

League of Women Voters
Kane County Government
Monitoring Committee Report

MEETING: Transportation Comm.

DATE: January 29, 2007 REPORTING: Candice Goldstein

ATTENDING: Entire Committee was there; Carlson, Davoust, Hoshheit, Jones, Kenyon, Kissane, Wolfe & ex officio Hurlbut

WAS PRESS IN ATTENDANCE: YES. Elburn Herald, Chicago Tribune, Daily Herald, Bartlett Examiner

DID PRESS COVER SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: haven't seen YES _____ NO _____

SUMMARY OF MEETING: Reports given on Finance, Maintenance, Planning and Programming, Permitting, and Project Implementation. Noted 300 improperly placed housing developers' signs were removed on a single Saturday. Considering imposing fines. Passed resolutions for 1) purchase of two vehicles, 2) establishing April 11, 2007 for the public hearing date for consideration of the Comprehensive Road Improvements Plan (CRIP) and the imposition of impact fees; 3) joint funding with the state for purchasing right of way for a bridge at Stearns Road.

MOST CRITICAL ISSUES(S): 1) Toll bridges are being considered. This is in the study phase. It would offset 10% of the cost of a new bridge or bridges over the Fox River. Exploring IPASS integration.

2) CRIP and Impact Fees. Concerned with orderly growth and prevention of traffic delays worse than what we already experience. Planning a five year phase-in of increased impact fees to reflect the true cost of new development on transportation system. Money would be used only for capacity improvements. There are problems with the current ordinance: the revenue is less than the costs of development and the fees do not reflect the 2030 Land Resource Plan (ie, fees are low in rural areas and high in urban corridors).

The draft plan would take effect in September 2007 if passed.

The impact fee draft plan would be the first in Illinois to provide discounts for transit availability, walkability, and proximity of multiple land uses. It would provide exemptions for low income housing and private schools.

The draft CRIP would build bridges at Stearns and Longmeadow; widen Orchard and Randall to 6 lanes, and widen Keslinger, Fabyan and Main to four lanes.

Other considerations: \$.02 per gallon gas tax. Concern that pump prices not going into road improvements.

COMMENTS/NOTES. Concern raised regarding impact fees on small nonprofits.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S): Plan to attend public hearing April 11, 2007.

NEXT MEETING: February 26, 2007. Building A, 9 am.