



PROGRESS REPORT

SRF NUMBER 6505
 PROJECT NAME Williston
 Comprehensive and
 Transportation Plan
 STATUS REPORT # 4

DATE - 05/15/09

REPORTING PERIOD –
 March and
 April, 2009

ROUTE/COPY TO

- Kent Jarcik
- Planning Advisory Committee
- Jeff Rodacker, Ackerman-Estvold Engineers

CLIENT – City of Williston, ND

PREPARED BY – Cindy Gray

PROJECT MANAGER - Cindy Gray

COMPLETED ACTIVITIES THIS PERIOD

Draft land use plans showing arterial and collector roadway extensions were refined in March and distributed to the Planning Advisory Committee. All meeting materials and draft plan products were posted on the project website.

A Public Forum to review draft land use plan alternatives and roadway extensions was held on April 6th, 2009. Meeting notes were completed and posted on the project website.

The Planning Advisory Committee met on April 7 to review and discuss the two alternatives, and provide direction for a single draft land use plan, including collector and arterial roadway extensions. Meeting notes were completed and posted on the project website.

Draft Comprehensive Plan Goals and Objectives were distributed to the Planning Advisory Committee for review. No further input has been received.

The input from the Planning Advisory Committee was incorporated into a single draft land use plan and was distributed to the Committee, with a list of concerns and issues that should be addressed regarding some of the proposed changes.

Additional Highway 2 Alternatives were explored in more detail with SRF engineers based on past input received from City and State officials.

ONGOING ACTIVITY THIS PERIOD

SRF is preparing concept drawings and a write-up of Highway 2 Alternatives. These drawings are more detailed than the early ideas presented in the early winter of 2008.

Kent Jarcik discussed a couple of the concerns regarding the new land use plan with the chairman of the Planning Advisory Committee. Based on this discussion and follow-up with SRF, some further changes will be made that better reflect the direction and intent of the Committee. Cindy followed up by providing further changes to the SRF GIS Technician who is working on the plans and a revised plan became available the week of May 18th. Once this is distributed for review, additional concerns can be addressed.

Cindy will prepare a tiered growth approach for 2020 and 2035, which will be used by the traffic modeling engineers/planners at SRF. Land uses will be converted into jobs and households, and will be entered into the traffic analysis zones in the model. The model will be run for both scenarios to arrive at future traffic volume projections.

PROJECTED ACTIVITY NEXT PERIOD

Planning Advisory Committee Meeting – June 2nd at 1:30 p.m.

Staff meeting with transportation-related City and NDDOT staff to review Hwy 2 alternatives – June 2nd, 9:30 a.m.

Continue with written portion of Transportation Plan and Comprehensive Plan.

Determine date of next Public Forum, scheduled for June, 2009. Transportation projections needed for this meeting. Tentative list of recommended transportation improvements would also be desirable.

Need to request transportation revenue data from City Engineer and possibly from NDDOT (five-year history). Data will be used to create projected revenue, which will be used to financially constrain a list of future transportation improvements.

Convert future land use data into job and household data for Traffic Analysis Zones. Run model. Review results and identify projected congestion. Identify necessary future transportation improvements based on projected congestion and other known problems and issues of the transportation system.

Make request to City Engineer and NDDOT regarding future maintenance needs (i.e. rehabilitation or reconstruction projects) that should go into list of future roadway improvements.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/ITEMS OF CONCERN

The project involves portions of the County outside the city limits. In the original scope of work, the Williams County Commission was identified, but not the Planning Commission. Kent and Cindy discussed including the Williams County Planning Commission in the approval process, which could mean an additional meeting or a joint meeting with the City Planning Commission. Further consideration of the approval process is needed.

Costs of public meeting notification in the Williston Herald and the Shopper have exceeded estimates.

No comments have been received from the Planning Advisory Committee regarding the Goals and Objectives. It's important to get feedback on that document.

Somewhat low participation in Planning Advisory Committee meetings is a concern. Going into the remainder of the study, it will be important that all Committee members provide input on the plan.

REQUIRED ACTION BY SRF, THE CITY OF WILLISTON, WILLIAMS COUNTY, AND/OR NDDOT

Review goals and objectives. Provide input to Kent Jarcik or Cindy Gray. Advise Planning Advisory Committee that comments on goals and objectives are needed very soon, such as prior to the 1st week of June.

Attend Planning Advisory Committee meetings and review materials provided via e-mail or posted on project website.

Attend Highway 2 meeting to review and discuss alternatives.