



MINUTES

33rd Street South Corridor Project
Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting #7
Waite Park City Hall
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM on August 16, 2007

Attendees:

Jodi Teich – Stearns County
Leigh Lenzmeier - Stearns County
Matt Glaesman – City of St Cloud
Kirby Becker – St. Cloud APO
Herman Bartz – City of Waite Park
Dale Grove - Bonestroo
Pat McGraw – Bonestroo
Bryant Ficek - Bonestroo
Claudia Dumont – Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 3

Citizen Observers:

Monroe Asher

Minutes recorded by: Pat McGraw - Bonestroo

Note: Minutes are in *Italics*

Action Items and Special Notes are in ***Bold Type Italics***

The meeting was started at 1:05 pm.

1. Opening Statement: *Dale opened the meeting by welcoming all.*
2. Introductions: *Attendees listed introduced themselves to the group.*
3. PAC Meeting # 6 Minutes: *Minutes were approved without comment. Pat will have the minutes posted to the project website.*
4. Review Progress

- a. Action items from last meeting: *Pat provided an update on the status of the action items from the last meeting.*
 - i. *PAC meeting #5 minutes have been posted to the website.*
 - ii. *Bonestroo contacted the Cultural Resources Unit regarding the need to make an evaluation of the red barn located west of TH 15.*
 - 1. ***Bonestroo will review historic aerial photos.***
 - 2. ***Bonestroo will check in with Waite Park to see if there have been permits issued regarding the structure.***
 - 3. ***Jodi will check the County's records.***
 - 4. *Jodi did obtain photos from the assessor's office. However, the photos did not clearly show the inside of the barn.*
 - iii. *Evaluation Criteria Ranking Exercise: Pat noted that a couple of the PAC members had not yet turned in a worksheet. If input is not received from all members the weighting of criteria will be based on the input that has been received. **Pat will follow-up with PAC members individually to solicit input.***
 - iv. *Roundabout Feasibility Report: The report has been completed and delivered to Jodi for review. Pat noted that the report finds roundabouts to be a feasible option for intersection control throughout the corridor.*

5. Review and Approval of Evaluation Matrix:

- a. *Pat discussed the changes that were made based on the comments received previously.*
 - i. *Summation of "possible points" and "total points" has been revised to resemble previous matrices utilized by the APO.*
 - ii. *The categories of Social and Environmental have been combined.*
 - iii. *The primary categories have been weighted Transportation 40%, Social & Environmental 40%, and Economic 20%*
 - iv. *Having noted the above changes Pat asked if the group was prepared to consent to use of the evaluation matrices as presented. **Consent was unanimous.** Note: Pat had discussed the above items with Steve Gaetz previously and Steve stated that he could consent to the approach.*

6. Review and Approval of Corridor and Interchange Alternatives to be Evaluated:

- a. *Pat asked if there was a desire to reconsider any of the alternatives; make major revisions; or to consider other options. While there was no desire to eliminate any of the alternatives or to add others the following items were submitted/discussed.*
 - i. *Layout Option "C":*

1. *Seek to narrow total right-of-way width to 110 or 120 ft east of Cooper Ave.*
 2. *Add a roundabout at Southway Drive/Suncrest Drive.*
 3. *Add a ¾ access at Southway Drive.*
 4. *Add a ¾ access at Southwood Trail*
 5. *Aim to provide total right-of-way width of 150 or 160 ft west of Cooper Ave.*
 6. *Provide ¾ access at Walden Way.*
- ii. *Layout Option “A”:*
1. *Provide ¾ access at Walden Way.*
- iii. *Layout Option “B”:*
1. *Provide ¾ access at Walden Way.*
- iv. *Interchange Option “A”: Comments provided via email from Claudia to Pat*
1. *Ramp lengths should be no longer than one-quarter mile (the [MnDOT State Geometric Engineer](#) is pushing this [approach](#)).*
 2. *Have you done any traffic modeling on the ramp intersections? The initial concern is that there isn't adequate space between the intersections and the queues may cause problems at the signals. **Revise lane numbers and lengths to reflect general traffic demands.***
- v. *Interchange Option “B”: Comments provided via email from Claudia to Pat*
1. *Ramp lengths should be no longer than one-quarter mile (the [MnDOT State Geometric Engineer](#) is pushing this).*
 2. *The loops should have a 230 foot radius.*
 3. *- The loops need to tie in with the auxiliary lane - the NB loop appears to point towards the right through lane.*
- vi. *Interchange Option “C”: Comments provided via email from Claudia to Pat*
1. *Several years ago Mn/DOT had discussed a memorandum of understanding with the city, which would allow an interim at-grade intersection on TH 15 if the city secured funding for an event center near 33rd Street South. When the event center proposal fell through, Mn/DOT's acceptance of an at-grade intersection ended. **The district position on access at 33rd Street South is limited to an interchange only.***
- vii. *General:*
1. *Consider roundabouts at interchange ramp terminals when analyzing corridor option “C.”*

2. *Keep in mind that Granite View Road will be considered for expansion to a 4-lane roadway. An EIS will be prepared by the APO. Pat will discuss this revelation further with Jodi and Kirby.*
 3. *When discussing the ¾ access at Walden Way speak to the probable need to consider a larger solution such as an elongated roundabout that would serve 21st Avenue South, 33rd Street and Walden way.*
 4. *Snowhill Court: Right-in-right-out access is anticipated by developer/residents.*
 - b. *Consent: Pat asked the group if they could consent to the alternatives presented being the basis for evaluation once the above items were taken into account. Consent was unanimous. Pat will follow-up with Steve Gaetz, who could not attend, to ensure that he concurs.*
7. Public Comment: **Mr. Asher** presented the following questions and/or comments:
- a. *When will the project be built? The answer was that the timeline is funding dependant. Furthermore different pieces may receive funding from varying sources at varying times. 2009 is the earliest that construction could begin with 2010 being a more probable earliest start.*
 - b. *Will solutions from this study handle the traffic that will come if a new river crossing is constructed? Kirby noted that the APO has run numbers based on a 100-yr, full build out, with a new river crossing scenario. Those models provide an anticipated annual average daily traffic (AADT) of approximately 50,000. The corridor is expected to handle such volumes.*
 - c. *Mr. Asher is in favor of considering roundabouts as part of the solution*
8. Miscellaneous:
- a. *Jodi noted that many people in attendance at the Southwest Beltway Project meetings have been asking to discuss the 33rd Street South Project. Those with interest have been encouraged to attend the 33rd Street meetings and/or to contact the project team members.*
9. Schedule for 2nd Public Informational Workshop
- a. *Workshop will be scheduled for Thursday, October 25th from 5:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m. [A presentation will be made at 5:30 and 7:00.](#)*
 - b. *Location will be at the church – same as last time.*
10. Next meeting will be October 4th at 1:00 p.m. at the Waite Park City Hall.
- a. *Primary agenda items will include review of draft findings of alternative evaluations and preview of the public informational workshop*