0 4-13-06 Meeting Minutes Approval

- Motion:** To approve minutes from the 4-13-06 meeting
- Motion By:** Susan Vancil
- Seconded By:** Al Giertych
- Discussion:** None
- Motion Passed:** Unanimous

4.0 Meet new Task Force Chair, Sherry Hartnett

Since this was the first meeting that Sherry Hartnett chaired, she asked task force members to introduce themselves. Once the task force introductions were completed, Ms. Hartnett discussed how she came to chair the Public Information Task Force. Ms. Hartnett noted that she works as a Marketing and Communications Manager at Baxter's facility in Round Lake located on Route 120. Joel Tune, Baxter's former representative to Lake County Partners, asked her if she would be interested in helping with developing messaging products for the Route 120 CPC. Since transportation is an important concern for Baxter, Ms. Hartnett agreed.

5.0 Review Public Information Task Force Products

- 5.1 Website/Public Forums - Ms. Hartnett noted that our primary work product and our main communications medium is our website: www.120now.com. We've also hosted a Public Open House on May 31, 2006 at the Hainesville Village Hall. As a result of that meeting and meetings conducted by the Lake County

Transportation Alliance, we had collected approximately 250 public comments regarding Route 120. The public comments are on the website under the section "What's New?". Since the website is the primary communications tool, we need to keep the information fresh and the task force directed staff to start tracking monthly "hits" on the website for reporting purposes to the Steering Council and the Governance Board.

- 5.2 Route 120 CPC Powerpoint Presentation – Presentation is used by members at meetings to discuss why the Route 120 project is important. The presentation is included in the "Press Kit" on the website.
- 5.3 Route 120 Progress Report/FAQ's – Ms. Hartnett reported that the Route 120 Progress Report that includes an opening letter from Mayor Bill Gentes, Chairman of the Route 120 CPC, an organizational timeline, and a set of FAQs (frequently asked questions) was presented to the Governance Board at their last meeting on September 13th. It was suggested that the task force review the document one more time. Staff will email document to task force members for review. Due date for comments was set at Tuesday, October 3. Once finalized, the document will be presented at the Steering Council. It will be added to the website under the section "What's New?" on the homepage.

6.0 Public Involvement Plan: role of task force vs. consultant

Al Giertych, Lake County Division of Transportation discussed the Public Involvement Plan portion of the Consultant's Study Program and how the Public Information Task Force would interact with the consultants.

The Request For Proposals (RFP) requires that the consultants that are eventually hired for the study included a public involvement plan. Of course, there is limited money for a consultant and we may prefer the consultant focus on technical issues. Therefore, the task force will be an important conduit for information to the public. The consultant would act as an extension of the Public Information Task Force, not as a replacement for the task force.

Issues:

- How do we deal with Route 53? - Route 53 is in the Regional Transportation Plan right now and the only way to get federal funding for transportation projects is to proceed with studies that are "Route 53 Neutral". The Route 120 study will be conducted with Rte. 53 and without Route 53 for balance. The Boulevard proposal would also be studied "with or without" Rte. 53.
- Surveys – Conducting surveys of area residents and businesses along the Route 120 corridor has been mentioned as a likely component of a public involvement plan. Need to further research surveys undertaken as part of public involvement plans. The task force needs to understand how to construct a survey that will provide the necessary information for the consultants?
- Task Force's role – How much responsibility is the Public Information Task Force going to have to take on. What resources are being allocated to the public involvement plan component of the study?
- Do we need to expand our public outreach ahead of the selection of a consultant to conduct the study. Some members of the Governance Board are already speaking out in favor of the Route 120 bypass with chambers of commerce, homeowners association, and other organizations. Do we need more?

7.0 Next Meeting: October 26, 2006

8.0 Task Force assignments:

- **Review progress report/organizational timeline/FAQ's**
- **Find examples of public involvement plans and share with task force**

9.0 Adjourn