

June 5, 2007

## Citizen Advisory Committee

A meeting of the **Citizen Advisory Committee** of the Cook DuPage Corridor Study was held on **June 5, 2007** at 10:30 a.m. at the Regional Transportation Authority, 175 W. Jackson Street, Suite 1550, Chicago, IL 60604.

This document includes a summary of the discussion for each agenda item and a roster of those who attended.

### I. Call to Order and Introductions

Committee Chair Fred Brandstrader called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. Mr. Brandstrader reminded those present to sign the attendance sheet. A quorum was not present.

### II. January 12, 2007 Meeting Summary

This item was reviewed and filed, as presented.

### III. Status Report and Presentation of Technical Committee's Pending Recommendation to Policy Committee

Ms. Michelle Ryan, RTA, distributed and reviewed an updated version of the Cook DuPage Corridor Study Time Line (dated June 5, 2007). Ms. Ryan reported that in early 2007, the RTA consultants initiated the evaluation of the eleven detailed options approved by the Policy Committee in December 2006. The eleven options were evaluated in light of the approved goals and objectives and scored relative to one another. Ms. Ryan noted that one of the seven goals – to reduce negative impacts to the environment - was not scored in the evaluation matrix, due to the lack of conceptual engineering designs at this stage of the planning process with which to assess the type, location and severity of environmental impacts. Instead, environmental information about each option was quantitatively and qualitatively described in a companion document called Environmental Considerations. Both the resulting scores from the evaluation matrix and the Environmental Considerations served as the basis for the Technical Committee's formulation of a recommendation regarding what to move forward for further analysis in the next phase of the Cook-DuPage Corridor study.

Ms. Ryan reported that the Technical Committee completed its recommendations to the Policy Committee on May 31. Ms. Ryan distributed an "Index of Proposed Major Capital Recommendations" dated May 18, 2007, noting that the six options labeled "Round 2 Considerations" were the highest ranked options. The six highest ranked options served as the focus of the Technical Committee's recommendations.

Ms. Ryan reported that the Technical Committee forwarded three system recommendations for the consideration of the Policy

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Committee – one recommendation for each of the three systems evaluated: the Main Line System, the Concentric System and the Radial Reliant System. She distributed an informal memo entitled “Cook DuPage Corridor Technical Committee: Description of Pending Recommendations”, noting that it contained a list of projects in each system recommendation, for the committee’s further reference.

At this point Bill Lenski offered a brief PowerPoint presentation to better illustrate the Technical Committee’s three system recommendations. The presentation also illustrated and explained a new system of connector bus services, employment center distribution services, smart corridors and strategic roadway improvements that were recommended for corridor-wide mobility improvement irrespective of the major capital projects.

Following the PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Ryan reported that in addition to the system recommendations, the Technical Committee developed “supporting recommendations” for the consideration of the Policy Committee. She explained that the Supporting Recommendations are essentially a set of actionable policy statements to help advance the numerous and complex components of the system recommendations. The Supporting Recommendations (dated May 31, 2007) were distributed for the committee’s further information, as well.

#### **IV. Outreach Planning**

##### **A. September Public Meetings and Outreach**

Mr. Brandstrader reminded the committee that the purpose of the upcoming public meetings is to give people an opportunity to review and to offer comments on the preliminary recommendations regarding which options and projects to take through more detailed study.

Consultant Ms. Mignon Allen noted that the RTA is intending to hold several public meetings throughout the corridor and also to utilize the project website to help inform people of the pending decision and to provide additional opportunity to comment.

Ms. Ryan noted that the public meetings were being scheduled in September to address a concern about low meeting attendance during summer months. She further noted that the lag between the June Policy Committee meeting at which the preliminary decision would be made and the September public meetings would allow staff and the CAC more time to get the word out, this time around.

Mr. Larry Christmas asked if there would be a public comment period in addition to the public meeting events and Ms. Ryan confirmed that there would be.

### **B. Review of Draft Template Letter to Stakeholders**

Mr. Brandstrader then turned the committee's attention to Agenda Attachment 2, a draft outreach letter for discussion and feedback. The committee members indicated that the letter was generally well-written and offered the following suggestions:

- Consider including the traditional commute in the first paragraph, rather than only drawing attention to the less familiar reverse and inter-suburban commutes
- Make sure to include and highlight the public meeting dates in the third paragraph
- Include Michelle Ryan's title after her name in the sixth paragraph.

Ms. Ryan then also distributed for information the draft template letter targeted to government/social service agencies and a draft letter to Chambers of Commerce. She noted that the letters were all very similar, varying somewhat to speak to the target audience in the fourth paragraph that begins with "We need your help."

### **C. Potential Key Media Messages and Issues of Stakeholder Interest**

Mr. Brandstrader then turned the committee's attention to Agenda Attachment 3: Key Media Messages and requested committee feedback. Committee members offered the following suggestions:

- In the Central Message, consider changing the wording to "changes in job opportunities and population" rather than "high growth in job opportunities and population", as growth may not have been experienced consistently throughout the corridor;
- Consider including "congestion" to the list of changes as part of the central message, as that's something everyone understands;
- It doesn't convey the range of issues that are being, and need to be considered for a well-informed decision: social, environmental, cultural, historic, land use and transportation issues.
- It doesn't quite communicate that a broad range of both highway and transit solutions were considered.

Ms. Ryan thanked the committee members for their input and said she would work with Ms. Allen to further consider their suggestions.

### **D. Stakeholder Contact List**

Ms. Ryan reported that Ms. Allen had significantly expanded the stakeholder contact list; it now includes several thousand contacts. A binder of the contact list was available at the meeting for review.

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**V. Update on the Status of the Glossary of Terms and Definitions**

The committee briefly reviewed agenda Attachment 4, a working draft Glossary of Terms and Definitions (dated May 25, 2007). Larry Christmas suggested adding AGT and IHB. Cathy Ficker-Terrill and Rick Kuner provided other additional terms to RTA staff through notation on their respective copies of Attachment 4.

**VI. Committee Reports and Other Business**

Ms. Ryan noted that the Policy Committee meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 20, 2007 (NOTE: that meeting was subsequently rescheduled for February 13, 2008). Ms. Ryan also reported that the next CAC meeting is currently unscheduled and will likely be scheduled for early fall.

**VII. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:50 a.m.

## Attendance Roster

Citizen Advisory Committee					
Present	Absent	Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization
✓		Benedict	Albert	Sr. Planner and GIS Analyst	Center for Neighborhood Technology
✓		Brandstrader, AIA	Fred	Vice President of Gov't Affairs-Public Outreach	American Institute of Architects
	✓	Brookstein	Pamela	Near West Suburban Coordinator	Chicagoland Bicycle Federation
✓		Christmas	Larry	Director	Oak Park Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
	✓	Christoforakis	Nicholas	President/CEO	Glendale Heights Chamber of Commerce
	✓	D'Arcy	Mary Alice	Executive Director	Easter Seals DuPage Fox Valley
✓		Ficker-Terrill	Cathy	President	Ray Graham Association
	✓	Hodge	Kit	Associate	Metropolitan Planning Council
	✓	Hud	Rick	Executive Director	Lisle Convention and Visitors Bureau
✓		Kuner	Rick	Co-Chair	Citizens for Appropriate Transportation
	✓	Lighthall	Donnell	Community Development Project Manager	Westside Health Authority
	✓	McSherry	Cynthia	District Council Coordinator	Urban Land Institute, Chicago District Council
	✓	Milhouse, PE	Lawrence	President	IL Society of Professional Engineers, Chicago Chapter
	✓	Msall	Laurence	President	The Civic Federation
	✓	Scalzetti	Mary	Director	Village of Downers Grove, Tourism and Events
	✓	Sisul	Tom	President	Downers Grove Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry
	✓	Strittmatter	Skip	Executive Director	DuPage Convention and Visitors Bureau

### Others Present

Present	Last Name	First Name	Organization
✓	Welk	Amy	Illinois Dept. of Transportation

### RTA Staff and Consultants

Present	Last Name	First Name	Organization
✓	Ryan	Michelle	Regional Transportation Authority
✓	Lenski	Bill	Regional Transportation Authority
✓	Allen	Mignon	Dovetail Consulting