



CHICAGO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

**SUMMARY OF CATS COMMITTEE  
AND TASK FORCE MEETINGS**  
*February 18th, 2005 through April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005*

The agendas and minutes for all committees and task force meetings are posted in the "Events Calendar" section of the CATS website, [www.catsmpo.com](http://www.catsmpo.com).

**ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE**

Chair: Dave Zavattero & Duana Love  
CATS Contact Person: *Mark Thomas*

Meeting Date: Did not meet

**Air Quality and Transportation Management Task Force**

Chair: Mike Rogers  
CATS Contact Person: *Tom Vick*

Meeting Date: April 26, 2005

The AQTM heard status reports on the Non-Central City Park n Ride Lot program's award of a \$350,000 CMAQ grant to initiate feasibility engineering for Phase 1 lot development; the submittal of a CMAQ grant application for FY 2006 by the UIC/UTC for initiation of a region-wide emergency ride home program; the progress being made by CATS staff on the traffic signal interconnect inventory; and the results of the kick-off meeting of the working group to develop a Transportation Management & Operations Specific Plan for the region. This kick-off meeting took place on March 29, with a review of the definition of TM&O to guide the planning process and the first draft of TM&O policies for consideration by the RTP Committee. Following these reports, Professor Joseph Schofer of Northwestern University reported on the NU Transportation Center's research of variable speed limits to smooth traffic flows and improve expressway operations. Currently, NU is developing a demonstration project on this strategy with PennDOT.

The next meeting will be held on July 12, 2005.

**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN TASK FORCE**

Chair: Tom Rickert  
CATS Contact Person: *Tom Murtha*

Meeting Date: Did not meet.

**CMAQ PROJECT SELECTION COMMITTEE**

Chair: Don Kopec

CATS Contact Person: *Patricia Berry*

Meeting Date: Did not meet.

**Community Mobility Task Force**

Chair: Jacky Grimshaw

CATS Contact Person: *Don Kopec*

Meeting Date: March 15, 2005

Summary: The task force was updated on the status of the region's JARC projects. Staff presented how environmental justice was addressed in the planning process. The task force agreed to meet with the Task Force for Seniors and People with Disabilities to address the need for a joint human services/job access transportation plan

**INTERMODAL ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

Chair: Tom Zapler

CATS Contact Person: *Gerald Rawling*

Meeting Date: March 24, 2005

Summary: Principal presenter was Jason Tai. Also presenting: Mi-Jack Corporation (on the Rail Thru-Port concept) and Gerald Rawling (the C4T project concept). 51 persons attending - new attendance record for IATF.

**MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chair: Mark Pitstick

CATS Contact Person: *Don Kopec*

Meeting Date: Did not meet.

**Private Providers Task Force**

Chair: Phillip Paige

CATS Contact Person: *William Kiley*

Meeting Date: April 11, 2005

Summary: Private Providers met at RTA with Paula Thibeault and staff. Discussions were held concerning use of privates as a resource for transportation in the Chicago

## Summary of CATS Committee and Task Force Meetings, (Continued)

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area. Some six RTA members and eight privates met for two hours plus, discussing options and concerns. Privates were represented by: Illinois/Cook, Illinois School Bus, ATC, Continental, MTA, CATS and Airport Express.

### **Public Involvement Task Force**

Chair: JoAnn Eckmann

CATS Contact Person: *Jock Hardy*

Meeting Date: March 23, 2005

Summary: The Communications Division provided updates on the spring pre-construction press conference, the 2005 kids' poster contest, the CATS/NIPC Coordinating Committee meetings and all "Partners in Progress" public outreach meetings that had been held since the last PITF meeting. The task force requested that it be kept abreast via e-mail of all upcoming "Partners in Progress" meetings.

### **Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Committee**

Chair: Mayor Rae Rupp Srch

CATS Contact Person: *Kermit Wies*

Meeting Date: Did not meet

### **TIP PROCEDURES COMMITTEE**

Chair: Jack Groner

CATS Contact Person: *Patricia Berry*

Meeting Date: Did not meet.

### **TASK FORCE FOR SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

Chair: Kerwin Terry

CATS Contact Person: *Claire Bozic*

Meeting Date: April 5, 2005

Summary: CATS staff reported on successful and planned senior service funding property tax referendums in McHenry County and Kane County. The IDOT representative informed the group that the 5310 van program was funded. The Metra representative reported that Metra was allowing bicycles on trains on a limited basis, mainly during off-peak hours. If a conflict for space arises between a wheelchair and bicycle user, the wheelchair user will have priority. Don Kopec provided a summary of the Community Mobility Task Force history and discussed the desirability of updating the JARC plan. The date for a joint meeting of CMTF and TFSPD was set. Don Kopec reported that it continues to appear that the JARC program will become a formula grant

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instead of mainly earmarks. CATS staff reported there were more Unified Planning Work Program projects submitted for funding than resources to fund them. IDOT was given the task of producing a list of recommended UWP projects, and the development of a regional Human Services Transportation Plan was not included on the list. The next task force meeting will be held on May 3, 2005 at 9:30 am.

### **Unified Work Program Committee**

Chair: Gordon Smith

CATS Contact Person: *Mark Thomas*

Meeting Dates: March 11, March 23 and April 8, 2005

The UWP Committee met to develop the FY 2006 Unified Work Program. Planning emphasis areas and federal requirements were analyzed in order to develop this year's program. The committee is recommending a program to the Work Program Committee on April 29, 2005 and intends to initiate discussions on future program development cycles in the next couple of months.