

EVANSVILLE URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Technical Committee Meeting
January 6, 2005

Members Present

Patrick Keepes, Evansville City Engineer
John Stoll, Vanderburgh County Engineer
Brad Mills, APC
Glenn Boberg, Parks Dept.
John Curry, INDOT-Vincennes District
Fred Padget, Westside Improvement Assoc.
Guy Gentry, Warrick County School Corporation
Nick Hall, KYTC – D2
Bill Hubiak, Henderson County Engineer
Kevin McClearn, KYTC – D2
Amy Thomas, KYTC
Dave Franklin, FHWA – IN
Rick Borries, BPS
Gina Boaz, GRADD
Shirley James, Pigeon Creek Greenway Committee
David Matthews, Evansville Chamber of Commerce

Staff Present

Pamela Drach
Lauri Lutz
Craig Luebke
Melanie Wellman
Laura Lamb
Kari Akin

The Technical Committee members introduced themselves.

Patrick Keepes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Patrick Keepes asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2004 meeting. On a motion of Shirley James and seconded by John Curry the Technical Committee minutes were approved. MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT UPDATE-handout

Pamela Drach presented the Project Update.

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Projects

- **Oak Hill Road** (no design consultant at this time): The Final Engineers Report reviews the existing conditions from US 41 to Lynch Rd., and identifies a preferred roadway design that will meet the current and future needs of the corridor. A Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2003 and the Public Hearing Certification has been received. FHWA and INDOT have approved the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The next step in the process is for the local public agency to hire a design consultant.
- **St. Joseph Avenue** (CN FY'05, BLA): This improvement project involves constructing a five-lane facility from Illinois Street to Maryland Street (Phase III) and a four-lane facility between Maryland Street and SR 66/Diamond Avenue (Phase IV), including the realignment of the Mesker Park Drive intersection to a 90-degree intersection. INDOT has given Design Approval. The right-of-way acquisition for Phase III is continuing with four parcels moving towards condemnation. The Consultant is preparing the Final Tracings and supporting documentation. Right-of-way acquisition for Phase IV is continuing.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Projects

- **CNG Conversion Project** (Ongoing, City): The City has received approval to convert 40 city

owned vehicles from gasoline to compressed natural gas (CNG). To date, the City has requested funding for the conversion of 7 vehicles to CNG for the following departments: Building Commission, DMD, EPA, EUTS, Levee Authority, and Solid Waste Management.

- Traffic Control Signal Upgrade (Ongoing, Savage Engineering): This project was authorized in 1993 and will involve improvements to the traffic signal system for greater system efficiency resulting in substantial reductions in vehicle delay, fuel consumption and pollution. INDOT and the City are discussing expanding the project to include the state signal system.
- Weinbach Avenue Intersection Improvement Projects (CN FY'06, BLA): The scope of the project has been changed to consist of the construction of a grass median from Lincoln Avenue to the Lloyd Expressway with left-turn lanes provided on Weinbach Avenue at the Lincoln Avenue, Walnut Street intersections and the U of E access.
- Ohio Street ITS Project (PE FY'00, CN FY'05 - Savage Engineering): Electronic advance warning signs and flashers will be installed at the Ohio Street intersections with St. Joe Avenue and Fulton Avenue to alert motorists when a train is present on the Ohio Street railroad crossing. The Consultant has conducted a field investigation to identify potential locations for the proposed signs and flashers and is working with CSX on suitable locations for electronic equipment.
- Green River Road – Lincoln Avenue (CN FY'07- Schneider Corporation): This intersection improvement project proposes the construction of left and right-turn lanes on westbound Lincoln Avenue and right-turn lanes on Green River Road. The Consultant has received approval of the Grade Review plans and will now prepare the Preliminary Field Check plans.

Transportation Enhancement (TE) Projects

- The Greenway Passage Project - Phase 3 (Phase 3C - CN FY'05 - BLA): Phase 3 of the Greenway Passage, approximately 12 miles of the trail linking Angel Mounds State Historic Site to the animal control shelter, is divided into four sections: A, B, C, D. *The clean-up of the General Waste parcel (part of Phase 3C) is underway.* A Public Hearing was held on October 12, 2004 and the public was provided an opportunity to review the plans and provide comments. Right-of-way acquisition is complete for Phase 3D, the abandoned Hi-Rail property along US Highway 41; however, two easements must be obtained.

Local Projects from the Transportation Plan

- Maxx Road Extension (CN FY'04, City): Maxx Road will be extended from the current terminus south of Lynch Road to Oak Hill Road. The project will be completed through a coordinated effort between a developer and the City of Evansville. The plans for the Oak Hill Road – Maxx Road intersection have been approved by the Board of Public Works.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Projects

- Eickhoff-Koressel Road (Section A1, Gohmann Asphalt & Construction; Section A2 – CN FY'07): Section A (SR 62 to SR 66) has received Design Approval. Construction of Section A1 (Interchange to Upper Mt. Vernon Rd) has been awarded to Gohmann Asphalt & Construction for \$12.4 million. Construction activities are underway. The Location Study report has been developed for Section B (SR 66 to I-64).

- Green River Road (PE FY'04, DLZ; RW FY'05, BLA): A preliminary field check for the section from Lynch Road to Hirsch Road was held on September 2, 2004. The Consultant has made some requested changes and resubmitted the plans to the County for review. BLA has been selected to conduct the right-of-way services for the project. *Right-of-way activities are underway.*
- Lynch Road Extension (E&B Paving): The Lynch Road extension Phases 2B & 3 will extend the corridor from the I-164 interchange to SR 62. *The low bid received at the October 19, 2004 letting did not meet the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal; therefore, the project must be let for bids again.*

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Projects

- Burkhardt Road – Virginia Street (PE FY'05, RW Armstrong): The intersection will be improved with the construction of eastbound and westbound double left-turn lanes on Virginia Street and the extension of the northbound left and right-turn lanes on Burkhardt Road. *The Consultant has been given the Notice to Proceed.*
- Green River Road – Millersburg Road (RW FY'05 & CN FY'06, Clark Dietz): This intersection improvement project consists of adding left-turn lanes on all four approaches, northbound and eastbound right-turn lanes and the installation of a traffic control signal. EUTS received approval of the Final Categorical Exclusion (CE) document. INDOT has approved the Signal Warrant Analysis. A Preliminary Field Check was held on January 22, 2004.
- Oak Hill Road – Bergdolt Road (PE FY'05, Congdon Engineering & Assoc.): This intersection improvement project consists of adding northbound and southbound left-turn lanes on Oak Hill Road and the installation of a traffic control signal. EUTS is preparing the Categorical Exclusion (CE) document and the Signal Warrant Analysis for the project. The Consultant is finishing the field survey and will begin work on the grade review plans.

Hazard Elimination Safety (HES) Projects

- Upper Mt. Vernon Road – Red bank Road (CN FY'05, Savage Engineering): The County will install a flashing beacon at the intersection. In December 2003, the County executed an agreement with Savage Engineering for the design of the project.

Local Projects from the Transportation Plan

- Mt. Pleasant Road (Blankenberger Bros. Inc.): Mt. Pleasant Road from US 41 to east of Old State Road will be upgraded to include the construction of left-turn lanes on Mt. Pleasant Road where warranted. All right-of-way has been secured. Construction has been awarded to Blankenberger Brothers Inc. for approximately \$1,456,000.

TOWN OF NEWBURGH

Hazard Elimination Safety (HES) Projects

- Main Street, Jennings Street and Plum Street (CN FY'06, Commonwealth Engineers): The project includes the realignment of the intersection approaches to standardize the channelization of the traffic at this complex intersection. The Consultant is developing the preliminary plans for the project.

Transportation Enhancement (TE) Projects

- Newburgh River Trail (PE FY'05, ACE/Green 3): The Town of Newburgh and Warrick County are partners in the development of a bicycle and pedestrian facility linking Angel Mounds Historic Site to the Overlook Park at old SR 662 and SR 66. American Consulting Engineers (ACE)/Green 3 are under contract to do the design and landscape architecture work for the project.

WARRICK COUNTY

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Projects

- Epworth Road (CN FY'06, Crossroad Engineers): Epworth Road will be widened to four travel lanes between SR 66/Lloyd Expressway and Telephone Road. The Categorical Exclusion has been approved. The County Commissioners held a Public Information Meeting on Monday, February 23, 2004. The Consultant has received Design Approval. *Right-of-way activities are continuing. Final Check Prints have been submitted to INDOT for approval.*
- Lincoln Avenue (CN FY'06, BLA): The County has contracted BLA to update the design and proceed with the project development. *A Public Hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 25, 2005 at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria of the John H. Castle Elementary School. The Hearing Plans and the Draft Design Summary Report are available for review in the EUTS office.*
- Telephone Road (CN FY'05, BLA): A Public Informational meeting was held on March 3, 2003 to inform the public of modifications made to the plans to meet current design standards. Three parcels are moving forward with eminent domain proceedings. The Consultant is preparing the Final Tracings.

Bridge Projects

- Warner Road Bridge (CN FY'05, R.W. Armstrong): The existing single lane iron truss bridge over Cypress Creek will be replaced with a 160-foot long concrete span bridge that will accommodate two lanes of traffic. Design Approval has been given by INDOT. Land acquisition is complete.

INDOT PROJECTS

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Projects

- US Highway 41 - Lloyd Expressway Interchange (PE FY'05, Beam, Longest & Neff): Local authorities support the construction of a full interchange to better facilitate traffic flow on these two National Highway System (NHS) corridors. The Consultant is working on the environmental review and documentation. The early acquisition of a portion of the property in the southwest quadrant of the interchange is complete.
- US Highway 41 (PE FY'05, Beam, Longest & Neff): The US 41 corridor from Eagle Creek Slough to SR 66/Diamond Avenue is currently programmed for pavement replacement. The Engineer's Report has been approved by INDOT.
- US Highway 41 (RW FY'06, BLA): US 41 from SR 66/Diamond Avenue to Mt. Pleasant Road will be widened to six travel lanes. From Mt. Pleasant Road to Boonville-New Harmony Road the corridor will be rehabilitated to improve the level-of-service. The field survey of the project limits is complete. The Consultant is preparing the Grade Review plans.

- US Highway 41 (PE FY'06, Beam, Longest & Neff): INDOT has programmed a road rehabilitation project from Boonville-New Harmony Road in Vanderburgh County to Kings Mine Road in Gibson County. An Engineering Assessment Field Check was held on March 4, 2004. The purpose of the meeting was to collect field data and discuss the project scope and possible alternatives.
- SR 57 – Boonville-New Harmony Road (CN FY'06, URS): This intersection improvement project includes the addition of right-turn lanes and opposing left-turn lanes on SR 57, improvements to the intersection sight distance, and a new railroad crossing surface on Boonville-New Harmony Road. The Consultant has received Design Approval and the project is in the right-of-way phase of project development.
- SR 62 (I – CN FY'05, Quandt; II & III – CN FY'05, United Consulting;): Phase I, the section from the west city limits of Chandler to 6th Street in Chandler, is scheduled for a March 2005 bid letting. Phases II & III (Chandler to Boonville) are in the right-of-way phase. *Construction of a section of Phase IV (I-164 to Old Boonville Highway) is complete.* The remainder of Phase IV, Old Boonville Highway to the west city limits in Chandler, is scheduled for a February 2005 bid letting.
- SR 65 – Boonville-New Harmony Road (CN FY'05, INDOT): The purpose of the project is to improve the sight distance at the intersection and will require approximately 1.38 acres of new permanent right-of-way with no displacements involved. Right-of-way activities are continuing.
- SR 65 – St. Wendel Road (CN FY'05, Donohue & Associates, Inc.): This intersection improvement project includes the construction of a northbound passing blister, improvements to the intersection sight distance, and the replacement of the flasher equipment. *The project is scheduled for a February 2005 bid letting.*
- SR 65 – SR 66/Diamond Avenue Intersection (CN FY'04, Earth Tech): INDOT proposed improving the intersection through the addition of northbound and southbound left-turn lanes and by updating the intersection geometrics in accordance with current design standards. The project was let for bid in January 2004 with the low bid of \$719,230 received from Blankenberger Brothers. *Construction activities are complete.*
- SR 66/Diamond Avenue (Section II – CN FY'05, Woolpert): The project includes intersection improvements, modernization of the traffic control signals, storm sewer system rehabilitation, and the addition of a through lane between Kentucky Avenue and Fares Avenue. Construction of Section I, St. Joe Avenue to Pigeon Creek, has been awarded to Gohmann Asphalt & Construction for approximately \$17.5 M. *The Consultant has submitted the Final Tracings for Section II, Pigeon Creek to east of US Highway 41, to INDOT.* EUTS submitted local network improvement recommendations for inclusion in the Section II traffic maintenance plans. The tunneling project (Pigeon Creek to Kentucky Ave.) was awarded to Affholder, Inc. for approximately \$6.9M.
- SR 66/Lloyd Expressway (I – Blankenberger Brothers; II – CN FY'04, Woolpert; III – CN FY'04, INDOT): Phase I (Epworth Road to SR 261) construction activities are continuing. Design Approval has been given for Phase II (SR 261 to SR 662) and Phase III (SR 662 to Yankeetown Road). *Phases II and III are scheduled for a fall 2005 bid letting.*

- SR 66/Lloyd Expressway - Burkhardt Road Interchange (CN FY'07, RQAW): A single point urban interchange will be constructed at the SR 66/Lloyd Expressway – Burkhardt Road intersection. A Preliminary Field Check was held on October 6, 2004. The Consultant is preparing the Hearing Plans and supporting documentation.
- SR 69 (E&B Paving): This corridor improvement project will improve the link between I-64 and SR 62 in Posey County. Section II, pavement rehabilitation of existing SR 69 from the Mt. Vernon By-Pass to the New Harmony By-Pass, has been awarded to E&B Paving for approximately \$18.4M. *Construction activities are complete.*
- SR 261 (CN FY'07, DLZ): The purpose of the project is to improve traffic flow and safety along the SR 261 corridor, from SR 66 to Jenner Road. The typical cross section from SR 66 to Oak Grove Road will consist of four travel lanes, two in each direction, separated by a 13-foot wide median/left-turn lane. From Fuquay Road to the north project limits, the typical cross section will include one travel lane in each direction separated by a 13-foot wide median/left-turn lane. A Preliminary Field Check was held on August 27, 2003. State and local representatives met on January 21, 2004 to discuss design options for the SR 261/Oak Grove Road/Casey Road area and the potential design impacts on school related traffic flows. A follow-up meeting was held on September 15, 2004. The Consultant has requested INDOT approval for a change in scope to include the realignment of Casey Road and the Oak Grove Road - Casey Road intersection.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Projects

- SR 62/Lloyd Expressway - Fulton Avenue Intersection (CN FY'04, Fink Roberts & Petrie): This intersection improvement project adds northbound and southbound double left-turn lanes, extends the westbound left-turn lane, and improves the remaining turn lanes. The project includes the removal of the railroad crossing gates and the installation of new flashers at the Fulton Avenue railroad crossing south of the intersection. The project was let for bids on June 22, 2004 with the low bid received from JBI Construction (approximately \$1.77M).
- SR 62/Morgan Avenue – Oak Hill Road Intersection (RW FY'06, QK4): The Morgan Avenue - Oak Hill Road intersection is programmed for the construction of southbound double left-turn lanes and an eastbound right-turn lane. The Consultant has submitted the Preliminary Field Check plans to INDOT for approval.
- SR 62/Morgan Avenue - Green River Road Intersection (CN FY'05, RQAW): The project will provide double left-turn lanes on all approaches to the intersection and a dedicated eastbound right-turn lane on SR 62/Morgan Avenue. The Consultant has received Design Approval. Right-of-way engineering is complete and the acquisition phase is underway. A Final Field Check was held on October 20, 2003. The Consultant is preparing the Final Tracings.
- SR 66/Lloyd Expressway – Stockwell Road (CN FY'05, URS): The project includes the construction of eastbound double left-turn lanes on the SR 66/Lloyd Expwy., an additional northbound lane on Stockwell Road between the Lloyd Expwy. and Indiana Street and the reconstruction of the Stockwell Road - John Street intersection. A Public Hearing was held on February 20, 2002. The project is in the right-of-way phase of development. The Legal Notice has been given that INDOT plans to proceed with the project as presented in the Final Design Summary Report and on the Final Field Check prints (available for review in the EUTS office). A Final Field Check was held on July 27, 2004.

Corridor Assessments

- SR 62/ Lloyd Expressway: Fulton Avenue to USI Interchange (Corradino Group): A corridor study was conducted on the upgrading of this section of the Lloyd Expressway to freeway status. Alternative 6, the preferred alternative, consists of constructing a third through lane in each direction from the USI interchange to Barker Avenue and making SR 62/Lloyd Expressway a fully controlled access freeway. A Public Information Meeting was held on February 26, 2004 to present preliminary design options and obtain public comment on the options. EUTS has received a copy of the official transcript from the public informational meeting.
- I-69 Corridor Location and Ohio River Bridge Crossing (HNTB): The KYTC, INDOT and Vanderburgh County are jointly sponsoring a corridor study to determine the location of the I-69 corridor through the EUTS study area. On February 11, 2004, INDOT and KYTC jointly announced that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been approved by the FHWA. Of the four alternatives evaluated in detail, the DEIS identifies Alternative 2 as the preferred alternative. Public Hearings on the DEIS were held on March 16, 2004 in Henderson and on March 17, 2004 in Evansville. Public comments were accepted until April 19, 2004.

KYTC PROJECTS

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Projects

- US 60 (CN FY'04, PDR): The KYTC proposes to reconstruct US 60 from US 41A to KY 425/Henderson By-Pass. Phase 2 design plans have been developed for a five lane cross section with curb and gutter and sidewalks. The project is in the right-of-way appraisal phase of project development.

Design Development Process for Federal Aid Projects

Indiana

Planning
Engineers Report/Project Development
Select Design Consultant
Grade Review Plans
Preliminary Field Check Plans & Meeting
Environmental Document Approval
Public Hearing Plans & Meeting
Final Design Study Report & Hearing Plans
Design Approval
Right-of-Way Engineering/Acquisition
Final Plan Submittal
Final Check Prints
Final Tracings
Bid Letting

Kentucky

Planning
Intermediate or Scoping Study
Select Design Consultant
Pre-Design Meeting
Preliminary Line & Grade Inspection
Draft Environmental Document Approval
Public Hearing
Design and Environmental Approval
Drainage Inspection and Submittal
Plan Submittal for Right-of-way Funds
Right-of-way Acquisition
Final Plan Review
Bid Letting

Project Update Discussion:

David Matthews asked if EUTS will be monitoring the Newburgh River Trail Greenway Project that may be starting next year. Pamela Drach said yes, and referred David Matthews to Page 4 of the January Quarterly Project Update, under the Town of Newburgh section. Pamela Drach added that it is a joint project between Warrick County and the Town of Newburgh.

LINCOLN AVENUE PROJECT (WARRICK COUNTY) – PUBLIC HEARING PLANS-handout

Laura Lamb presented the Lincoln Avenue Project (Warrick County) – Public Hearing Plans.

Pamela Drach added that the plans and all of the documentation regarding this project are available in the EUTS office. EUTS will be putting together comments that will be submitted during the public hearing, so if there is anything you would like for EUTS to evaluate and include in our comments, please let EUTS know.

NEW BUSINESS

FREIGHT MOVEMENT STUDY-handout

Melanie Wellman discussed the Freight Movement survey with the Technical Committee members and entertained any ideas and suggestions.

Melanie Wellman said EUTS will be conducting an Intermodal Freight Movement Study for the Counties of Vanderburgh, Gibson, Posey, Warrick and Henderson. Each of the five counties will have a specific survey that will list the streets and highways tailored for that particular county. This survey was based on past surveys conducted in 1995, 1998 and 2000. The main purpose of this study is to identify the truck movements within the Study Area, and freight movement issues we may be able to address.

Brad Mills suggested that at the beginning of the survey where it asks what your role is within the company, to add check boxes that give them options to help better identify who is answering the survey, like: truck driver, manager, etc. This could aid in getting better and more useful information.

Amy Thomas suggested on the last question of the survey where it asks the individual to speak out about streets and highways in that general area, to expand that question to include some main routes they may use in the region.

TE APPLICATIONS-handout

Kari Akin presented the three TE Applications: (1) Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage Phase 3C-2, (2) Warrick County Historic Bridge #264 Reuse on Rivertown Trail, and (3) Newburgh Old Lock and Dam #47 Historic Transportation Rehabilitation Project Phase I. Kari Akin said drafts of the three applications are available for review in the EUTS office. A copy of the TE Applications handout is attached to the Minutes.

Amy Thomas asked what's the process of getting this approved in Indiana for TE funds. Pamela Drach said the applications are submitted by the MPOs or by the government agency (if outside an MPO) to the State to review. The State then groups the applications in one of three categories: commerce, historic and trail. The projects are ranked within each of those categories and then the State assigns approval.

Fred Padget asked if the City has set aside or has the funds available. Glenn Boberg answered the Parks Department has a plan to fund the local match.

Patrick Keepes asked for a motion to approve the three TE Applications. On a motion of Glenn Boberg and seconded by Fred Padget the three TE Applications were approved. MOTION CARRIED.

OTHER BUSINESS

RED BANK/LLOYD EXPRESSWAY WAL-MART

Fred Padget asked about the striping on Red Bank/Lloyd Expressway. Patrick Keepes said he and John Stoll have met with Wal-Mart's contractor and their engineer to discuss this issue. The first thing to recognize is that the markings are not complete and the signal has not been activated. Patrick Keepes said they are going to get some "as-built" plans from Wal-Mart's engineer to see if what has been done is correct.

Fred Padget expressed concerns with Wal-Mart lighting and driver visibility. Patrick Keepes said they are working to address that issue as well.

FULTON/LLOYD EXPRESSWAY

Fred Padget voiced his concern with the pavement markings on the Lloyd Expressway at Fulton Avenue stating it is difficult to know where the turn lane is versus the through lane. Fred Padget acknowledged that the weather conditions haven't been great for doing road work, but he feels that is a serious situation, as well.

THANK YOU

Glenn Boberg and Shirley James said "Thank You" to Pamela Drach and Kari Akin for their help on the Greenway application.

ADJOURNMENT

Patrick Keepes adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.