



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY  
REGIONAL PLANNING  
COMMISSION

## CUUATS Joint Technical and Policy Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2020  
Time: 10:30 a.m.  
Place: John Dimit Conference Room  
Brookens Administrative Center  
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

### **Technical Members**

**Present:** Dalitso Sulamoyo, Karl Gnadt, Evan Alvarez (Proxy), David Clark, Rob Kowalski, Carol Mitten, Marcus Ricci (Proxy), Stacey DeLorenzo, Levi Kopmann

**Members Absent:** Jeff Blue, Amy Snyder, Lorrie Pearson, Robert Nelson, Daniel Magee, Ted Christy

### **Policy Members**

**Present:** Giraldo Rosales, Dalitso Sulamoyo, Bradley Diel, David Clark (Proxy), Stacey DeLorenzo (Proxy), Joan Dykstra, Diane Marlin

**Members Absent:** Deborah Feinen, Scott Neihart, Mohamed Attalla

**Others Present:** Betsy Tracy (via conference call)

### MEETING MINUTES

Approved as Distributed

I. Call to Order

Mr. Rosales called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

II. Roll Call

The roll was taken by written record and a quorum was declared present for both the CUUATS Technical Committee and the Policy Committee.

III. Audience Participation

None

IV. Approval of Agenda

**Mr. Diel made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Kopmann seconded. Upon vote, the motion to approve the agenda was unanimously carried.**

V. Approval of Minutes



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Ms. Mitten requested that one change be made to the Technical Committee meeting minutes. On page 7 under the agency report for the City of Urbana the “(MCORE Phase Five)” phrase should be removed from the first sentence in that section.

**Mr. Sulamoyo made a motion to approve the minutes from the CUUATS Technical Committee Meeting on December 4, 2019 as corrected. Mr. Clark seconded. Upon vote, the motion to approve the minutes were unanimously carried. Mr. Diel made a motion to approve the minutes from the CUUATS Policy Committee Meeting of December 11, 2019. Ms. Dykstra seconded. Upon vote, the motion to approve the minutes was unanimously carried.**

VI. New Business

- A. Approval of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FY 2020-2023 Amendments – Ashlee McLaughlin

BACKGROUND:

The Illinois Department of Transportation and Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District submitted three amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program FY 2020-2023. The following describes the amendments:

**State of Illinois Project A105**

This is an existing state project for overlay work on I-57 at the I-74 ramps, part of a contract that also includes locations in Vermilion County. The total project cost increased from \$100,000 to \$295,000 in State Only funds. This project is in FY 20.

**State of Illinois Project 70E60**

This is a new state project for district-wide traffic control at various locations that have not yet been determined. The total project cost is estimated to be \$83,000 with 90 percent (\$75,000) in federal HSIP-Safety funds and a 10 percent (\$8,000) state match. This project is in FY 20.

**MTD Project MTD-19-02**

This is an existing MTD project for the expansion of Illinois Terminal as part of a joint development project. The total project cost has increased to \$29 million including \$17.275 million from an FTA 5339 grant, \$4 million in FTA 5307 funding, and \$7.725 million in MTD capital reserves. This project is in FY 20.

**Mr. Gnadt made a motion to approve the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2020-2023 Amendments. Ms. Mitten seconded. Upon vote, the motion unanimously carried.**





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B. Presentation of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FY 2020-2023 Administrative Modifications – Ashlee McLaughlin

BACKGROUND:

The Illinois Department of Transportation and Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District submitted three administrative modifications to the Transportation Improvement Program FY 2020-2023. The following describes the modifications:

**State of Illinois Project A167 B**

This is an existing state project for I-57 bridge replacement under US 150 NW of Champaign. According to the Illinois Department of Transportation, this project has been authorized in “Advanced Construction” due to the specific apportionment or state contract ceiling being insufficient to meet project specifications and/or no eligible costs have been incurred on the project. This project is in FY 20.

**State of Illinois Project J005 (six separate financial line items in TIP)**

This is an existing state project for lighting, ADA Improvements, and traffic signal modernization on US 150/US 45 and University Avenue from Wright Street to Cunningham Avenue in Urbana. According to the Illinois Department of Transportation, this project has been converted from “Advanced Construction” to “Current” status due to the specific apportionment or state contract ceiling being sufficient to meet project specifications and/or the project being financially active. This project is in FY 20.

**MTD Project MTD-22-01**

This is an existing MTD project for (4) Replacement 60-Foot Hydrogen Fuel Cell Buses. The fiscal year for this project has been changed from 2022 to 2020.

Ms. McLaughlin announced that the CUUATS staff received the updated STPU allocations for FY 21. Ms. McLaughlin presented the updated schedule showing an eight percent increase for both the CUUATS Urbanized Area and the Mahomet urban area. There are three projects in FY 22 and 23: Curtis Road, Florida Avenue and Mattis Avenue. After FY 25, that will leave the CUUATS staff with a balance of \$6.4 million. With that in mind, the CUUATS staff will be putting out another call for projects for the future fiscal years to use that balance. Mayor Marlin inquired what areas the Florida Avenue project covered. Ms. Morocoima-Black commented that the project is from Lincoln Avenue to Vine Street. Before sending out the call for projects, the staff will be revising the Project Priority Guidelines according to the new goals



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and objectives of the new LRTP 2045. Mr. Kopmann inquired if the CUUATS staff knew what Mahomet's STPU fund balance was should they join the committee. Ms. McLaughlin commented that their funds would remain separate until they are incorporated. Ms. Morocoima-Black's expectation is that the Village of Mahomet will join by 2022 once the final numbers from the census are known and the staff has the new urbanized area boundaries.

C. Sidewalk Network Inventory and Assessment 2019 Update – Matt Yoder

Mr. Yoder provided the following highlights:

- The Sidewalk Network Inventory and Assessment is an ongoing project. The staff collects information about Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.
- During 2014 and 2015 the initial database was built for the urbanized area of sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks and pedestrian signals. Over the last couple of years, data has been added for the Villages of Rantoul and Mahomet.
- Mr. Yoder's presentation focused on the 2019 Update for the urbanized area. The results are shown in the Sidewalk Explorer web application.
- The results for sidewalks have shown slight fluctuations in the compliance scores from year-to-year. For 2019, the sidewalk results were down slightly which has to do with where the data was collected.
- Vertical faults continue to be the most problematic aspect for sidewalks, but the scores are within the range seen in the last few years.
- Curb ramps are the success story of this project. Staff has added more than 900 compliant ramps since 2015. The scores continue to go up every year with more compliant ramps and fewer non-compliant ramps.
- The staff looks at two criteria for crosswalks. The vast majority of crosswalks are considered compliant according to staff analysis. There was a slight increase in that number of compliant crosswalks during 2019.
- For pedestrian signals, the CUUATS staff saw an increase in the highest compliance category, but also some increases in the lower categories. The features that were found as most commonly missing in the newly added pedestrian signals were the locator tone, the vibrotactile signal or button, and the tactile arrow. These are factors that are not in the Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) standards themselves. They are actually standards from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) which is





adopted into PROWAG. The staff also saw some new pedestrian push buttons that were not getting the highest score because of their size. This is an area where there is no formal standard. The CUUATS staff uses the activated by an open palm method as their evaluation criteria. Therefore, some of the push buttons are scoring in the compliant category and some are not. The CUUATS staff would like to get some feedback from the agencies about pedestrian signals, and push buttons in particular, and asked if the members of the Technical Committee could send Mr. Yoder information as to what is used as the internal standard when new pedestrian signals and push buttons are added. This will allow the staff to be sure that the scoring is in line with what process the local agencies are following.

- The staff is preparing for 2020 data collection and will need a list from each agency of locations where sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks or pedestrian signals were constructed or modified during calendar year 2019 as soon as possible.
- Mr. Kowalski inquired if the tool the CUUATS staff is using shows streets where there are no sidewalks. Mr. Yoder confirmed that the tool currently does not include the missing sidewalk layer, but the information is available in the report document and in the GIS database. It could be added but the challenge is that staff has not completed the analysis for the Village of Mahomet, but the analysis has been completed for the Village of Rantoul and the urbanized area.
- Mr. Diel inquired about the crosswalk on Walnut Street at Taylor Street. He commented that many pedestrians interpret that there is a sign there, so they are free to walk across. Mr. Diel asked the City of Champaign what their position was on how the pedestrian should interpret that crosswalk. Mr. Clark commented that there are bump-outs at the old Radio Maria location, crosswalk signage, parallel lines and a ladder crosswalk, which is basic installation for most crosswalks. He further commented that pedestrian behavior should be such that it is one-way going north and they shouldn't cross when traffic is coming. Mr. Diel suggested that there be something there that the pedestrian can activate. Mr. Clark said the next step would be to install an RFB, but that is not budgeted for that location. Mr. Kowalski further commented that the bump-outs, the signs and the ladder crosswalk were intended to help change behavior.
- Ms. Morocoima-Black demonstrated the website and what detailed data is available.





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- Mayor Marlin inquired if crash data could be added. Ms. Morocoima-Black commented that a different map would have to be created. The limitation that the CUUATS staff has with the crash data is that not all the data can be shown due to liability issues. The CUUATS staff would have to get permission from IDOT to publish all the data.
- Mr. Ricci inquired if there are details about the individual criteria on the website as to what makes it compliant. Mr. Yoder confirmed that yes, the information is on the website.

## VII. Old Business

### A. Projects and Working Groups

1. Multimodal Corridor Enhancement (MCORE) Project – David Clark
  - Construction has stopped for Project Four (Wright Street and Armory Avenue) for the winter, except to work on bus shelters and railing. Construction will resume in another month or so.
  - Possibly, in late March, activity will begin north of Green Street up to Springfield Avenue.
  - The Green Street and Wright Street intersection work will be completed during the summer between commencement and move-in day. Sixth Street north of Armory Avenue, and Daniel Street and Chalmers Street, west of Wright Street work will begin as well.
  - Ms. Mitten commented that the City of Urbana is on track to go out for bidding on Project Five at the end of February.
2. Champaign County Rural Transit Advisory Group (RTAG) – Rita Morocoima-Black
  - Since a meeting is being held this afternoon, there is no updated information to provide to the committees.
  - IDOT completed an audit on the service two weeks ago. There were no major findings. There were a lot of praises received for the service, operation and administration of the service.
3. Safety Committee – Rita Morocoima-Black
  - Since the approval of the two safety plans, no meetings have been held. One of the engineers that was working on the safety plans left CUUATS. An engineer has now been hired, and once he gets used to what the CUUATS staff does, the Safety Committee will be reconvened.



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## B. Agency Reports

### 1. City of Champaign – David Clark/Rob Kowalski

- The city is preparing plans for summer maintenance projects.
- There will be an asphalt overlay project on Windsor Road between Prospect Avenue and Mattis Avenue.
- The concrete street maintenance project will be Springer Drive west of Mattis Avenue to Country Fair Drive, and then Daniel Street between First Street and Fourth Street.
- Mr. Kowalski commented that the hotel in downtown Champaign between Neil Street and Hill Street is finalizing building permits. Construction should begin in the next three weeks. The site has already been excavated and there will be lane closures.
- Cosco will begin construction at the beginning of May and expects to finish mid to the end of November. The location is on north Neil Street.
- The city is exploring the possibility of establishing designated drop-off and pick up zones in Campus Town and part of downtown (Church Street and Neil Street is the biggest problem area in downtown) for ride sharing and short-term pick-ups such as food deliveries. There have been more safety issues with curb management and people picking up rides in the middle of the street, running across the street, etc. Uber and Lyft have been responsive to establishing zones and geo-fencing certain areas. The city is focusing on existing loading zones that would make sense for doing that and then possibly changing the rules for how you can park in those loading zones after hours and how they are used. This will probably occur once construction wraps up at Sixth Street and Green Street. Ms. Mitten inquired if there is a plan to change enforcement to go along with the project. Mr. Kowalski commented that the biggest part of the project is parking in the center lane on Green Street, and not just for Uber and Lyft, but for deliveries and food delivery. Therefore, there would need to be some additional enforcement. The biggest part of this project will be to make sure the ride share drivers are aware that they must pick up in these designated areas.

### 2. City of Urbana – Carol Mitten/Diane Marlin

- There are some small neighborhood projects that will be underway in the spring. The Lincoln Avenue and Springfield Avenue project will probably go out for bid in the fall, some curb work will be done in the fall, and then the paving will be completed in 2021.





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- The work planned for Vine Street and Washington Street has been re-scoped to be a complete reconstruction instead of a resurfacing. This project will be in the timeframe when the Urbana Middle School students are not in attendance between early June and early August. An enhanced stop sign will be installed at this location.
  - The downtown hotel has been sold and the \$15 million renovation should start this spring and be completed over the next two years.
  - The Gather project at Lincoln Avenue and University Avenue: demolition was astonishingly fast and work will take place over the next 18 months.
  - Utility and right-of-way should be wrapped up at 200 Vine St soon.
  - The City of Urbana is looking forward to the face-to-face meeting on the Kickapoo Rail Trail extension with Norfolk Southern Railroad. Senator Duckworth's office was tremendous in getting this meeting set up.
  - The city will soon get a report from Fehr Graham regarding an intersection analysis for Main Street and Vine Street following the pedestrian fatality last year.
3. Village of Savoy – Levi Kopmann
- There are a couple small neighborhood reconstruction projects planned for the spring.
  - The village is working with the CUUATS staff and our consultant on preparing the application for the INFRA Grant for the Curtis Road project, which is due on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - Continuing the engineering on the Curtis Road STU project.
  - Getting patching projects lined up for next year.
  - Mayor Dykstra commented that Dick Helton is retiring. There is an open house on February 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center in Savoy.
4. MTD – Karl Gnadt
- MTD is working on the developmental agreement and intergovernmental agreement with the City of Champaign for the Yards project and hopes to hear from the University of Illinois on what their component will be. Environmental work has begun on the land that will be associated with the project.
  - Conversation has begun on the downtown Urbana transit station.
  - MTD is procuring the hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and working on modifying the maintenance facility so that it will accommodate a gaseous fuel in addition to a liquid fuel. This work will begin in the next month. MTD has a contract for the maintenance



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facility, and the hydrogen production station. The design process has begun on the hydrogen production station.

5. Champaign County – Giraldo Rosales
  - There will be bridge work on Dewey-Fisher Road.
  - Work on the extension of Mattis Avenue. The contract has been awarded to Stark Construction and construction will begin on March 16. The road will be closed from 2800 north up to US 130 until October 1.
  - The project for the bridge on Foley Road in Mahomet Township was awarded to Big O Construction and will begin on April 1. The road will be closed until October 1.
  - The mill and overlay project on County Road 32 in Gifford will begin this summer. The project is a joint effort between Champaign County and the Village of Gifford.
  - The county is continuing the survey and design of the Sidney Road project between Illinois 130 and Sidney Road. Construction of the roadway is scheduled for summer of 2021.
6. University of Illinois – Stacey DeLorenzo
  - The University is looking at what it would cost to complete the work that is needed on St. Mary’s Road from Neil Street to Fourth Street. The cost of the project is double the amount of money the University has available. They are looking at different options to pursue, but the primary work would be to put in a sidewalk under the viaduct and pedestrian lighting along that corridor. The cost of the lighting alone is approximately \$500,000, which is about a third of the project budget.
  - Ms. DeLorenzo is putting together a plan for funds that were granted for transportation asset and maintenance for the next three years.
  - MCORE is ongoing.
7. Village of Mahomet – Ellen Hedrick  
Not present
8. CC Regional Planning Commission – Rita Morocoima-Black
  - The CUUATS staff worked jointly with Champaign County Highway and IDOT on a USDOT Safety grant application for \$385,000. Champaign County is providing some local match. The application is to implement a crash-risk based analysis in Champaign County using a methodology that was created by Federal Highway which involves implementing and testing the process in Champaign County and developing a web-



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based interface to be used to analyze risk factors on crashes. There were 45 applications submitted nationally.

- Ms. Morocoima-Black submitted the GATA budget for CUUATS based on the discussion at the December committee meeting. This was a request from IDOT that the budget be submitted before getting the scope of services approved. This will expedite the process of getting CUUATS agreement signed by all parties by July 1, 2020.
- The CUUATS staff is working on four grants that are due in early March:
  - Land Use Grant:  
Ms. Morocoima-Black had a meeting with representatives (Rob Kowalski, Champaign; Lorrie Pearson, Urbana; and Dennis Donaldson, Savoy) to discuss pursuing a land use grant to perform an existing land use inventory for Champaign, Urbana and Savoy, parcel by parcel and develop an existing land use database. This information will be used as input for continuing the development of the land use model for the urbanized area. As part of the development of the LRTP 2045, the staff developed a land use model. It was helpful in developing the LRTP in terms of population and employment projection, but they want to move into having a parcel-based land use model that will be updated regularly. This will provide the staff with more detailed information about population and employment in the future and help staff to project traffic in better ways for the future.

One of the problems in the community is that each agency uses different criteria for developing land use information or zoning. None of the agencies have a current land use map. All three agencies agreed to send the CUUATS staff a list of what information they would like collected. The end result will be a web-based interface that each of the agencies can use and update any time that there is a new development in the community.

- Safety Grant to study the top 20 locations identified in the safety plans – it was approved during the previous grant period but we were unable to get the grant in place during the last fiscal year so IDOT asked us to reapply.
- A Regional Environmental Framework Grant that will link planning with the National Environmental Protection Act and other environmental reviews – we are currently





developing this resource but we would like to develop it as a web-based resource as a second phase of the project

- The last grant will target disadvantaged or under-represented communities - CUUATS staff already has specific outreach methodologies they use to make sure they include representative samples of public input, but this will be an attempt to standardize that and disaggregate that input in every planning process.

9. IDOT District 5 – Robert Nelson

Not present

10. IDOT Central Office – Tom Caldwell

Not present

11. FHWA – Betsy Tracy

The deadline for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant is February 25, 2020. There are more than \$900 million in funds available. At least 25 percent of the funding will be aimed at rural projects. Some past projects included working on bridges, tunnels and roadway capacity expansion.

Ms. Morocoima-Black asked about the Federal Highway Administration Review. Ms. Tracy commented with the information that every few years FHWA and FTA are required to complete a certification review on the MPOs with more than 200,000 population, which FHWA also does for the MPOs with less than 200,000 population. The review date for CUUATS is April 8 following the Policy Committee meeting. Ms. Tracy requested that at least one representative from the Technical Committee and one representative from the Policy Committee should attend if they are available.

VII. Announcements

Mr. Ricci from the City of Urbana invited the planners to the ISS Conference on April 2 and 3. More information to follow.

VIII. Audience Participation

None

IX. Adjournment

**Mr. Rosales adjourned the meeting at 11:32 a.m.**

