



CHICAGO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

**MEETING OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE**  
to be held at the

CHICAGO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, Illinois

Cunningham-Williams Conference Room

**Thursday, January 12, 2006**  
**10:00 a.m.**

***I. CALL TO ORDER***

***II. OLD BUSINESS***

**A. Approval of Minutes for  
October 13, 2005**

The minutes were previously mailed.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval by Policy Committee

**B. Council of Mayors' Report**

**C. Executive Director's Report**

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Nominating Committee for the Office of Vice Chairman**

The report from the Nominating Committee appointed at the last meeting will be given and the election of a Vice Chairman will be conducted.

##### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Election of the Vice-Chairman of the Policy Committee

#### **B. ITS**

##### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of the Northeastern Illinois Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Deployment Plan Update

The CATS Work Program Committee is forwarding the Northeastern Illinois Intelligent Transportation Systems Deployment Plan Update to the CATS Policy Committee for approval as part of the Regional Transportation Plan. Developed by the CATS Advanced Technology Task Force, the plan identifies 100 ITS projects that will require approximately \$865 million in funding. The plan is also closely coordinated with the Regional ITS Architecture ensuring consistency with the National ITS Architecture as required by the US Department of Transportation. The ITS Plan Update and summary are available here: <http://www.catsmpo.com/prog-its-planning.htm>

#### **C. Report on the Shared Path 2030 Update Development Process**

Staff will brief the Committee on the current status of the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update. The schedule calls for adoption of the 2030 RTP Update by the Policy Committee at its October meeting. Concern has been expressed by the Work Program Committee regarding the amount of modeling work that needs to be completed during 2006 and the competing priorities of the RTP schedule.

#### **D. SAFETEA-LU Planning Regulations**

USDOT representatives conducted a listening session on December 13, 2005. Nearly all Metropolitan Planning Organizations from Illinois were in attendance along with Illinois DOT and the Service Boards. Attendees were able to question the federal representatives regarding the forthcoming regulations implementing SAFETEA-LU. Draft regulations should be released next April. Staff will brief the Committee on the discussions.

**E. UWP**

The Work Program Committee reviewed three scenarios defining a core UWP program. The alternative scenarios are enclosed. After much discussion, the WPC recommended Scenario 2 requesting more refinement from the UWP Committee on core program definitions and recognizing that the goal would be to move toward a core program that more closely resembles Scenarios 1 and 3. The deadline for submittals for the discretionary element of the UWP is January 24. Staff will brief the Policy Committee on the core program and the emphasis areas that have been identified.

**F. Self-Certification of the Planning Process**

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of Resolution 06-01 certifying the planning process

On an annual basis, the MPO is required to certify that the planning process is addressing major issues facing the area and is being conducted in accordance with federal laws and regulations. Northeastern Illinois' transportation planning process is documented in the Unified Work Program, the Transportation Improvement Program and the Regional Transportation Plan.

The Work Program Committee has recommended that the Policy Committee self-certify the planning process.

**G. Flexible Funding Transferred to and Administered by the FTA in Northeastern Illinois**

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of Resolution 06-02, endorsing CATS as a "Designated Recipient" of flexible funds for the life of SAFETEA-LU.

With the new federal legislation, the designation of CATS as a recipient of flexible funding for the life of TEA-21 expired. The new designation allows for the continued flow of federal funds to the region. The Work Program Committee has recommended Policy Committee endorsement.

**H. TIP amendment – Approval of the Conformity Finding and TIP Amendment**

A non-exempt TIP amendment for three projects has been requested. The projects are:

- Haligus Road from Algonquin Road to Reed Road  
Sponsor: McHenry County Council of Mayors  
This is a new project extending Haligus Road.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of Resolutions 06-03 and 06-04 approving the conformity finding and approving the TIP amendment

- I-55 Stevenson Expressway from Naperville Road to US 6  
Sponsor: IDOT-DOH District 1  
This project includes increasing the lanes on I-55 from 4 to 6. This previously conformed project is advancing across analysis years.
- IL 60 at I-94  
Sponsor: IDOT DOH-District 1  
This project involves reconstruction of the IL 60 and I-94 interchange and the addition of 2 lanes on the IL 60 overpass. This project is in the TIP (engineering I only) and has not been conformed.

A 30-day public comment period was held on the conformity analysis for these projects. Three comments were received and the draft responses were considered by the consultation team. The comments and proposed response are enclosed for review. Approval of the conformity finding and the TIP amendment are requested.

**I. Regional Planning Board**

The Regional Planning Board has developed a draft vision statement, strategic goals and an Action Plan with timelines. Members of the Regional Planning Board and support staff will brief the Policy Committee on developments to date and the anticipated direction of the Board. A copy of the Action Plan is included in this mailing. Additional information is available at the Board's website: <http://www.rpbchicago.org/>.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

**V. NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is March 9, 2006.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**