



**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020 – 11:00 AM.
MEETING MINUTES
HELD AS A VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING VIA ZOOM MEETINGS**

ATTENDANCE

- Voting Membership (one vote per entity):
 - Town of Cortland: Brandy Williams
 - City of DeKalb: Zac Gill (Vice-chair)
 - City of Sycamore: Mark Bushnell (Chair)
 - DeKalb County: Derek Hiland
 - NIU: John Heckmann
 - NIU Student Association: not present
 - IDOT District 3: Ryan Lindenmier
 - VAC: Mike Neuenkirchen
 - Kishwaukee College: not present
- Non-Voting Attendance:
 - Transit Committee Chair: Mark Bushnell
 - FHWA: John Donovan
 - IDOT Planning & Programming: Doug DeLille
 - IDOT Local Roads: not present
 - DSATS staff: Nathan Schwartz
 - Transit staff: not present
 - Taylor Municipal Airport: not present

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bushnell called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

1. Introductions

Introductions were made and a quorum was established.

2. Administrative Agenda

a. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the October 7, 2020 meeting agenda was made by Mr. Gill, seconded by Mr. Hiland, and approved by voice vote.

b. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the June 3, 2020 meeting minutes was made by Mr. Lindenmier, seconded by Mr. Gill, and approved by voice vote.

c. Public Comments

None.

3. Governance Agenda

- a. No agenda items.

4. Roadway Agenda

a. SFY 2020-2024 Transportation TIP Modifications (Action)

Mr. Schwartz reported DSATS has one TIP modification to act upon today. Modification 12 includes a new project for railroad crossing safety improvements at the intersection of IL Route 38 and IL Route 23 in DeKalb. As a reminder, all new projects to the TIP need to be processed as a TIP amendment. A public hearing was held with no comments received. The public comment period ends with this meeting. No comments were received. A motion to forward TIP Modification 12 to the Policy Committee with a positive recommendation was made by Mr. Hiland and seconded by Mr. Gill. The motion was approved by voice vote.

b. 2020 Pavement Conditions Study

Mr. Schwartz explained the previous Pavement Conditions Study was completed by a consultant in 2013. The TAC was planning to have an updated study performed in 2020. DSATS intended to apply for a Statewide Planning & Research (SPR) Program grant earlier this spring. This would have helped fund the study on local roads beyond the traditional STU eligible roads. Unfortunately, the application packet was not submitted as intended. The next opportunity for this funding will be in 2021. The municipalities discussed the timing of the study and agreed to complete the study in 2021. No action was taken as this was an information agenda item.

c. 2020 Traffic Counts

Mr. Schwartz provided background information on traffic counts studies over the past few years. Recently, DSATS purchased video cameras specific for traffic counts. The past two years staff has completed the studies in-house but with the video analysis completed by the camera manufacturer. The 2019 locations will be sent to member organizations for review as potential locations for the 2020 study. Members asked if the timing of the counts can accommodate various dates such as the start of in-person schooling and the reopening of roads closed due to construction. Staff reported specific requests should be accommodated. Furthermore, additional requests during the year should also be able to be accommodated. No action was taken as this was an information agenda item.

d. Solicitation for FY2022-2026 STU Projects

Mr. Schwartz explained the MPO annually accepts new projects to be submitted for STU funding. As a part of the process, DSATS staff will put together the project information, cost estimates, and possible scoring for each submittal. The Project Selection Committee will meet to review new and existing projects and then recommend a proposed list of project for TAC review. The existing schedule and funding balances will be emailed to member organizations. No action was taken as this was an information agenda item.

5. Active Transportation Agenda

a. Active Transportation Plan Yearly Project Update

Per the intentions of the Active Transportation Subcommittee, DSATS Staff is planning to provide a yearly update to the recently completed Active Transportation Plan. Staff is requesting any active transportation projects completed in 2020 to be reported.

6. Closing Agenda

a. Staff and Project Updates

Mr. Schwartz reported a potential fulltime employee has been interviewed and negotiations have started for his hiring. Mr. Gill reported Gurler Road should have substantial completion by Thanksgiving. Chair Bushnell reported the resurfacing of IL Route 23 and IL Route 64 is nearing completion. Mr. Schwartz reported DeKalb County is overseeing the replacement of the Motel Road bridge on behalf of Mayfield Township on the west side of Sycamore. The bridge was scheduled to be replaced in 2020 but execution of a contract was delayed in Springfield until the bridge could no longer be completed in 2020. The structure is currently planned to be closed around Halloween and be worked on during the winter months.

b. What's New with Our State and Federal Partners

Mr. Donovan informed the committee the FAST Act was to expire last week but had a continuing resolution that provides funding for another year. Mr. DeLille reported the annual Fall Planning Conference started yesterday. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference is being held virtually every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for 3 weeks. Also, IDOT is soliciting applications for the ITEP program. Applications are due November 2nd. The annual safety targets have been sent out to the MPOs.

c. Additional Business

Mr. Gill reported the City of DeKalb has two bridge replacements, North First Street and Lucinda Avenue, are being combined into one contract. It will need to be modified on the TIP.

d. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Gill, seconded by Mr. Hiland, and approved by voice vote at 12:02 p.m.

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the TAC at a subsequent meeting.