

CAMPO Policy Board Meeting – Draft Minutes

June 10, 2013, 1:30pm

Attendees:

Roger Lang (City Plan Commission) – Acting Chair
Jim Ude (INDOT)
Ryan Brand (City Council)
Jorge Morales (County Council)
Rick Flohr (County Commissioner)

Staff:

Laurence Brown (CAMPO Director)
Dave Hayward (City Engineer)

Absent:

Zack Ellison (County Plan Commission)
Mayor Kristen Brown
Michelle Allen (FHWA)
Tony Greep (FTA)

Roger called the meeting to order. Rick motioned to approve the March 2013 meeting minutes. Jim seconded. Unanimous; no opposed.

Laurence gave a synopsis of what an MPO is for the benefit of the new members. The Technical Committee met for the first time ever on the previous Thursday (June 6th). 16 people attended. They gave valuable input for the bylaws and have recommended for approval all the resolutions to be presented today. He described the Citizens Advisory Committee, which is not in existence yet, but the bylaws are creating it. He also described the three documents that the MPO produces, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Statement of Work (SOW).

He talked about the planning CAMPO does. CAMPO has about \$200K annually to function and do studies. Currently CAMPO is doing the ColumBUS Transit Improvement and Expansion Plan, the Bike & Pedestrian Plan update, and is supporting the State Street Corridor Study. CAMPO will be developing an MTP over the next 3 years. The main component of that is the Travel Demand Model, which is a requirement now since the last legislation called MAP-21. This is costly to develop a good one, so much of our resources for next year and this year are going to that. CAMPO is also creating a Columbus Safety Committee where we use educational campaigns. Other communities have done this very successfully.

CAMPO is also planning Sunday Parkways, and also doing Transportation Demand Management Program with Cummins, where Cummins is looking into both a bike-share and trying to reduce their plant-to-plant driving. Cummins and CAMPO are coordinating with the transit planning to see what the new transit routes can do in this regard. Laurence also helps out with transit planning and projects.

Dave gave a report on the different projects that are going on now. 200S has been moving well. The Railroad has been punctual on their part of the project. Expected it to be done by Aug 5th. Carr Hill is going to start this fall with utility work, and the major construction work will be done next year.

Rick asked about some of Carr-Hill being in the county. Dave said there was going to be some work by the county, but not sure what or when. He is coordinating with the County.

Laurence showed a slide of the allocations of dollars, showing that CAMPO had an steady increase of funds up until about 2010, and since then it has gone down. CAMPO has saved up money for projects, and now we're starting to spend that money on projects, and we'll be exhausting it fairly quickly now.

New Business

Laurence has three resolutions, the first to create bylaws that reflect what we're doing. This formally creates the Technical Committee and how it works, and creating a Citizens Advisory Committee. The second resolution is to change the policy member from "Presidents" to "members" so that we have people staying on the Policy Board more than a year; most of the time people are only "president" for 1 year.

The 3rd resolution is really about developing a process so that Laurence can do Administrative Modifications and some emergency Amendments without waiting for a Board meeting.

Ryan – Asked questions about the CAC possibly losing their voting rights as it is currently written. Laurence explained that this was stolen from Bloomington, and the purpose is such that if a big project comes up, a crowd can't show up and sway the votes; we didn't think this would be fair. There was lots of discussion about this process and whether this level of complication was necessary. Bloomington did start with appointments by the mayor, and then the CAC created a life of its own. Jorge thought this was the way to go. The Policy Board ultimately recommended that Laurence should convene the CAC and lead it, and as people come and the committee finds its own direction, the bylaws regarding the CAC voting can be developed. Laurence said that he and Alex Whitted, the attorney, would rewrite the CAC section as suggested. Laurence suggests that the group accept the bylaws (Resolution 2013-4) with the recommended changes to the CAC section. Rick made the motion, Jorge seconded. Vote was unanimous; no opposed. Laurence asked whether to send that simplified version out to them. Roger asked they see it.

Jorge described some possible recommendations to the CAC section to make it right. Ryan also suggested that only minor removals would be necessary to do this. Just change the voting privileges section. Roger also pointed out some possibilities.

Laurence described Resolution 2013-5 changing the membership to "members" for all the boards/commissions rather than "president". This is to increase the longevity of the Policy Board members because president terms are commonly just 1-year. Ryan motioned, Jim seconded. Approved unanimously, no opposed. Laurence pointed out amendments to the bylaws requires a majority of the whole. There are 7 members, so this requires 4 people, and there were 5 voting for it, so it passed.

Laurence described Resolution 2013-6 is to include in the bylaws criteria for minor and major changes, which represent an “Amendment” (major change) or a “Administrative Modification” (minor change). Laurence began by discussing a change of the date of a project. The resolution recommends that a change of more than 1 year is a “major” change. Roger asked if we could make it more than 6 month change. Jim said we might say if it changes more than 1 fiscal year. Some discussion on letting date versus completion date. Laurence pointed out that, for TIP purposes, we track letting dates, not completion dates.

Laurence discussed the purpose of the emergency amendment. Jim moved that we accept the amendment as written, Rick seconded. It was unanimous; no opposed.

Laurence introduced Resolution 2013-7, which is regarding INDOT project additions to the TIP. There is only one INDOT project to be incorporated into the TIP, a bridge on SR11. Jorge was wondering where this particular project was. Laurence said he should have had a map that shows the location. Jorge was able to determine which bridge it was after some discussion. Jorge moved to approve the resolution, Jim seconded, unanimously approved; no opposed.

Laurence described an interest by community members in Elizabethtown to connect their parks; they have a park that is not particularly well connected to the town, and they purchased another piece of property for a park, and they have an abandoned rail that connects Elizabethtown all the way to Columbus. This connection to Columbus via the abandoned rail is on the current bike/ped plan. This would cost about \$5000 to do a study that would virtually be a parks master plan for Elizabethtown.

Jorge thought it might better to do a county-wide study. Dave pointed out that Hope has done a Comprehensive Plan and that they would like to similar path to Columbus. Roger wondered why they came to the MPO. Laurence discussed they are looking everywhere for support, and he offered to ask the CAMPO Board. Laurence was not sure that the MPO can fund a Parks Master Plan. Laurence discussed that the abandoned rail will require the purchase of land; much of the corridor has probably reverted to the neighboring landowners. Roger was wondering if there is county demand for such a study. Dave felt that this has been an interest. Ryan thought that a Parks Master Plan is probably not appropriate use of MPO dollars, but maybe good for a county-wide people trail plan. Roger agreed. Laurence described the history and evolution of the discussions with Elizabethtown citizens who brought this concept to him, and why we brought the Parks Master Plan idea initially. In summary, the group appeared to like the idea of a county-wide people trail study.

Meeting adjourned.