

**LOUISVILLE – SOUTHERN INDIANA
OHIO RIVER BRIDGES PROJECT**

**Indiana Historic Preservation Advisory Team (IHPAT) Meeting
March 25, 2015 – 10:00 A.M. at Mountjoy Chilton and Medley**

The following summarizes the discussions of the IHPAT meeting held at Mountjoy Chilton and Medley in Jeffersonville, Indiana on March 25, 2015 for the Louisville – Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project (Project). An agenda was provided to the IHPAT members on March 10, 2015 via e-mail and hard copy.

Welcome and Introductions: Mr. John Sacksteder, CTS-GEC

Mr. Sacksteder welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked those present to identify themselves and the entity they represented. A list of the IHPAT members in attendance is attached to this summary.

Project Update: Ms. Mary Kennedy, INDOT and Mr. John Carr, IN SHPO Office

Neither Ms. Kennedy nor Mr. Carr had any opening comments or remarks.

Maintenance of Traffic - Proposed Indiana Downtown: Mr. Max Rowland, Walsh Construction

Mr. Rowland provided the following maintenance of traffic update for the Downtown construction.

- Eighteen days of construction were lost over the winter months due to the weather and high water levels in the Ohio River. Crews are now working 12-hour day shifts and six to seven days per week to accelerate the construction schedule.
- The new Ohio River Bridge is on schedule to open to traffic in January 2016.
- A major shift in traffic is to be implemented in mid-July 2015: existing I-65 northbound and southbound traffic will be switched to the newly constructed I-65 northbound traffic lanes to allow construction of the new I-65 southbound traffic lanes.
- Installation of the limestone block façade at the Clark Memorial Bridge has resumed by Brody Campbell. This construction was halted due to the winter weather.

Project Status

Utica Limekilns Interpretive Marker: Mr. David Kroll, CTS-GEC

A draft of the marker and graphics was provided by Mr. Kroll for discussion. He stated that the text and graphics were taken from the Historic Preservation Plan (HPP), the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nominations and the pamphlet that had been prepared for the limekilns. Additional sketches of the types of limekilns may be added after possible coordination with the Wabash and Erie Canal Society in Delphi, Indiana. Included with the marker was a schematic of the Ohio River Overlook showing proposed mountings via two panels and four panels. The panels were shown mounted in the semicircular concrete seats of the Overlook. Mr. Kroll commented that mounting the panels at the edge of the Overlook did not appear feasible due to restrictions of the adjacent fencing. He also indicated that the BiState Historic Consultation Team (BSHCT) favored the two-panel scenario.

After this presentation, the following additional questions were asked regarding the draft marker and graphics:

Q: Are the panels to be in color or in black-and-white?

A: Color can be added for contrast.

Q: What is the fence construction at the Overlook?

A: The fence is not a part of the interpretive marker, but of the bridge construction. The type of fence has not yet been determined, but it will match the fence that is placed on the new river bridge. It may be wire rope or rail tubing that will not block the view from the Overlook.

Q: Can text be added to the panels to note that the limekilns are not visible from the Overlook, but are located in the general area?

A: This suggestion will be taken for consideration.

INAAP Igloo Storage Roadside Historical Marker: Mr. Jeff Vlach, CTS-GEC

On February 25, 2015, Ms. Casey Pfeiffer of the Indiana Historical Bureau (IHB) sent draft language for the Indiana Army Ammunition Plant (INAAP) Igloo Storage marker to Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Vlach, which was distributed to the BSHCT for review. On that date, Mr. Vlach replied to Ms. Pfeiffer with the schedule of BSHCT and IHPAT meetings for March 2015. Ms. Pfeiffer replied on February 27, 2015 that the meetings schedule was agreeable and requested an update after the comment period; IHB research is to continue through March.

The initial draft of the marker was reviewed at the BSHCT meeting of March 3, 2015. Mr. Carr noted two revisions. On Side 2, he questioned if Charlestown was the “town” referred to in the first sentence. In addition, he favored changing the word “material” in the last sentence to “munitions”. He also stated that the text seemed disjointed with incomplete sentences. This is typical for the IHB marker program, as only a certain number of characters are allowed, compacting the presented information. Subsequent to the BSHCT meeting, Mr. Vlach returned these comments to Ms. Pfeiffer. On March 4, 2015, she returned the revised text that was distributed to the IHPAT in advance of the (IHPAT) meeting. After continuing research, IHB modified the language of the marker and provided a third draft to Mr. Vlach on March 24, 2015, which was distributed at the IHPAT meeting.

After review of the March 24, 2015 marker language by the IHPAT, two additional comments were offered for revision. Mr. Kramer asked if “Due to” on Side 1 could be replaced with “Because of”. In addition, it was questioned if the name of the marker could be modified from “Plant” to “Igloos”. *(Subsequent to the meeting, both comments were returned to Ms. Pfeiffer. She replied on March 31, 2015 that the number of characters allowed per side makes the change to “Because of” infeasible. She also stated that the IHB was unable to change the title of the marker as INAAP as a whole is significant, which includes the igloo storage facility, the Indiana Ordnance Works Plant #1, and the Hoosier Ordnance Plant. The marker covers all of these entities, while also examining the significant social and economic impact INAAP had on Charlestown.)*

The location for placement of the marker was discussed with the IHPAT. Previous discussions included placement either in the area of SR 265 – SR 62 intersection or at River Ridge. The consensus

of the IHPAT was that the marker should be placed on SR 62 near River Ridge or at the (River Ridge) Administration Building. Placement at or in proximity to the lone igloo to be saved would preclude viewing of it by the public. Additional coordination with River Ridge is required. *(Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Vlach contacted Mr. Thomas Vittitow on April 15, 2015 to discuss this issue. A response is pending.)*

Utica Lime Kiln #48004 Preservation Easement: Mr. Jeff Vlach., CTS-GEC

Mr. Vlach received an executed copy of the draft preservation easement (easement) for Utica Limekiln #48004 from the Utica Town Attorney, Mr. C. Gregory Fifer, on January 25, 2015. On February 4, 2015, Mr. Vlach coordinated with Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Kevin Hetrick, INDOT, to advance the easement to the Clark County Historian as a potential grantee. Concurrence was received on February 9, 2015 (Ms. Kennedy) and on February 17, 2015 (Mr. Hetrick). On February 17, 2015, the draft easement was sent to Ms. Jeanne Burke, Clark County Historian. Ms. Burke accepted the role of Grantee on March 13, 2015. On March 19, 2015, the PE was sent to Ms. Burke for signature.

Mr. Sekula objected to Ms. Burke being named as the grantee/holder of the easement. He stated that the *Indiana Conservation Easement Act* does not allow individuals to hold conservation easements. He maintained that the grantee/holder must be a non-profit organization or a governmental entity. *(Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Sekula provided an interpretation from an Indiana Landmarks (IL) attorney clarifying the provisions of the Indiana Conservation Easement Act.)* It was questioned if the Indiana Historical Society might consent to hold the easement because of the organization's role in overseeing the County Historian Program. Mr. Vlach was directed to contact the Society to gauge their interest. *(Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Vlach contacted Ms. Jeanette Rooney of the Society, who replied on April 15, 2015 that the Society does not accept easements on historic properties and must decline the offer.)*

Mr. Sekula and Ms. Merritt again indicated an interest in applying for a Historic Preservation Enhancement Fund (HPEF) grant for rehabilitation of the limekiln. Mr. Sekula stated that IL would accept the easement if the limekiln was rehabilitated. At present, no estimates have been made of the cost of rehabilitation. Further coordination is to follow, probably through a teleconference with the INDOT, IN SHPO, IL and the National Trust of Historic Preservation (NTHP).

Pearl Street Infill Revitalization; Mr. Jay Ellis, Jeffersonville Main Street

Mr. Ellis noted that repairs to the four relocated houses have continued through the winter, as follows. These noted repairs have been completed since the IHPAT meeting of December 10, 2014.

-401 Pearl Street:

- Repaired and reinstalled large decorative front window
- Rebuilt porches and reconstructed front porch gable roof
- Repaired wall framing
- Repaired wood clapboard siding, where needed
- Installed new wood clapboard siding, where needed
- Completed masonry work around the foundation
- Installed new roof on house and shed
- Poured concrete steps

-403 Pearl Street and 405 Pearl Street:

Repaired the roofs

Poured concrete steps at 405 Pearl Street (the steps at 403 Pearl Street are to be wood)

Mason to begin work soon on reconstructing brick columns and wall on the front porch at 405 Pearl Street

-407 Pearl Street:

Continued work on exterior siding

Installed new roof

Saved and restored the fluted columns from the front porch and in the process of having mason install

Finished masonry work around the foundation

Poured concrete steps

Design and Project Construction Update***Downtown Procurement: Mr. Andy Barber, KYTC***

Mr. Barber indicated that the Project website contained an update of construction activities for 2015 (entitled Downtown Crossing Annual Construction Guide, March 2015). He encouraged the IHPAT to download the pamphlet.

Section 2: Ohio River Bridge

- Tower 5 has reached its full height of 230. Steel cables are being set on it.

Mr. Barber stated that the Project schedule has been accelerated (as previously discussed by Mr. Rowland) to include the rehabilitation of the Kennedy Bridge to prolong its life. The flyover ramp of US 31 over I-65 is to open in January 2016 when the new Ohio River Bridge opens and traffic is diverted to it to begin work on the Kennedy Bridge.

Mr. Barber commented that Walsh Construction is developing conceptual designs for streetscaping in Jeffersonville. It is anticipated that this information would be presented to the IHPAT in June 2015 for comment.

East End Procurement: Mr. Ron Heustis, INDOT

Mr. Heustis provided the following construction update in the East End. Work is progressing on all three sections; the construction is on schedule for substantial completion by October 31, 2016.

Section 4: Kentucky East End

- At the Harrods Creek Bridge, the structural steel is being erected for the bridge deck.
- On the approach bridge to the Ohio River Bridge, work is proceeding on multiple piers.
- Blasting and excavation at the tunnel has resumed with completion of the excavation and the initial liner scheduled in the summer 2015. Tunnel excavation is approximately 80% completed.
- Surface blasting is continuing south of US 42 and will begin to the north of the tunnel in the near future.

Section 5: Ohio River Bridge

- Work is to resume on the bridge towers with full height scheduled to be reached in 2015.

Section 6: Indiana East End

- Construction is continuing at the SR 265/SR 62/Port Road Interchange with completion expected in 2015.

Regarding the maintenance of traffic in Section 3 of the Downtown Procurement, Mr. Heustis indicated that in the three-year period prior to the commencement of construction, there were 45 vehicle crashes during the months of September through December. Since the maintenance of traffic has been instituted, vehicle crashes have dropped to 33, a 27% decrease during the same time of the year.

Final Comments: Mr. John Sacksteder, CTS-GEC

None of the Co-chairs had any closing comments or remarks. The deadline for the receipt of comments is April 9, 2015. The next IHPAT meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2015 in the Community Room at Mountjoy Chilton and Medley. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

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FHWA: Jeff Schmidt

IN SHPO: John Carr

INDOT: Mary Kennedy
Ron Heustis
Angela Nichols

KYTC: Andy Barber

Indiana
Ombudsman: Carl Percy

Kentucky
Ombudsman: Lee Walker

Indiana
Landmarks: Greg Sekula

Jeffersonville Main
Street Association: Jay Ellis (Telephone)

Rose Hill Neighborhood
Association: Joe Rafferty

Clark County: Carl Kramer

Clark County
Historian: Jeanne Burke

Jeff Historic
Preservation Commission: Laura Renwick

National Trust for
Historic Preservation: Elizabeth Merritt (Telephone)

CTS-GEC: John Sacksteder
Jim Hilton
Jeff Vlach
Brian Shaw
Gary Elder

David Kroll

Walsh Construction:

Max Rowland
Celeste Blomberg