

Minutes

Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting #2

November 1, 2011

1:00 – 2:00 PM

Prairie Island Indian Community Public Safety Building

Goal of the meeting: Update the PAC members on the status of the project

Present at the meeting

Dan Bender, City Council
Pam Gorman, Xcel Energy
Jennifer Cable, PIIC
Ron Rosenthal, City of Red Wing
Marc Mogan, PIIC
Dan Coyle, Kimley-Horn
Debra Brisk, Kimley-Horn

PAC members absent

Johnny Johnson, PIIC Tribal Council
Darrell Breuer, Treasure Island Resort & Casino
Jim Krieger, Canadian Pacific
Dan Schmidt, US Army Corp of Engineers

1. Introductions

2. Project Update

History (public involvement, alternatives)

Debra handed out summaries and gave an over view of public involvement and alternative analysis performed during the 2005 – 2006 study. The past study did not result in a preferred alternative that was accepted by all affected parties.

Alternatives under consideration

The current alternative analysis uses the preferred alternative from the 2005 – 2006 study as the starting point. The current alternatives are being developed to address the impact of the recently constructed PIIC public safety building, removal of the Williams Communication fiber optic building, the future passenger rail station and other considerations necessary for community acceptance of the project.

Assuming a preferred alternative can be developed that addresses these issues, the preferred alternative will be documented in a geometric layout that requires signatures from all affected parties; City, PIIC, BIA, MnDOT and Xcel.

Discussion about alternatives included location of PIIC Lands, flooding in the area, land use in and around the project area and possible future improvements.

Outreach done to date

Dan gave an overview of the rail station location study that was completed. The preferred location for a future rail station is in the northeast quadrant of the Sturgeon Lake Road / CP Rail intersection. This location was developed with input b the casino and ultimately selected by the tribal council.

Dan also summarized a meeting held with the casino directors on October 20, 2011.

A meeting is being scheduled with Xcel Energy to get input on roadway alternatives and to get a clearer understanding of Xcel Energy traffic patterns.

This Friday is tribal council elections. 18 candidates are running for five tribal council positions. In December new Tribal council is sworn in and they start in office in 2012.

3. Next Steps

Schedule

A best case project schedule was discussed:

- Preliminary Design / Environmental Documentation – Mid 2012
- Right of way purchase – Mid 2012 (dependent on environmental documentation)
- Final Design / Plan approval – Mid 2013 – Mid 2013 (dependent on selection of preferred alternative)
- Construction 2014 to 2015. (dependent on receipt of construction monies)

Next PAC meeting is to be determined. It will be scheduled prior to meeting with Tribal Council and the general public.

Future PAC meetings and times need to be scheduled to maximize PAC participation.