

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

**Kentucky Historic Preservation Advisory Team (KHPAT) Meeting  
March 20, 2014– 10:00 AM at KYTC District #5**

The following summarizes the discussions of the KHPAT meeting held in the Main Conference Room at the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) District #5 on March 20, 2014 for the Louisville – Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project (Project). An agenda was provided to meeting attendees by e-mail and mail on March 5, 2014.

**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 KHPAT members in attendance is attached to this summary.

**Project Update: Ms. Amanda Abner, KYTC and Mr. Craig Potts, KY SHPO**

There were no opening comments from Ms. Abner or Mr. Potts.

**Status of Preservation Easements: Mr. John Sacksteder, CTS-GEC**

***Drumanard***

KYTC is currently reviewing the comments from the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office (KY SHPO) on the preservation easement for Drumanard. The property appraisal is being updated for the passage of time and the effect of the easement on the property. KYTC must prepare an updated appraisal to conclude their preparation of the easement.

***Rosewell***

The KY SHPO has made a recommendation to KYTC for the preservation easement, which the KYTC legal staff is presently reviewing.

Mr. Potts stated that the berm to be constructed adjacent to Rosewell was satisfactory and not as intrusive as first thought. He complemented the Project on the landscaping plan for this area.

***Grocers Ice and Cold Storage***

Mr. Sacksteder stated that the western portion of the building is to be demolished at the end of April 2014. To date, no interest has been shown in purchase of the property by a qualified buyer. The KY SHPO has initiated the development of the preservation easement for the property.

**HPEF Project Application Status: Mr. Craig Potts, KY SHPO**

Mr. Potts stated that two applications have been received and were under consideration for award in Kentucky. The selection committee is to meet to finalize the awards, possibly by the end of March 2014. If approved, both grants would be for \$150,000.00 for rehabilitation of the Jefferson Jacob School and the Merriwether House. Preservation easements would be placed on each structure after the completion of construction.

Mr. Potts explained that if the applications were approved, the initial phase would be to develop the design and a cost proposal for the aforementioned properties. A maximum grant of \$20,000.00 for the Jefferson Jacob School and \$25,000.00 for the Merriwether House (as requested in the grant applications) would be available for the first phase of each project. Following approval of the first phase of each project by the KY SHPO, the remaining funds would be made available to each grant applicant for the remainder of the project. Mr. Potts noted that the KY SHPO must approve each phase prior to the release of any funds. *(Subsequent to the meeting, grant award letters were issued by the KY SHPO to Ms. Leslie Barras and River Fields, Inc. for the Jefferson Jacob School and the Merriwether House projects, respectively.)*

**East Market Streetscape Improvements And Coordination with Louisville Metro: Mr. John Carman, Carman**

Mr. Carman provided an overview of the streetscape project. The limits extend from Brook Street to the Home of the Innocents campus (west to east) and from Nanny Goat Strut alley (extended) to Billy Goat Strut alley (extended) (south to north), including Main Street and Jefferson Street. The streetscape project has been initiated by the neighborhood with a specific focus on green infrastructure and enhancement of public art and the gallery district. It is intended to connect NuLu, the East Market Street District, to downtown Louisville, improve continuity throughout the 10-block area and maintain the authenticity of the existing neighborhood.

The streetscape project was developed from a connectivity study prepared by Louisville Metro. Based on this latter study, the streetscape project obtained funding from KYTC. Because a four-block section on Main Street (Floyd Street to Shelby Street) of the Ohio River Bridges Project falls within the footprint of the streetscape project, it was recommended by KYTC that the streetscape project should proceed as a federal project (if federal funding became available to assist with completion of the streetscape project). As such, the streetscape project is being developed in compliance with applicable federal environmental and design guidelines.

Mr. Carman stated that the design of the streetscape project would comply with the (Ohio River Bridges Project) First Amended Memorandum of Agreement (FA-MOA), the Settlement Agreement (SA), the Aesthetics and Enhancement Implementation Plan (AEI), and be informed by the Phoenix Hill Historic Preservation Plan (HPP). As recommended by KYTC, the Section 106 consulting parties from the Ohio River Bridges Project are to be invited to participate as consulting parties for the streetscape project in the development of the environmental documentation. It was noted that while the Project consulting parties are to be invited to be consulting parties for the East Market Streetscape Project, those not interested or not otherwise involved, such as those associated with the East End, could opt-out of participating as a consulting party.

The schedule for completion of the streetscape project was discussed. A public information meeting is to be scheduled in approximately three weeks to solicit comment at the early stages of development. It is anticipated that the environmental and design phases would be completed by fall 2014, the project bid in winter 2014 – 2015 and construction completed in fall 2016.

Various questions were asked of Mr., Carman following this presentation. Mr. Magee inquired how the streetscape project relates to the Overlay District. Mr. Carman indicated that the two were parallel efforts by the City of Louisville, although the Overlay District was a larger geographical area. The streetscape project is intended to establish the character of the adjacent East Market Street neighborhood, whereas the Overlay District recognizes the transitional character of the entire district.

Mr. Cornelius asked about the north - south boundaries of the streetscape project. Mr. Carman reiterated that these boundaries were Nanny Goat Strut alley to Billy Goat Strut alley. Main Street and Jefferson Street are not included as a part of the project.

### **African-American Heritage Interpretive Plan: Mr. John Mettille, CDM Smith**

The African – American Heritage Interpretive Plan (A-AHIP) was prepared by CDM Smith (CDM) to comply with Stipulation III.C.4.a. of the Settlement Agreement (SA). It was completed on December 30, 2013. The A-AHIP has been posted to the Project website, and appropriate copies are being made for distribution to the local libraries in the Project area. The plan included a draft pamphlet presenting information on some of the key historic sites within the neighborhoods. With some modification, the pamphlet could be used by the neighborhood association as part of its welcoming package for new residents.

Mr. Mettille gave an overview of the efforts of CDM to complete the A-AHIP. Mr. Mettille stated that the area is facing significant development pressure. The neighborhood desires to plan for orderly growth, but is wary of local government controls. The neighborhood association is working to develop a neighborhood plan for the preservation of the neighborhood. An extensive part of the development of the A-AHIP included neighborhood meetings with local residents and the neighborhood association to record the history and refine its telling. He stated that the interviews and oral histories were to be archived at the Kentucky Oral History Museum. To supplement the A-AHIP, five lesson plans were developed: two for the fourth grade, two for the fifth grade and one for the eighth grade as part of their study of Kentucky and US history. In addition, CDM has developed a draft of a walking tour of the neighborhood.

Mr. Mettille indicated that the neighborhood was looking forward to working with CDM on the preparation of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nominations for Jacob School Lane, James Taylor Subdivision, and Village of Harrods Creek (Stipulation II.C.4.b. of the SA). Mr. Mettille noted that CDM is working with the neighborhood association to kick-off the nomination process. He noted that the neighborhood association has offered to host a breakfast with CDM to give residents the opportunity to share their histories of the neighborhood and its related historic structures.

**Maintenance of Traffic in Section 1 Downtown: Mr. Nick Faul, Walsh Construction**

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Vlach had distributed graphical information to the KHPAT detailing detour routes through the historic districts in the Downtown including the *ORB Downtown Crossing Section 1 Historic District Detour Summary*. Each of the proposed closures was discussed with the KHPAT. In the Revised Record of Decision (RROD), it is the obligation of the BiState Management Team (BSMT) to consult with the BiState Historic Consultation Team (BSHCT) on official detours throughout the construction phase. There is no such stipulation for the KHPAT. The following comments were noted.

- All of the detour routes have been coordinated with Louisville Metro Government.
- The East Witherspoon Street (by I-65) detour would accommodate baseball game traffic to Slugger Field for the Louisville Bats AAA baseball games.
- The East Witherspoon Street (by Adams Street) would be modified to capture traffic exiting the historic districts onto city streets. It would route traffic away from Franklin Street and onto Main Street to avoid the Butchertown HD. A revised graphic id to be prepared for distribution to the KHPAT.
- The detour routes would be established for through traffic; access by local residents cannot be controlled as they are expected to drive around the construction on other city streets.
- Louisville Metro Government would be responsible for coordinating the detour routes with existing traffic signals.
- The detour routing would be advertised on social media, the Project website and local television channels in advance of posting.
- It is hoped that by maintaining local access to businesses in each detour zone, impacts to business revenues would be lessened. KYTC would not assume any liability for impacts to business revenues.
- Construction at night is expected on Main Street, Market Street, Liberty Street, Preston Street and Jefferson Street. If interstate lane closures were required, they would also be at night.
- If circumstances warrant, modification(s) to the detour routes could be made.
- At each of the ensuing KHPAT meetings, progress reports would be provided on the status of the detour routing, especially impacts to historic districts.
- The detour routing should not interfere with Thunder over Louisville or the Kentucky Derby. Coordination is ongoing with Louisville Metro to accommodate these two events.

**WHPA Drainage Concept/Viewshed Effects: Mr. Ron Heustis, INDOT**

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Vlach distributed *Exhibit "A" Views of WHPA Ponds from River Road and Rosewell* to the KHPAT, which showed the visibility of an open stormwater drainage system proposed in Section 4 of the East End. Two open detention ponds have been proposed in lieu of a vault system to collect runoff from the Ohio River East End Bridge. The exhibits showed the locations of the ponds in relation to the mainline, anticipated views from River Road and Rosewell and contour grading and landscaping. Roadway pollutants collected in the ponds would be removed prior to release of the runoff to Harrods Creek and the Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA). Coordination with the Louisville Water Company (LWC) and the Kentucky Division of Water (KDOW) is ongoing; concurrence from both agencies on the final design is required.

Stipulation III.M.2. of the FA-MOA mandates that the BSMT shall design and construct the proposed roadways taking into consideration the cultural landscapes with special attention to viewsheds, focusing on creative strategies for mitigating impacts. It is felt that this stipulation has been met with the grade and placement of the ponds with the associated native grass and tree plantings.

## **Design and Project Construction Update**

### ***Downtown Procurement: Mr. Andy Barber, KYTC***

Mr. Barber provided the following construction update in the Downtown.

- The final design is approximately 80% complete and the construction is approximately 30% complete. Design is expected to be complete in July 2014.
- Tower 5 has been poured and is above the water level. In late 2014, the cables are to be delivered.
- The sidewalks are to be maintained on one side of the George Rogers Clark Bridge (Bridge) approach while the pylons are removed on the opposite side. Bicycles would be permitted at all times during this initial construction until full closure of the Bridge for 44 days following Memorial Day.

### ***East End Procurement: Mr. Ron Heustis, INDOT***

Mr. Heustis provided the following construction update in the East End.

- The final design is approximately 80% complete and the construction is approximately 25% complete.
- The rock excavation and blasting at the south portal is continuing. The excavation has turned into the tunnel and has progressed in drifts. The south bore is approximately 400 feet long. Work on the north portal is to begin soon.
- The new alignment of KY 841 would restrict Wolf Pen Branch Road to one lane for bridge construction beginning in April. INDOT is working with the Bridgepointe neighborhood on the maintenance of traffic.
- In the river, the shafts are being drilled and poured. The river has hampered work during the winter months.

Mr. Potts asked when the Indiana side of the Big Four Bridge would be opened for pedestrian access. Mr. Barber replied that it would be opened prior to the time of closure of pedestrian and bicycle access across the Clark Memorial Bridge.

## **Final Meeting Comments: Mr. John Sacksteder, CTS-GEC**

The deadline for the receipt of comments is April 4, 2014. The next KHPAT meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2014 in the Main Conference Room at KYTC District #5. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

**KHPAT Meeting Attendees  
December 12, 2013 – 10:00 AM at KYTC District #5**

KY SHPO: Craig Potts  
Burcum Keeton

KYTC: Amanda Abner  
Andy Barber  
Rob Harris  
Beth Niemann  
Ken Sperry (KTRT)

INDOT: Ron Heustis  
Angela Nichols

Kentucky  
Ombudsman: Lee Walker

Indiana  
Ombudsman: Carl Percy

City of Prospect: Ann Simms

Phoenix Hill Neighborhood  
Association, Inc.: Doug Magee

Butchertown Neighborhood:  
Association, Inc.: Andrew Cornelius  
Emily Boone

National Trust for  
Historic Preservation: Elizabeth Merritt (Telephone)

Wolf Pen Preservation  
Association: Arnold Zegart

CTS-GEC: John Sacksteder  
Jeff Vlach  
Brian Shaw

CDM Smith: John Mettille

Walsh  
Construction: Nick Faul