

## RAILROAD ADVISORY BOARD

May 8, 2008

A meeting of the Railroad Advisory Board was held May 5, 2008 in the W&L Utility Services Conference room at 105 E. Ash. Attending the meeting was:

Peter Davis, Chairperson  
Jack Blaylock, Vice-Chair - Excused  
"Doc" Wulff, Member, Member - Excused  
Greg Eiffert, Member  
Bryan Ross, Member  
Tom Ogden, Member  
Kee Groshong, Member  
Christian Johannngmeier, Supervising Engineer  
Mike Schmitz, Engineering Manager  
Tina Worley, Utility Services Manager  
Marilyn Thorpe, Administrative Support Supervisor

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF February 14, 2008:** On a motion by Greg Eiffert and second by Kee Groshong, the minutes of February 14, 2008 were approved with a unanimous vote.

**FINANCE REPORT:** Mike Schmitz reported due to illness with staff there was no financial report.

**TRAFFIC REPORT:** Christian Johannngmeier reported that traffic was down 352 cars or 25% for the same time last year. He said traffic was down 476 cars compared to the best year.

**MARKETING:** Tina Worley reported that she had been meeting with prospective customers but at this point could not get any firm commitments. She will continue to let the Board know of any new developments.

**NEW BUSINESS:** *Engineering Services Contract for Wabash Walkway Project:* - Christian Johannngmeier informed the Board that a resolution had been sent to Council, if approved, it would authorize the City Manager to enter into an Engineering Services Agreement with Engineering Surveys and Services for the Wabash Walkway project. The Wabash Walkway project is part of the Non-Motorized Transportation program. The Walkway includes a proposed ped-way along the COLT right of way from Rogers Street to Vandiver Drive. The proposal states that the project cost was not to exceed \$80,000. Funding for the preliminary design phase of the project has already been appropriated.

The Board asked what the standards were for building a ped-way in the right-of-way. They wanted to know who is responsible for fencing, liability costs, and costs for construction and maintenance.. Mr. Johannngmeier said that several years ago the standards the Railroad Board had endorsed had been sent to Council. The Board requested that staff check with the Federal Railroad Association and find out what their standards requirements are and to send the Board the information.

The Board on a motion by Kee Groshong recommended that the Board support the project moving forward. Greg Eiffert made a second to the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**OLD BUSINESS:** *U.S. 63 Bridge Update* – Mike Schmitz told the Board that as a result of a recently completed feasibility study and as directed by Council, staff solicited proposals from engineering firms

for performing final engineering design and preparing construction plans and specifications for the proposed Columbia Terminal Railroad (COLT) bridge over US 63. Mike said after the staff reviewed the proposals, they recommended that Modjeski and Masters be retained to perform the tasks required for the project at a cost not to exceed \$425,000

*U.S. 63 Exemption* – Staff informed the Board that Exempt signs had been installed at the 63 COLT crossing and that advanced warning and message boards should be installed by the end of the month. MoDot had issued press releases about the exemption and had notified locals schools and businesses of the exemption.

The Board asked when the surface at the crossing was going to be repaired. Christian said they were trying to get it fixed before winter.

*Lakeview* – Christian told the Board that Council had approved the appropriation of funds to install gates and flashing lights at the COLT crossing at Lakeview Street in Centralia. The crossing is across from the new school in Centralia. The estimated cost of the project is \$150,000 which will be reimbursed to COLT by MoDOT.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Nothing to report.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** June 12, 2008

Meeting adjourned – 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,