



CHICAGO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
300 West Adams Chicago, Illinois 60606

KANE COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS

41W011 Burlington Road
St. Charles, Illinois 60175
(630) 584-1170

MAYOR JEFFERY D. SCHIELKE, Council Chairman
THOMAS B. RICKERT, Council Director
HEIDI RUSH, Planning Liaison

The Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee
Of the Kane County Council of Mayors

April 3, 2002
Minutes

In attendance:

Mark Ruby	Mayor	Village of North Aurora
William Schmidt	Vice President	Village of Hampshire
Kim Wascher	Supt. Of Recreation	Village of South Elgin
Hope Irwin	Civil Engineer I	City of St. Charles
Jon Duerr	Director of Resources	Kane County Forest Preserve
Dick Young	Planner	Kane County Forest Preserve
Steve Persinger	Director	Geneva Park District
Janet Bright	Technical Analyst	CATS
Tom Armstrong	Principal Planner	City of Elgin
Monica Meyers	Director	City of Elgin Parks and Rec.
Katie Thornton	Planner	Algonquin
Ron Rudd	Engineer	Carpentersville
Denny Ryan	Superintendent of Parks	St. Charles Park District
Carol Grom	Trustee	Village of Sleepy Hollow
Karen Miller	Planner	Kane County Development
Tom Rickert	Deputy Director	Kane County Div. of Trans.
Heather Tabbert	Planner	Kane County Div. of Trans.
Ed Barsotti	Executive Director	League of Illinois Bicyclists
Carl Schoedel	Chief of Planning	Kane County Div. Of Trans.
Dan Thomas	Planner	Edwards and Kelcey

I. OPENING OF MEETING/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jon Duerr called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Mark Ruby moved and Ed Barsotti seconded approval of the minutes of the December 18, 2001 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Director/Planning Update

Tom Rickert informed the Committee that the Consultant Selection for the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, which will cover the six-county Chicago area, is complete. The planning kick-off meeting will be held April 10, 2002 at CATS. The selected consultant will be announced at this meeting. Tom Rickert, Heather Tabbert, and Ed Barsotti will be representing our region in the steering committee. Anticipated products from this regional plan include a bicycle accommodations map, a best practices guide, and additional technical training workshops. Rickert then informed the

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Committee that as of April 1st, all Pace buses are equipped with bike racks. Rickert also announced that the Peck Corridor trail, which will connect the St. Charles portion of the sidepath with the Geneva portion of the sidepath, would be moving forward this summer.

Heather Tabbert informed the Committee of two upcoming workshops, organized by the Soles and Spokes working group of the Chicago Area Transportation Study's (CATS) Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force. The first will be a Safe Routes to School Workshop on May 10th at the Harold Washington Library in Chicago. This workshop will provide an overview of Safe Routes to School initiatives across the country and in the Chicagoland region. Participants will gain ideas for infrastructure projects, funding strategies, and promotional programs to get more children safely walking and biking to school. The second workshop, entitled Bike Lanes and Bike Paths: When and Where to Do Each, will be held on June 20 for a full day in Chicago and on June 21 for a half-day option in Schaumburg. This workshop will address the advantages and disadvantages of using both options. Ed Barsotti, one of the organizers of the workshop, expanded on the description by explaining that this workshop will also discuss the liability concerns with on-road accommodations and that the workshop will be targeted primarily to municipal/county engineers and consultants. Tom Rickert then pointed out that the City of Chicago's bike lane network is extensive, as is it in Schaumburg, and the liability concerns do little to stop them from continuing to use on-road bicycle accommodations. Rickert added that there is a potential to enhance the on-road system in Kane County without a real fear of liability. He then asked that all municipalities pass the Safe Routes to School Workshop information to their school districts, as they will be the major target for this workshop.

Tabbert asked which municipalities ordered bike racks through the Council of Mayors Bicycle Parking Program. The City of Elgin Parks and Recreation and City of St. Charles were the only two organizations present that placed orders. Hope Irwin informed the Committee that the Council is willing to place orders for colors other than black—St. Charles ordered their racks in green. Janet Bright announced to the Committee that there is a third round of orders for the Bicycle Parking Program, with a final order deadline of June 3rd, 2002. This round of orders will be on a first come, first serve basis until funds are diminished.

III. FY02 BICYCLE PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. Approve Existing and Proposed Bicycle Plan Map

Heather Tabbert informed the Committee that the most recent update of the Planning Map is laid out on the back tables for viewing. Dan Thomas informed committee members that this version of the map shows existing local and regional trails and bicycle and pedestrian “corridors”—planned and conceptual trails are not on this version of the map. This is to make it easier to look at regional gaps in facilities throughout the county. Committee members were asked to view these maps before leaving and fill in any gaps they feel are appropriate. Thomas also asked committee members to let us know of anything that is missing. Tom Rickert informed the committee that Heather Tabbert would be meeting once more with each of the municipalities and park districts over the next month to make sure all information on the maps is correct and up-to-date and have each organization approve the map before it is finalized. Katie Thornton asked if these would be one-on-one meetings and if a map would be supplied ahead of time. Rickert answered that some meetings would be one-on-one, however, if possible, some meetings will be held with several organizations present. He also stated that we hope to have a final draft of the map ready in about two months when it will be presented at a public hearing. Carl Schoedel asked if we would send these maps out prior to the meetings. Jon Duerr felt that since we have sent out draft maps twice already, we do not need to do this, but need to move towards implementation.

B. BLOS Data Collection Update

Ed Barsotti updated the committee on the status of the Bicycle Level of Service (BLOS) data collection. He is still seeking roadway data for 12 more towns. He sent out the maps and the data that he had to all the municipalities and townships and feels that the rest of the information can be collected through a short phone call. John Duerr asked Barsotti to review how this data can be used. He emphasized that this study can be used both on the public map for bicyclists to choose which routes are the most suitable for them as well as a planning tool for planning roadway improvements. Barsotti felt he could get the study completed by the end of April. Rickert explained that the same rating system was used on both the IDOT and CBF maps and added that we will include a disclaimer on the Kane County Public Map.

C. Review Draft Plan Components

Dan Thomas handed out an updated outline to the Committee showing the progress for each section of the plan. He explained that the plan is beginning to come together and they are receiving good feedback from Kane County. The following chapters are not yet completed: Bikeway Facility Design, BLOS for the Inventory chapter, Recommended Facilities, Wayfinding, Capital Improvement/Prioritization. He then handed out copies of the following chapters: Pedestrian Facility Design, Best Practices, Introduction, and Arterial Roadway Crossings. Jon Duerr asked what the timetable was for completion of the remaining chapters. Thomas hoped to have the chapters finished by the end of April. He asked that committee members give him recommendations for each of the chapters and he can send electronic copies on request. Rickert agreed, adding that we need to begin finalizing some of the language and we need comments within

the next few weeks. Thomas also emphasized that the Best Practices guide is does not include specific recommendations, but presents broad practices so the municipalities can choose which to follow.

D. Review Draft Bikeways Map (for public distribution)

Tom Rickert voiced his disappointment in the progress of the public map and stressed the importance of finalizing the planning map to get to the cartographer. Duerr shared in Rickert's disappointment. He wanted to see the map progress more quickly as it still needs to be presented to the Transportation Committee and the Forest Preserve for final approval. Thomas assured the Committee that he would have a draft of the map with the panel information by mid-next week and would mail it to Tabbert for review. Ed Barsotti had copies of all the panel information and passed them around for the Committee members to view. He assured the committee that the map would be high quality.

E. Next Steps

Tom Rickert announced that he would like to take the plan and the bikeway map for a public hearing in early June. He would like to push the cartographer to make more progress by then. Thomas informed the Committee that all but two of the chapters of the plan are written, and the Wayfinding chapter could take some time.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS/NEXT MEETING

A. Planning Timeline/Anticipated Completion Date

Discussion of the public distribution map continued. Thomas said that they are still waiting for the DuPage County Road Data and that they are having conversion problems with the Kane map. The BLOS data also needs to be incorporated. Jon Duerr asked whether we would need passage and approval of the BLOS data. Rickert answered that since there will be a disclaimer and since this is a County map, not a local map, approval would not be needed. He also added that IDOT and CBF have already included BLOS on their maps, with no problems. Ed Barsotti added that IDOT consulted their lawyers and found that there are no legal grounds to worry with including the BLOS.

Jon Duerr informed the Committee that developers would install portions of the Mid-County Trail at Otter Creek and the East-West trail crossing that will connect the Mid-County Trail with the Fox River Trail. Mark Ruby explained the concept plan for the E-W trail west of Randall Road. This trail will follow utility lines (Com-Ed and Nicor) while paralleling streets for a portion of the way and crossing the Fox River to join with the Prairie Path. This is a very important connection to get bicyclists from the Mid-County Trail to the Prairie Path. The City of Aurora's participation in this trail development will be highly important. Ed Barsotti informed the Committee that the participating agencies would sign a resolution at the next planning meeting. Ron Rudd hoped that with the Main Street Bridge reconstruction, they could route the Fox River Trail under the Bridge, but the adjacent property owners objected to this plan.

B. Kane County D.O.T. Bicycle and Pedestrian Website Development

Heather Tabbert passed out a brief outline of possible website content. Currently, this includes the following:

- Overview of Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning in Kane County
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Information
- Kane County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and Maps
- Current and Future Projects
- Suggestions/Maintenance Requests
- Contact Information and Links
- Bikes and Transit
- Commuter Information
- Bicycle Parking
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Safe Cycling Information

Tabbert requested that committee members review the potential content outline and let her know of any additional information they would like to see on the website.

C. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled at a later date. Agendas will be sent out and committee members notified.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.



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The Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee
Of the Kane County Council of Mayors

July 23, 2002
Minutes

In attendance:

Mark Ruby	Mayor	Village of North Aurora
Chris Tiedt	Civil Engineer I	City of St. Charles
Jon Duerr	Director of Resources	Kane County Forest Preserve
Brian Gebhardt	Community Liaison Rep	CATS
Tom Armstrong	Principal Planner	City of Elgin
Mark Ruby	Village President	Village of North Aurora
Dave Johnson	Ass't Superintendent	St. Charles Park District
Dick Untch	Planning Director	City of Geneva
Amy Furfori	Dir. Of Community Development	Village of Montgomery
Katie Thornton	Planner	Algonquin
Ron Rudd	Engineer	Carpentersville
George Porter	Sr. Rep., Comm. And Bus. Devel.	Pace
Carol Schoengart	Intergovernmental Liaison	Village of Wayne
Karen Miller	Planner	Kane County Development
Tom Rickert	Deputy Director	Kane County Div. of Trans.
Heather Tabbert	Planner	Kane County Div. of Trans.
Ed Barsotti	Executive Director	League of Illinois Bicyclists
Dan Thomas	Planner	Edwards and Kelcey
Craig Williams	Principal Planner	Edwards and Kelcey

I. OPENING OF MEETING

Jon Duerr called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Mark Ruby moved and Ed Barsotti seconded approval of the minutes of the April 3, 2002 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Director/Coordinator Update

Heather Tabbert reported that the Council of Mayors Bicycle Parking Program has extended the order deadline to August 15th. This is the final deadline for the program, which offers bicycle racks at 55% of cost. Craig Williams mentioned that the Geneva Metra Station bicycle parking situation is a "success story" due to the number of bicycles parked there. However, he suggested that Geneva take advantage of the Bicycle Parking Program to increase the amount of racks at the station since several "schoolyard" racks are being used. This type of rack only supports the front wheel, which can

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bend the wheel if the bike gets knocked over. Bicycle lockers are not offered through this program, due to a lack of interest.

Tabbert reported on two recent Soles and Spokes Workshops, sponsored by CATS. The Safe Routes to School Workshop, held May 10th at the Harold Washington Library in Chicago, drew about one hundred participants, including seven from Kane County. All workshop materials are posted on the CATS website at www.catsmpo.com/bikeped. Michael Ronkin, the Oregon Department of Transportation's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager led the design workshop, *Bike Lanes and Bike Paths Along Roads: How and Where to Do Each*. The workshop covered topics such as the role of cities, streets, land use, connectivity and access management; an overview of different bikeway facilities; and choosing the appropriate bikeway design in arterial corridors (on-road vs. off-road). Mr. Ronkin's PowerPoint presentation will be made available on CD-Rom and sent free of charge to workshop participants. Others interested in a copy will be charged \$10. The next workshop, the Northeastern Illinois Greenways and Trails Workshop, will be held in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Natural resources on September 20th at Waubensee Community College in Sugar Grove. This workshop will cover topics related to the early planning process and community buy-in, user surveys, way-finding, and funding sources. There will also be several experts available for an in-depth question and answer session. The registration form can be found at www.bikelib.org/trailsworkshop.

Tabbert announced that the Kane County DOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Website is up and running, with draft chapters of the plan available for download. She explained that the website is still "under construction" as the bike/ped projects, frequently asked questions, and the bike/ped plan sections still need to be added. Tabbert welcomed any suggestions or comments on the website. Tom Rickert suggested that we place links to all the municipal and park district websites. Rickert then praised the look and content of the website, saying that he was very impressed with the work done on it. Tabbert gave much of the credit to Kim Pompa, the County web designer, who designed the website. Tabbert also mentioned that the Kane County DOT came in second place in their division in the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation's Commuter Challenge for their participation in Bike to Work Day. The DOT had a 36.36% participation.

Craig Williams gave a brief update on the status of the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, dubbed the "Soles and Spokes Plan." The survey, which seeks information on pedestrian and bicycle system planning, promotion, and development in each community, was sent out to municipal public works managers last week. The report outline, or action plan, is still being refined. Tabbert mentioned that information regarding the progress of the plan could be found at www.solesandspokes.com. Rickert informed the committee that the planning for the regional plan is in the very beginning stages and that the efforts that produce the Kane County Bike/Ped Plan be included in the regional plan.

B. Municipal / Park District Update

Jon Duerr informed the Committee that the Rt. 56 Bridge at the Virgil Gilman Trail is moving ahead with a January or February letting anticipated, with construction to begin in the spring. The bridge will be a stayed suspension bridge, with a little different look than a typical bike/ped bridge. Duerr also stated that the Mid-County Trail is progressing. The Forest Preserve is working to purchase land to construct the southern trailhead west of Aurora, merging it with the Virgil Gilman Trail and bringing it to Nelson Lake Marsh.

Tom Armstrong reported that the City of Elgin is looking to connect the Fox River Trail with the Mid-County Trail via the Sports Complex Trail. The City is also working with three developers west of Randall Road to build portions of the Mid-County Trail. These sections of the trail will extend north to Rt. 20; the question is how to cross Rt. 20. Armstrong also mentioned that the subdivision developers were very cooperative in building portions of the trail.

At Sleepy Hollow Road and Rt. 72 in Dundee Township (the Switzer property), a small portion of the Mid-County Trail will be constructed and serve as a "node" on the trail system.

Ed Barsotti updated the Committee on the progress and status of the conceptual East-West trail system in Aurora and North Aurora. A resolution in support of the development of the trail was developed, and has been approved by most of the involved agencies. The next step will be to develop a multi-jurisdictional grant proposal and seek Riverboat Funds for pre-engineering. Rickert responded that the resolution was taken to the Kane County Transportation Committee in June as an information item. The State's Attorney is reviewing the language and it will be taken to the Transportation Committee in August for approval.

III. FINAL REVIEW—KANE COUNTY BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN

A. Approve Planning Maps

Tabbert announced that we are at the end of updating and revising the planning map. All municipalities, park districts, and the forest preserve have submitted several revisions to the plan, and we are now ready to seek approval of the planning map from the committee. Rickert stated that each time Tabbert met with an agency, there were new changes to the planning map, and that we now have a version that is accurate. He informed the Committee that we need to approve

the planning map at this point so we can move forward with the public Bicycle Map. Duerr pointed out that the western North-South trail system still was not depicted on the planning map. Rickert agreed, stating that it should be on the planning map as conceptual and will be added immediately. Rickert also informed the Committee that we would be updating the map every three years. Rickert also informed the committee that we will hold a public hearing on the entire plan in August, but would first like committee approval. Duerr wanted to make sure that what the Committee voted on was final. Rickert responded that what will be used on the public map—existing and proposed trails—is final, only the conceptual layer needed a minor revision. Tom Armstrong moved and Karen Miller seconded approval of the planning map. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Present Public Kane County Bicycle Map

Tabbert informed the Committee that the Cartographer has completed the panel portion of the map, with input from and several revisions by the Bicycle Map Working Group. She passed around copies of the map, explaining that the actual map portion of the map is not yet complete, and the map lines shown are only for reference, not what will actual be shown on the final product. Barsotti informed the Committee that the Cartographer has completed drawing the centerlines for Kane County, and anticipates the map will be completed within the next few weeks. Staff and the Consultants both voiced disapproval of the progress of the public map, and the unresponsiveness of the Cartographer when given deadlines. Rickert mentioned that when the map is completed, the Bicycle Map Working Group would meet to finalize and revise it.

C. Review Final Plan Components

Dan Thomas and Heather Tabbert reviewed each chapter of the plan with the Committee. Committee members were asked to comment and offer suggestions for each chapter. Rickert informed the committee that Tabbert would take comments until the end of the week. Thomas informed Committee members that the Bikeways Facility Design Guide, the Wayfinding, and recommended Bikeway Facilities chapters have been revised and are different from what is found on the website

Chapter 1

Williams suggested adding a one-page table of contents to the beginning of each chapter since all the chapters are so comprehensive. Rickert asked the committee members if it is OK to list the individual names of everyone who participated in the planning process in the front of the report. No one dissented.

Chapter 2

Thomas explained that we broke down the facilities as either existing or proposed regional, existing or proposed local, or conceptual. The chapter also describes each of the trail systems and the non-motorized transportation system in the County. The trails map and BLOS map will also be included in this chapter. Rickert explained that the County Board is still concerned with on-road liability and the states attorney will review the document before it is published. He feels that the report does a good job of addressing on-street accommodations. Dick Untch inquired what the County's policy was on on-street bicycle accommodations were, since on-road accommodations will play a big role in their community. Rickert responded that it has been the County's policy to always provide paved shoulders in all County road improvements. However, accommodations that will be made on County highways differ greatly from what will be provided on local streets. Tom Armstrong asked if the Mid-County Trail was complete enough to be described under the "regional trails" section. Rickert and Duerr agreed that it could be included, and Rickert added that it is described in the recommendations chapter.

Chapter 3

Williams asked the Committee members if there is anything missing from this chapter. He states that this section does a number of things, including describing national programs and policies that could be locally adopted.

Chapter 4

Craig Williams informed the Committee members that a Pedestrian Design Guide is not real common. AASHTO has a bicycle guide, and is currently working on a pedestrian guide, but currently this chapter is pretty innovative. Untch asked how these design guidelines would work on County highways (such as Randall Road). Rickert responded that County ROW use to be auto-only, as the County Board would not approve crosswalks until 4 ½ years ago. The County's new vision is to treat highway corridors at multi-modal transportation corridors, but still maintain the high speed and volume for automobile use. Untch stated that Geneva is seeking to find a delicate balance for east-west movement across Randall Road. There was a brief discussion on bike/ped grade separations for several points at Randall Road. Barsotti then mentioned the reluctance for the use of median refuges in arterial crossings. Untch agreed with Barsotti, citing examples from Australia where all crossings use median refuges that have handrails to help identify where the refuges are. Williams added that the state relies on local municipalities to say that pedestrian accommodations are important and wanted in intersections since the state, unlike the County, cannot use federal money to include bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, making it the local responsibility.

Chapter 5

A sub-consultant using the AASHTO and other bicycle and pedestrian design guides and standards produced this chapter. Barsotti added that while Chapter 3 is more policy-oriented, Chapter 5 is more design-oriented. There was a brief discussion on what is an acceptable Bicycle Level of Service for high-volume roads. Williams stated that this would be addressed in the CATS regional plan.

Chapter 6

Rickert stated that our County engineers have reviewed this chapter, in detail.

Chapter 7

Rickert stated that Way-Finding is the main area that County Board Members are concerned with and would like Transportation Staff to work with the Forest Preserve to develop. He would like to begin putting together a proposal for a way-finding system and have the Way-Finding Working Group members participate in developing this proposal. Williams stated that the Chicago DOT is now adding destination signage much like roadway signage. Ruby asked whether this way-finding system would include more trailhead markings, as the major regional trails need better signage at trailheads—Duerr and Williams agreed. Duerr also stated that upkeep is a major issue with the Forest Preserve and is the main reason they switched to using pavement markings.

Chapter 8

Thomas explained that he is still working with Transportation Staff to finalize this chapter.

Chapter 9

Rickert stated that this chapter would be a useful resource.

D. Next Steps

Rickert stated that he would like to wrap things up by the end of the month and bring the entire plan to a public hearing in August. He would also like to get the Way-finding program started.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS/NEXT MEETING

A. Anticipated Completion Date

Rickert stated that he would like to bring closure to this project by the end of the month.

B. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled at a later date. Agendas will be sent out and committee members notified.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.



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The Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee
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November 6, 2002
Minutes

In attendance:

Mark Ruby	Mayor	Village of North Aurora
Chris Tiedt	Civil Engineer I	City of St. Charles
Dave Perfect	Supervisor	Kane County Forest Preserve
Brian Gebhardt	Community Liaison Rep	CATS
Mark Ruby	Village President	Village of North Aurora
Kristy Lawson	Assistant Planner	Village of Bartlett
Roger Jensen	Member	Fox Valley Bike and Ski Club
John Clayton	Park Supervisor	Village of Sugar Grove
Karen Pritchard	Rec. Director	Sugar Grove Twp. Park District
Katie Thornton	Planner	Algonquin
George Porter	Sr. Rep., Comm. And Bus. Devel.	Pace
Karen Miller	Planner	Kane County Development
Tom Rickert	Deputy Director	Kane County Div. of Trans.
Heather Tabbert	Planner	Kane County Div. of Trans.
Ed Barsotti	Executive Director	League of Illinois Bicyclists
Dan Thomas	Planner	Edwards and Kelcey

I. OPENING OF MEETING

Tom Rickert called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Mark Ruby moved and Steve Persinger seconded approval of the minutes of the July 23, 2002 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Director/Coordinator Update

Tom Rickert reported on the Council of Mayors Bike Rack and Locker Program. He explained that this program was not as successful as the other program that was held about 5 years ago and had more stringent ordering and installation standards. For this program, the Federal Government reduced the standards, but only 50% of the grant money was expended. Rickert thanked all the Kane County organizations that placed an order—Kane County was well represented. Rickert stated that this amount of participation in the program shows that our County is doing our part to promote bicycling. The leftover funds will be given to the City of Chicago Bicycle Program, which will buy racks for the City's bike rack program.

MAYOR JEFFERY SCHIELKE, Council Chairman, City of Batavia; MAYOR SUSAN KLINKHAMER, Council Vice-Chairman, City of St. Charles; MAYOR SALVATORE T. SPELLA, Village of Algonquin; MAYOR DAVID STOVER, City of Aurora; MAYOR PATRICIA MUELLER, Village of Burlington; PRESIDENT MARK BOETTGER, Village of Carpentersville; PRESIDENT JILL A. YUCUIS, Village of East Dundee; PRESIDENT JAMES WILLEY, Village of Elburn; MAYOR EDWARD SCHOCK, City of Elgin; MAYOR KEVIN BURNS, City of Geneva; PRESIDENT MICHAEL ISTORO, Village of Gilberts; PRESIDENT WILLIAM P. SCHMIDT, Village of Hampshire; PRESIDENT CHARLES SASS, Village of Huntley; PRESIDENT WILLIAM MCLEOD, Village of Hoffman Estates; PRESIDENT GLENN BORK, Village of Lily Lake; PRESIDENT MARK DELANEY, Village of Maple Park; PRESIDENT MARILYN MICHELINI, Village of Montgomery; PRESIDENT MARK RUBY, Village of North Aurora; PRESIDENT CRAIG WEBER, Village of Oswego; PRESIDENT VERNE WESTER, Village of Pingree Grove; PRESIDENT STEPHEN PICKETT, Village of Sleepy Hollow; PRESIDENT JIM HANSEN, Village of South Elgin; PRESIDENT SEAN MICHELS, Village of Sugar Grove; PRESIDENT MICHAEL SAUBER, Village of Virgil; PRESIDENT EILEEN PHIPPS, Village of Wayne; PRESIDENT LARRY KELLER, Village of West Dundee; MAYOR ARTHUR PROCHASKA, City of Yorkville; CHAIRMAN MICHEAL MCCOY, Kane County Board; JEFFREY DAILEY, Director, Kane County Division of Transportation; FRANCIS KLAAS, Director, Kendall County Highway Department; THOMAS B. RICKERT, Council Director; HEIDI RUSH, Planning Liaison

Rickert gave a brief update on the progress of the Soles and Spokes Plan—the bicycle and pedestrian plan for the Chicago area. Municipal surveys have been sent out—these surveys seek to establish a bike/ped contact person in each community and receive basic information on the status of bike/ped planning in each community. Information and updates for the plan can be found on the web at www.solesandspokes.com.

Heather Tabbert announced that nominations for CATS' 2003 Soles and Spokes Awards For Excellence are due on January 24, 2003. This is an opportunity for municipalities or park districts to receive recognition for bicycle or pedestrian projects they have been working on in the past few years. Eligible projects include: recently constructed bike/ped facilities, bicycle/pedestrian amenities, maps, promotional programs, comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian plans. Tabbert stressed that even if a nominated project does not win, a description of the project will still be included in a nomination booklet that will be distributed at the awards ceremony and posted on the CATS website—so all projects will be recognized. Nomination forms can be found on the web at www.catsmpo.com/bikeped.

Tabbert and Ed Barsotti gave a brief update on the status of the proposed east-west trail corridor in Aurora/N. Aurora that will link the Batavia Spur of the Illinois Prairie Path, the Fox River Trail, and the proposed Mid-County Trail. Almost all involved agencies have signed a resolution in support of the connection. The planning group initially planned to seek Riverboat Funds for a pre-engineering study; however, the County Board has put those funds on hold.

Tabbert announced that the Kane County Bicycle and Pedestrian Website has been updated (www.co.kane.il.us/dot/com/bicycle). Once the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan has been approved by the County Board, all report chapters, the planning map, and the public map will be posted on the website.

Tabbert mentioned two recent articles regarding the Kane County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan were recently published. The first was in the October 10th issue of the Daily Herald, "New Kane county bicycle plan well worth work, will be boon to bikers." The second was from the October, 2002 issue of *Bike Traffic*, the newsletter of the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation, "A Case for BLOS: Kane County takes bike accommodation to a new level." Both articles provided positive publicity for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

B. Review of Minutes from September 26, 2002 Public Meeting

Heather Tabbert reported that a Public Meeting was held the evening of September 26th to give the general public an opportunity to review and comment on the Kane County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Tabbert passed out packets of the public comments that were received at this meeting as information for committee members. In general, all the comments were very positive, only a few corrections needed to be made to both the plan and the report.

III. COMMITTEE APPROVAL—KANE COUNTY BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN

A. Approve Planning Maps

Rickert stated that he would like to bring closure to the document, the first step being approval from this committee. Tabbert stated that the planning map is in a final format. Many revisions have been done over the past year and every agency has had several opportunities for review and revisions—and all agencies have submitted changes/revisions. Rickert emphasized that this will be a working document and will go through revisions every three years. The map is also in the Kane County GIS system, so it can be manipulated, placed on aerials and used in local planning efforts. Rickert then recommended a motion to approve the plan so we can begin to put it to work. Karen Miller motioned for approval, Mark Ruby seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Approve Kane County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

Rickert stated that this is the first County-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. It is a very comprehensive document that includes resources that will be helpful to bring all Kane County agencies forward in bicycle and pedestrian planning efforts. Each agency can use the plan to their discretion. It is a very large document, but each community can decide which sections would be helpful for their efforts. Mark Ruby motioned for approval, Karen Miller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Review public Kane County Bicycle Map

Tabbert passed our drafts of the base map portion of the public map for review by committee members. Dan Thomas stated that this portion of the map is in PDF format and can be e-mailed to anyone who would like to review it. Karen Miller reported that Big Rock is not identified on the map. Sugar Grove is also not labeled. The group agreed that the colors are difficult to differentiate—the regional trails should "pop out" a little better.

D. Next Steps

Rickert stated that we would like to finalize the public map and distribute in Spring 2003. The County Board has also been pushing the committee to create an engineering plan for a wayfinding system with cost estimates for regional trail systems. Transportation Staff will work with the municipalities and park districts to develop this system. Ed Barsotti felt that such a system would help to promote bicycling in Kane County.

Rickert stated that, even though the large task of developing and approving the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan has been accomplished, he would still like to work with the committee on other efforts. Barsotti agreed that this was important since there tends to be a “gap in energy” once a large plan has been completed. He stressed the importance of continuing coordination and work on implementation of the plan and to follow-up on the committee’s planning efforts. Mayor Ruby agreed with Barsotti, stating that we are also facing a funding crisis that may stop the momentum gained by the development of the plan. Roger Jensen suggested that it is important to see what other communities or regions are doing in terms of bicycle and pedestrian planning to get ideas and to “get creative” with the minimal funding that is available. Barsotti suggested that when funding is tight, it makes sense to focus more on improving the roadways for bicyclists by incorporating bicycle and pedestrian improvements with other road projects.

Rickert asked the committee members if they felt this committee was beneficial to them or if there were any other activities the committee should be performing to help the communities. Steve Persinger felt that the committee was beneficial and met at appropriate times. He stated that Kane County has assisted the Geneva Park District with several projects, however, since the PD has spend about ½ million dollars on bike trails in the past two years, they would probably be slowing down on trail development. John Clayton stated that this plan will be a great benefit to Sugar Grove, especially the planning session with Tabbert that helped Sugar Grove create a local trail network that is now included in the Kane County Plan. Rickert asked the Committee members if they felt a short PowerPoint presentation on bicycle and pedestrian planning would be helpful to any of the communities. Barsotti stated that CATS has a similar CD-ROM presentation that can be made available to committee members. Clayton agreed that this would be helpful since they are seeing a lot of new developments in the Village and would like to incorporate bike/ped facilities with each of the developments.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS/NEXT MEETING

A. Approval / Adoption Timeline

Rickert stated that the next steps in the adoption process are to take the plan to the Transportation Committee on November 22, 2002 and to the full County Board on December 18, 2002. Tabbert stated that she would like to get the document on the website by the end of the year. Hard copies of the plan will be sent to all committee members and other interested agencies in early 2003.

B. Report—Kane County Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Tours

Tabbert gave a brief description of a new program that the Division of Transportation developed—Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Tours. Tabbert originally planned on a PowerPoint presentation, but the projector was not working. She instead gave a verbal report. The purpose of the program is to get engineers and project managers—those who are designing bike/ped facilities—out onto the very facilities they are designing to give them the user perspective. The first tour held on October 11th for KDOT engineers made experienced several different types of facilities, including paved shoulders, sidepaths, trails, underpasses, and at-grade bike/ped crossings. Tabbert would like to open this program up to municipalities and park districts next spring and can tailor a tour to a particular area or community.

Tabbert also explained that this tour was modeled after the City of Chicago Department of Transportation’s Bike facility Tour—which focuses on bike lanes and on-road accommodations as Chicago has an extensive bike lane network. Tabbert suggested that any communities interested in developing on-road bicycle facilities participate in one of Chicago’s tours.

C. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled at a later date. Agendas will be sent out and committee members notified.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.