

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

**DATE/TIME:** Dec. 3, 2015; 8 a.m.

**LOCATION:** Clifty Inn State Park, Overlook Room, Madison, Indiana

**ATTENDEES:** CAC members - Bev Armstrong (Neighborhood Liaison), Dan Baughman (Arvin Sango), Bob Canida (Neighborhood Liaison), Trevor Crafton (Madison Chamber of Commerce), Andrew Forrester (City of Madison, Director of Community Relations), John Galvin (Neighborhood Liaison), Nathan Hadley (Jefferson County Economic Development), Jim Olson (Jefferson County Highway Department), Tony Sorrells (City of Madison, Street Department), John Staicer (Historic Madison Inc./National Historic Landmark Madison Historic District), Whitney Wyatt (City of Madison, Main Street Program)

Team members - Adam Burns (Crawford Murphy & Tilly), Whitney Carlin (INDOT), Mike Oliphant (United Consulting), Whitney Pflanzner (Borshoff), Erin Pipkin (Borshoff), Cassie Reiter (Crawford Murphy & Tilly), Devin Stettler (United Consulting), Chris Wahlman (INDOT), Mohammad Hajeer (Federal Highway Administration)

Others - Bob Armstrong, Jackie Turner (RATIO), Mike Flint (Flint Group)

**NOTES BY:** Erin Pipkin

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1. **Introduction of Project Team and CAC Members** - The meeting began at 8:05 a.m. with introductions.
  2. **Project Overview and the Role of the CAC**
    - a. **Project overview** - During the development of the Milton-Madison bridge project, the bridge portion moved forward, the approach was delayed and a new project (Project 421) was created. Our team started working with INDOT and Madison and identified the need for a robust public outreach campaign in support of the project.  
  
Our focus today is determining how we scope the project and what alternatives should be considered.
    - b. **Process** - This CAC represents key stakeholders in the community and will help us with decision making. There's another group - the consulting parties - which is also meeting today. We are also hosting a public open house this afternoon.
    - c. **Protocol** - This CAC will meet four times during the 12-month study phase. CAC meetings are open to the public, but non-members may only observe the meeting during the agenda and may be allowed to comment at the end.

The CAC represents a balanced representation from stakeholder groups within a community. Project 421 CAC members were selected to represent these specific stakeholder groups. If someone cannot make a meeting, he/she can designate a proxy and inform the project team at least 48 hours in advance. Minutes of each meeting will be routed to CAC members and posted on the project website no more than two weeks after each meeting.

- d. Charter - We've developed a charter that outlines all of the protocols and rights of the CAC. It was emailed with the initial packet of information. If you haven't already, please take the time to review the charter. We have a copy of the charter, and we'd appreciate it if everyone could sign it today.

- 3. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Community Impact Assessment (CIA) -** Devin Stettler is our team member leading the Environmental Documentation. His team is currently identifying cultural resources, conducting ecological reviews, and performing other environmental studies. To assist in finalizing the project's purpose and need, the team will be asking CAC members to complete a CIA. Once the alternatives are identified, we will look at how each option impacts the identified environmental resources. We'll create an Environmental Assessment (EA), and hold a public hearing to collect feedback on the EA. The project team will need the CAC's assistance in reviewing alternatives and drafting that document.

Timeline:

- The preferred alternative will be determined in late 2016.
  - Detailed design will be conducted in 2017 and 2018.
  - Construction would last approximately 18-24 months, beginning in 2019.
- 4. Community Goals and Objectives -** Madison is also developing a Community Comprehensive Plan. Jackie Turner from RATIO is leading that effort. The team began work in August; they've held one steering committee meeting and one public workshop. The title of the plan is One Madison. They are drafting the plan later in December and it should be ready for public review in spring. If anyone on the Project 421 CAC is interested in being on a committee, they are encouraged to reach out to Andrew Forrester.
- 5. Project Discussion -** Our team is using a "blank slate" approach to Project 421. So, while there were recommended alternatives identified just before the bridge construction, they have no impact on the development of Project 421 today.

We are currently very early in the project. During this study phase, it's important for our team to understand the potential impacts to the community.

We just started drafting the purpose and need for the project. Among the goals, the project aims to:

- Enhance mobility and safety
- Reduce environmental impacts
- Support economic development
- Minimize impacts to Madison, Jefferson County and residents

**6. General Q&A**

**Q: Has the survey team encountered anything that would be difficult to overcome?**

A: We know there is a large culvert that creates runoff and is a cultural resource. The terrain and the grade both pose a challenge. And, of course, the landmark district and abandoned filling stations carry significant importance for the study team.

**Q: How much right of way do you think you'll need for construction?**

A: Since alternatives haven't been developed, we can't address that yet. Right now, there's about 50 feet of right of way on the north side of the bridge.

**Q: Will people on the east side of the bridge approach continue to have access to downtown Madison?**

A: This is a consideration that will be part of the alternatives evaluation criteria. We recognize that this is a welcome point to the State of Indiana and that Madison is interested in including elements of a gateway into project design. Right now, everything is still on the table.

**Q: The bridge has great pedestrian access. Will the approach project include a way to connect to the bridge? Both the Chamber and students at Hanover College want a low entrance to the bridge.**

A: Pedestrian and bicycle access to the bridge will be considered during design and construction. The project team will rely on the CAC to share information with your other organizations.

**Q: Is there a budget for the project?**

A: Yes. When the bridge and approach were still one project, INDOT assessed a budget for the approach. That preliminary figure is \$12 million.

**Q: Is INDOT committed to constructing this?**

A: Yes, it's in INDOT's five-year plan.

**Q: Will there be other committees for the project?**

A: Yes, we also plan to hold smaller stakeholder group meetings in the coming year.

**Q: Is there a plan for a mass survey to the Madison area?**

A: Not at this time. We are relying on feedback from the CAC, public (via open houses), consulting parties and the stakeholder groups (will be formed after this meeting) to share insights, concerns and feedback from the community.

**Additional comments from CAC members:**

- Access to Main Street from various areas in the city is really important. We also feel it's important that the design reflects the historic character of the city.
- Access for bicycles needs to be enhanced. Roundabouts are not bicycle friendly.
- One of the driving factors of this project includes the need for efficiently moving truck traffic through the city. We know there will be a significant impact on the trucking industry. Working with representatives from the trucking industry is important to economic development.
- The intersection of Jefferson and Main streets is dangerous for pedestrians. There should be a significant focus on pedestrian safety with this project.
- It would be helpful to have 3D renderings once the alternatives are identified.
- During the bridge project, the Project Advisory Group (PAG) meetings were advertised to the public and the media. I believe we should replicate that model.

**7. Group discussion** - CAC members used large maps of the study area to mark any ideas, suggestions, cultural resources or concerns.



8. **Next Meeting** – We plan to meeting again in mid- to late-January, weather permitting. The Main Street Program and Chamber have several events in January, so we'll work with Whitney Wyatt and Trevor Crafton before scheduling the next CAC meeting.
9. **The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.**