



# Highway 62 Corridor Project

**Date:** June 28, 2005

**From:** Kathy Helmer, RVCOG

**Re:** **PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TEAM (PDT) MEETING  
MINUTES for June 23, 2005**

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**PDT Members in Attendance:** Delanie Cutsforth, Nick Fortey, Mark Gallagher, Mark Gibson, Skip Knight, Kelly Madding, Jerry Marmon and Debbie Timms.

**Members Absent:** Donna Beck, Brian Dunn, David Elliott, Rick Levine, Dan Moore, and Mike Quilty

**Location:** Jackson Co. Public Works Auditorium, Mosquito Lane, White City.

**Guests:** None.

**Staff:** Gary Leaming, ODOT; Jim Hanks, JRH; Kathy Helmer, RVCOG; Terry Kearns and Jamie Snook, URS.

**Resource Technical Team in Attendance:** None.

## **1.0 Introductions/Agenda Review/Minutes**

Terry Kearns convened the meeting at 8:35 AM. Skip Knight moved, and Kelly Madding seconded, the adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Terry Kearns briefed the PDT on the CAC meeting held the previous evening. He noted that their meeting agenda had been very ambitious. The group did conclude its discussions of concepts and desired connections, so that modeling may begin. They just touched upon the evaluation criteria and those will be discussed at July's meeting.

Terry reviewed the agenda, explaining that the purpose of the discussion of Concepts and Connections was to verify that the alignment drawings had been correctly executed and to identify and confirm desired connections of those alignments with the existing transportation network.

## **2.0 Project Progress and Future Steps**

Referring to the PowerPoint handout created for the meeting, Terry Kearns reviewed the progress to date on the project. Significant progress has been realized on the project. Benchmarks include: development of the Problem Statement; the determination of the Purpose and Need; the crafting of Goals and Objectives, and the identification of a wide array of alternative concepts. The Evaluation Criteria were in the development process. Terry noted that the group was half-way through the entire NEPA process.

## **3.0 Concepts and Connections**

Terry Kearns led this long discussion of the mapping of all alternative concepts and the connections that the group would like to see for each alternative. Jamie Snook shared the connections that had been identified by the CAC the previous evening. CAC suggestions for connections had been written on each map. The CAC had decided not to presuppose where connections should go for the alternatives that had been received by mail as a result of the newspaper article.

Terry emphasized that the type of connection (interchange, at grade intersection, etc) was not important at this point in time; it was where the connections were made that would matter to the modeling process. The No Build scenario to the year 2030 should be ready for review at the July meeting.

The maps of alternative concepts were divided into groupings as follows:

- Existing Highway Concept (5 concepts)
- Couplet Concept (1 concept)
- Bypass Concept (12 concepts)
- Regional Improvements (2 concepts)
- I-5 Improvements (2 concepts)
- Northern Terminus Concepts (6 concepts)
- Highway 140 Concept (1 concept)
- Other (1 concept)

Terry led the group through a review of the maps, sharing the connections that had been suggested by the CAC. Jamie documented additional ideas for connections on the wall maps.

During discussion of the concepts, the PDT decided that it would be appropriate to modify concepts received as a result of the newspaper article, since some of them were new concepts that merited attention. It was decided that changes made to the newspaper

alternatives would only be made if certain modeling/geometric connections were required to make the alternative feasible.

## **4.0 Evaluation Criteria**

Given the length of the discussion on Groupings and Connections, there was only enough time left for Terry Kearns to introduce the materials on Evaluation Criteria. He reviewed the overall format used for developing the criteria and asked the group to consider these before the next meeting, devising additional criteria for consideration

## **5.0 Public Comment**

There were no members of the public present.

## **6.0 PDT Comfort Check**

Terry asked PDT members to speak to how they were doing with the process. Skip Knight said he would like to get down to the best concepts, but he understood that the process requires a review of a wide range of alternatives. Mark Gallagher said that this was a challenging project; none of the alternatives seem to be the obvious best one. Kelly Madding said she was comfortable and that it would be nice to have fewer alternatives. She noted that some alternatives might model better than they look. Nick Fortey said that he was comfortable and that it was better to have lots of alternatives at the beginning than to have them come up towards the end of the process. It is good to look at all the ideas, especially the popular ones. David Elliott said he was interested to see how the constraints would ultimately affect the alternatives. It is important to keep the 15 year future in mind. Jim Hanks said he had been surprised to see that there were several concepts in this study that did not come up in the previous study. Delanie Cutsforth said that the group had come a long way in this meeting. Jerry Marmon agreed, saying that they had made good headway. People were seeing the bigger picture and overall process. Jamie Snook noted that it had been good to see all the concepts at once.

Debbie Timms said that the Project Development Team needed to consider how the voting process would work. Jerry Marmon said that CAC recommendations might be split between a majority and minority position. The preference would be for the Project Development Team to reach consensus. This should be discussed.

Mark Gallagher said that the length of the concepts varied considerably. He asked if the project would be split into phases. Terry Kearns answered that one of the evaluation criteria was about the “phaseability” of the project. Phases would have to have independent utility with logical termini.

Terry Kearns said that Bern Case would be asked to address the PDT about plans for airport expansion. They obviously impact the southern portion of the project.

## **7.0 Adjournment**

Terry Kearns thanked all participants and adjourned the meeting at 10:45 AM.