I. Call to Order
Chairperson Gerald Schweighart called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.

II. Roll Call
Roll call was taken by written record and a quorum was declared present.

III. Audience Participation – None

IV. Approval of Minutes
A. Regular Meeting of April 6, 2005
A motion was made by Mr. Langenheim and seconded by Mr. Helton to approve the minutes of April 6, 2005 as distributed. There being no corrections or additions, and upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

V. New Business
A. Approval of Final Unified Technical Work Program (UTWP)
Mrs. Black explained the UTWP included in the packet and the different program elements within the document, which will be used to identify the tasks that CUUATS staff would be accomplishing during the next fiscal year. She pointed out that the major tasks to be implemented would be the Long Range Transportation Plan and the Greenways and Trails Plan. She stated that work would continue on expansion of the model and the corridor plans for Illinois Route 130, US Route 45, and Staley/Rising Road. Mrs. Black announced that the CUUATS Technical Committee unanimously approved the UTWP at its meeting last week without further changes.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Langenheim moved to approve the UTWP as presented. Mr. Helton seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.
B. Approval of Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mrs. Chavarria explained that the Transportation Improvement Program for 2006-2008 lists the proposed projects for the next three fiscal years for the urbanized area. She provided as a handout a map that shows the major transportation products for fiscal year 2006 and would be included in the final report. She pointed out the list of corrections that were suggested following the CUUATS Technical Committee meeting of May 4th, which include moving project UR-06-06, Cunningham & Crystal Lake Traffic Signal in the Urbana local table, to FY2007, and adding in FY2006 “Transit Access Initiative Study” to the MTD table. Mrs. Chavarria explained that the addition of the initiative study would have a $500,000 Federal Cost Share, $125,000 Local Cost Share, for a total project cost of $625,000. She stated that an additional budget line should also be included for FY2006 in the amount of $5,000,000 and $1,000,000 for FY2007-08 in the MTD table. Mr. Helton asked about the added costs and Mr. Volk stated that these were federal dollars that have been apportioned. He added that we are looking to draw down these federal funds that will be used mainly for operating purposes. There being no further discussion, Mr. Friedman moved to approve the Transportation Improvement Program for FY2006-08 with the requested changes. Mr. Markwell seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

C. Other – None

VI. Old Business
A. Subcommittee Reports
1. CUTEC – Mr. Rentschler reported that at the last meeting held on Wednesday, April 27, 2005, the new business discussed included the University traffic study at Curtis Road and First Street, for which existing conditions information was distributed. He stated that the other item discussed was the intersection study for Springfield Avenue and Mathews Avenue. He explained that the discussion included the agencies affected and gave staff directions as to how far the study should go at this point.

2. Windsor Road – Mr. Gray had nothing new to report.

3. Curtis Road – In the absence of Mr. Blue, Mr. Wegman reported that purchasing right-of-way for the portion of Curtis Road to be built is underway and that 25 of 36 parcels have been secured. He stated that other aspects under way include an agreement with Ameren-IP to move the utility poles and with the University to move the gas line. Mr. Wegman stated that design work continues on all parts of the road moving west and everything seems to be on schedule at this point.

Concerning the TEA-21 Reauthorization question asked by Mr. Rentschler, Mrs. Black stated that the major amendment to the bill was related to the MPO’s certification by federal highway. She explained that to receive federal funding, all modes of transportation should be included in the evaluation of the transportation model – pedestrians, bicycles, and heavy vacant traffic, as well as passenger cars.

4. Enhanced Transit System – Mr. Volk reported that the draft Request for Proposal (RFP) for the implementation study of the transit elements of the LRTP would be completed in the next couple of weeks. He stated that the study group would then meet to discuss moving ahead with that project.

5. CATS II – Mrs. Black reported that we are waiting for the consultant to release the draft report of the second phase of the CATS study.

6. Route 45 Corridor Study – Mrs. Black stated that staff is building the different scenarios for evaluation based on comments received from the last Steering Committee meeting. She reported that additional meetings with the different agencies are taking place in order to build the financial information necessary to measure fiscal impact of the scenarios. Mrs. Black is hopeful that by the next Steering Committee meeting, there would be output from the model for discussion.
B. Agency Reports

1. City of Champaign – Mr. Wegman stated that work on North Prospect Avenue is underway and the new traffic signals should be in operation at this time with a completion date of June 1st. He reported that work on Interstate Drive is on schedule and the construction should be complete when the new Wal-Mart opens around July 1st. He added that this construction should be complete to North Neil Street by the end of the construction season. Mr. Wegman reported that slurry seal work would begin this week along with the three-lane restriping of Green Street from Fourth Street to Neil Street, which should begin on June 1st. He stated that the campus town parking project was awarded last week and work should begin right away.

2. City of Urbana – Mr. Gray stated that the Goodwin Avenue bicycle path between Bradley Avenue and Springfield Avenue is ongoing. He reported that bids would be received later today on the Sunset Avenue reconstruction project between Lincoln Avenue and Coler Avenue and that plans for the reconstruction of Lierman Avenue between Washington Street and Main Street are being reviewed by IDOT and the County Highway staff. Mr. Gray indicated that the Lincoln Square Village parking lot reconstruction is also underway and that work has begun at the Wal-Mart project, which will impact Illinois Route 130 and Tatman Drive in the near future.

3. Village of Savoy – Mr. Helton reported that the intersection of Prospect Avenue and Curtis Road was just completed. Mr. Rentschler reported that he attended a State Bike Plan meeting and that there may be a new mandate through Senate Bill 508 that would require the inclusion of bicycle paths in road projects utilizing state funds. He added, however, that there would be no additional money for these paths and that the passage of this bill is in question.

4. CUMTD – Mr. Volk stated that annexation work is continuing and there are seven areas to be considered by the MTD Board of Trustees and public hearings are scheduled in June. He announced that Real Time Bus information has been installed at the Illinois Terminal, Country Fair, and Wright Street at the Transit Plaza. He stated that approval is being sought for the brackets in downtown Urbana, and then Parkland College and Green Street should be completed by the fall.

5. Champaign County – No report.

6. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – Mr. Biehl reported that the extension of Oak Street from Hazelwood Avenue has been completed to approximately 700 feet to the south and would eventually extend to Gerty Drive.

7. CC Regional Planning Commission – Mr. Dimit reported that the Route 130 corridor plan would be reactivated soon and would be included in the next agenda under subcommittee reports.

Concerning the Scenario Planning workshop, due to the excellent work of Mrs. Black, Mr. Dimit announced that Champaign County would be hosting this major planning effort next month. He stated that the new corridor plan on the west side of Champaign would be used as an example and representatives from Puget Sound and the East Coast would demonstrate scenario planning from their portions of the country. He added that even though this workshop began for the East Central Illinois area, it has now been opened up for the Midwest region with federal highway sponsorship. Mr. Ward announced that the event is scheduled for June 15, 2005 and initially the Federal Highway had requested CUUATS to sponsor a regional workshop. He explained that other areas requested this type of workshop to be held and FHWA staff identified the Champaign area as an excellent source for beginning these types of dialogues. Mr. Ward further explained that it is hoped that other MPO’s around the state would begin to see more of this type of planning in the future. He congratulated Mrs. Black on the coordination of this workshop and on the development of an excellent flyer and agenda.
and other MPO’s have been invited to attend along with Puget Sound, Gainesville, Florida, and NIPC from the Chicago area as other presenters. Mr. Ward announced that the evening before the workshop, a dinner would be hosted for presenters to get acquainted with each other and staff is looking forward to this as well.

8. IDOT District 5 – Mr. Markwell reported that for the Scenario Planning workshop, the deadline for signing up to attend is Friday, May 13th. He mentioned that if anyone would like to attend, please contact Mrs. Black or the CUUATS staff by this Friday. Mr. Markwell stated that this is a feather in the cap for this area to be the host city, which is something that not even Chicago is doing. Mr. Ward added that this is correct and the reason we came to Champaign was because of their abilities and their openness to try new things. He clarified that, even though CUUATS has performed most of the work to put this workshop together, this event is jointly sponsored between CUUATS, Federal Highway and IDOT and we appreciate all the help that has been provided by all staff members involved.

Mr. Markwell announced that the state-wide multi-year program has recently become available and can be found on the IDOT website. He stated that it reflects the current budget constraints that the state is facing and outlines the focus that the department would be taking in the coming fiscal year and beyond. He explained that there would not be any expansion projects or added lane projects and the largest project coming up for fiscal year 2006 is the resurfacing of I-74 along the six-lane section on the north edge of Champaign-Urbana. Concerning other recent work, Mr. Markwell stated that projects awarded from the March letting included work on Springfield Avenue in Champaign and traffic signal modernization at the interchange of Route 45 and I-74 in Urbana. He reported that other contract maintenance work includes skid proofing on Mattis Avenue from Camp Drive to Glen Burnie Drive and the new signals at Monticello Road and Route 45.

9. IDOT Central Office – Mr. Markwell reported in the absence of Ms. Tracy and that one thing to be mentioned included the enhancement program, which is about to become active. He announced that the outreach meetings for anyone who wants to attend would be held in Champaign on May 19th at the Hawthorne Suites from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. He added that applications would be accepted between June 1st and August 1st and applications are available on-line. He stated that there would be 3 years worth of funding from $60 to $100M to be awarded and one of the primary objectives of these applications would be project readiness and a good realistic cost estimate of the projects. Mr. Markwell pointed out that these funds would be reimbursement based and there would be no allowances for cost overruns. He stated that any project that could not utilize the full amount funded could not be used for any other project. He added that any project that was previously rejected could be resubmitted for consideration and the absolute deadline for receipt is August 1st. Mr. Markwell stated that announcements for successful projects would be in the fall, probably October. He stated that any project that is within an MPO, that MPO should also receive a copy of the application.

10. FHWA – Mr. Ward stated that a seminar on safety conscience planning was recently held that his office put together in conjunction with the Federal Highway Resource Center and your MPO was well represented and their participation was appreciated.

C. Other – None

VII. Audience Participation – None

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Friedman and seconded by Mr. Helton to adjourn the meeting. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously. Chairperson Schweighart adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.