



**DSATS Active Transportation Subcommittee**

Tuesday, 21 March 2017

11:00 A.M.

**DeKalb County Highway Department**

1826 Barber Green Rd.

DeKalb, IL 60115

Conference Room # 815-756-6026

1. Introductions

2. Approval Of Agenda

**Action:** Approval of the March 21, 2017 Active Transportation Subcommittee Agenda.

3. Approval Of Meeting Minutes

**Action:** Approval of the February 21, 2017 Active Transportation Subcommittee Minutes.

Documents:

[DSATS\\_ATS0217\\_Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

4. Public Comment

5. Selection Of Regular Meeting Date

Staff polled subcommittee members to determine the regular meeting schedule for the Active Transportation Subcommittee. All members completing the poll selected Tuesday morning as the best meeting time.

DSATS must publish the meeting dates, times, and locations of all public meetings for the year. Changes to meeting dates, times, or locations must be published in a public advertisement. Subcommittee members will decide on a regular meeting date and time for publication.

**ACTION:** Approve proposed date and time of future Active Transportation Subcommittee meetings.

6. Active Transportation Plan (ATP)

6.A. Survey

Staff have been working with a NIU class to develop a public outreach strategy for the ATP. The class has designed a web survey in collaboration with staff. This survey has been sent for review. Staff are seeking comment in order to launch and close the survey while the NIU students are still in session.

Documents:

## [ATP\\_Survey.pdf](#)

### 6.B. Public Outreach Schedule

Staff have prepared a public outreach schedule in collaboration with the NIU class working on the public outreach strategy for the ATP. Subcommittee members may want to consider meeting one week prior to the open houses in order to review and provide feedback on the open house materials.

Also attached is the tentative project schedule for the completion of the ATP. This schedule was presented at the February meeting and is attached here for your reference.

Documents:

[2017 03 15 Public Outreach Schedule.pdf](#)  
[ATP Schedule.pdf](#)

### 6.C. Goals

Several subcommittee members provided comment on the 2011 goals. Staff is seeking additional guidance on the Federal Highway Administration goal guidelines for incorporation into the 2017 ATP goals.

Documents:

[FHWA Plan Goals.pdf](#)

### 7. Safe Routes To School

In preparation of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funding cycle to be announced later this year, staff is requesting subcommittee members begin considering projects that may be eligible for SRTS funding. For more information on eligible projects and to review past SRTS success stories, please visit the Illinois Department of Transportation SRTS website:

[Http://Www.idot.illinois.gov/Transportation-System/Local-Transportation-Partners/County-Engineers-And-Local-Public-Agencies/Safe-Routes-To-School/Index](http://www.idot.illinois.gov/Transportation-System/Local-Transportation-Partners/County-Engineers-And-Local-Public-Agencies/Safe-Routes-To-School/Index).

### 8. Bicycle And Pedestrian Counters

DSATS has budgeted for the purchase of bicycle and pedestrian counters. DSATS currently has counters. However, these counters cannot distinguish between bicyclists and pedestrians or the direction of travel. Staff is proposing the purchase of bi-directional counters that can distinguish between bicyclists and pedestrians. Additionally, staff is considering the purchase of on road bicycle counters in order to begin counting these types of road users. Staff is seeking input on the purchase of these counters. Staff is seeking input from subcommittee members on what types of counters they think will be useful and where counters should be placed for the purpose of applying for grants.

### 9. Additional Business

Subcommittee members are invited to address other items not listed on the agenda and are encouraged to propose new items for the next agenda.

10. Adjourn

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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*Assistive and Language Services provided upon request.*



**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**  
**21 FEBRUARY 2017 – 8:30 A.M.**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**MEETING # **ATS0217****

**ATTENDANCE**

- City of DeKalb (1 votes): *Patrick DiDiana*
- City of Sycamore (1 votes): **Adam Orton**
- DeKalb County (1 vote): **Nathan Schwartz**
- NIU (1 vote): not present
- NIU SA (1 vote): not present
- VAC (1 vote): **Paul LaLonde**
- DeKalb Park District (1 vote): **Amy Doll**
- Sycamore Park District (1 vote): **Dan Gibble**
- Live Healthy DeKalb County (1 vote): **Joel Maurer**, Lisseth Cuevas, Chuck Walters
- DSATS Staff: Jessica Hyink
- Others Present: Maalik Phipps, Edder Ortega, Paris Bizzle, Carie Arline, Sarah, Arianna (NIU class participating in public outreach)

(**BOLD** indicates main voting member. *Italics* indicates proxy voting member.)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair LaLonde called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 8:30 a.m. Introduction of members present was made.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion #ATS0217-01:** A motion was made by Mr. Schwartz to approve the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting agenda. Second by Mr. Orton and approved by voice vote.

**2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Election of Officers**

Ms. Hyink explained DSATS procedures for selection of a subcommittee Chair. She said the Technical Advisory Chair, as the committee convening this subcommittee, appoints the

subcommittee Chair. Mr. Bushnell, the TAC Chair, selected Mr. LaLonde due to his familiarity with the region and his ability to provide an impartial view. Ms. Hyink said the TAC Chair recommended the subcommittee appoint a Vice-Chair in the absence of the Chair.

**Motion #ATS0217-02:** A motion was made by Mr. LaLonde to nominate Joel Maurer as Vice-Chair. Second by Mr. Orton.

**Motion #ATS0217-03:** A motion was made by Mr. Orton to close nominations. Second by Mr. Schwartz and approved by voice vote.

Mr. Maurer was approved as Vice-Chair by voice vote.

#### **4. Selection of Regular Meeting Date**

Ms. Hyink said DSATS must publish regular meeting date schedules according to Open Meetings Act requirements. She asked members for suggestions for a regular meeting date and time. Mr. LaLonde suggested sending out a Doodle poll with selections for morning and afternoon. Ms. Hyink said she would send out the poll later that day.

#### **5. Active Transportation Plan**

Ms. Hyink provided a brief overview of the update to the Active Transportation Plan. This plan replaces the 2011 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Ms. Hyink outlined the proposed schedule and noted members are welcome to recommend changes to the schedule. She introduced the NIU students who are participating in the public outreach portion of the study. The students are drafting a survey for review by the subcommittee and preparing materials for the open houses. The open houses will occur the last week in April to allow for student involvement.

Mr. Maurer asked what data will be analyzed under existing conditions. Ms. Hyink said initial analyses have focused on census data and bike counter information. Conditions of existing trails will be analyzed next.

Mr. Gible noted he has survey data from a recent study the Sycamore Park District completed. He noted the Greenways Trail Plan as a source of material to cite in the plan. Ms. Hyink said she would be compiling all relevant plans and summarizing the information for the committee.

Ms. Hyink noted the first task of the subcommittee is to review the goals from the 2011 plan to determine what might be missing. She said one area lacking in the 2011 goals was a focus on health. She asked members to provide feedback on the goals by March 7<sup>th</sup>, so that she can incorporate the feedback into the proposed goals to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Ms. Hyink presented an example of ESRI Story Maps and said she would be creating a website for the development of this plan using this platform. She noted pictures are critical to making an interesting website and invited subcommittee members to pass along any pictures they may have relating to active transportation. She requested pictures also be submitted by March 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **6. Safe Routes to School**

Ms. Hyink announced IDOT expects a new round of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program funding later this year. The last round occurred in 2014. Ms. Hyink encouraged subcommittee members to reach out to the DeKalb and Sycamore school districts to encourage their

participation. She noted Kathy Sheahan from the Sycamore School District has expressed interest in participation.

Mr. Maurer confirmed DSATS staff assisted with a prior application that was not awarded. Mr. Gible noted that the ITEP funded trail in Sycamore was rated highly for its connections to schools and said he thought it worth applying for the latest round of SRTS. Ms. Hyink noted the IDOT SRTS website has links to successful SRTS programs.

### **7. Additional Business**

Mr. LaLonde asked for additional business from members. Hearing none, Ms. Hyink asked members to reach out to her with any items or grant funding opportunities members would like brought to the subcommittee.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion #ATS0217-04:** A motion was made to adjourn at 9:17 a.m. by Mr. Schwartz. Second by Mr. Maurer and approved by voice vote.

Submitted By: Jessica Hyink

Date Approved: [Publish Date]

## Welcome to the Active Transportation Study for the DeKalb-Sycamore Region!

Active transportation refers to any form of human-powered transportation. The following are the most common forms of active transportation in our region:

- walking,
- wheelchair,
- jogging/running,
- cycling, and
- in-line skating/skateboarding.

To best serve the needs of the community, the DeKalb Sycamore Active Transportation Study (DSATS) would appreciate your thoughts on active transportation options in the DeKalb-Sycamore region. Please take a few moments to complete this questionnaire. Your participation is completely voluntary, and you can choose to skip any question you prefer not to answer. All of your answers will be kept confidential.

If you have questions about this survey, please feel free to contact Jessica Hyink by phone at 815-748-2369 or by e-mail at [jessica.hyink@cityofdekalb.com](mailto:jessica.hyink@cityofdekalb.com). For more information about the Active Transportation Study, please visit <http://www.dsats.org/506/Active-Transportation>.

[END PAGE]

### Q1 On average, how often do you use each type of active transportation?

	Daily	A few times a week	Weekly	A few times a month	Monthly	Less than monthly	Never
a. Walking	<input type="radio"/>						
b. Wheelchair	<input type="radio"/>						
c. Jogging/Running	<input type="radio"/>						
d. Bicycling	<input type="radio"/>						
e. In-line Skating/Skateboarding	<input type="radio"/>						

- Walking →if answer is not = Never, ask Q2a
- Wheelchair →if answer is not = Never, ask Q2b
- Jogging/Running, →if answer is not = Never, ask Q2c
- Bicycling →if answer is not = Never, ask Q2d
- In-line skating/Skateboarding. →if answer is not = Never, ask Q2e
- If all = Never, skip to Q5b

[END PAGE]

**Q2 On average, how far do you go when you use these forms of active transportation?**

	0.5 miles or less	0.6 - 1 miles	2 - 5 miles	6 - 10 miles	More than 10 miles
a. Walking	<input type="radio"/>				
b. Wheelchair	<input type="radio"/>				
c. Jogging/Running	<input type="radio"/>				
d. Bicycling	<input type="radio"/>				
e. In-line Skating/ Skateboarding	<input type="radio"/>				

[END PAGE]

**Q3 Where do you go when you use active transportation? Please select all that apply.**

- Restaurant/Movie Theater/Other Entertainment
- Exercise/Park/Gym
- Shopping/Run errands (bank, dry cleaners, post office, etc.)
- Visit friends or family
- Work/School
- No destination/Just for fun
- Other→ Please specify:

[END PAGE]

**Q4 How easy or difficult is it for you to use active transportation in our region?**

- Very easy
- Slightly easy
- Neither easy nor difficult
- Slightly difficult
- Very difficult

**Q4a Why do you feel that way about using active transportation in our region?**

[END PAGE]

**Q5a Why do you use active transportation? Please select all that apply.**

- To save money/it's cheaper
- To improve my health
- To get/stay fit
- For fun/recreation
- For the environment
- To get to places more quickly
- Other→ Please specify:

[END PAGE]

**Q5b Why don't you use active transportation? Please select all that apply.**

- I don't feel safe.
- I have a car.
- I ride the bus.
- I don't have a bicycle/in-line skates/skateboard.
- It costs too much.
- I don't enjoy participating in active transportation.
- Other→ Please specify:
- Not applicable

→if Q1a-e = Never, go to Q7

[END PAGE]

**Q6 In general, how safe do you feel while...**

	Very safe	Slightly safe	Neither safe nor unsafe	Slightly unsafe	Very unsafe
a. Using active transportation during the day?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Using active transportation when it's dark outside?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Walking/wheelchairing when there are cars/vehicles on the street/road?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Riding a bicycle on the street/road?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Using a crosswalk?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

[END PAGE]

**Q7 In general, how safe do you think children are while using active transportation in our region?**

- Very safe
- Slightly safe
- Neither safe nor unsafe
- Slightly unsafe
- Very unsafe
- Don't know/not sure

[END PAGE]

**Q8 In general, how easy or difficult do you think it is for people with disabilities to move throughout our region?**

- Very easy
- Slightly easy
- Neither easy nor difficult
- Slightly difficult
- Very difficult
- Don't know/not sure

[END PAGE]

**Q9 Please rank the top five factors that would cause you to use active transportation more often. Please rank the factors in order of importance, where 1 is most important to you.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ More on road bicycle trails
- \_\_\_\_\_ More off street paved trails
- \_\_\_\_\_ More off street dirt/unpaved trails
- \_\_\_\_\_ Destination signs with distance, i.e. 2 miles to NIU
- \_\_\_\_\_ More sidewalks
- \_\_\_\_\_ More crosswalks with pedestrian signals
- \_\_\_\_\_ More marked crosswalks across busy streets
- \_\_\_\_\_ More audible crosswalks
- \_\_\_\_\_ Better lighting on trails
- \_\_\_\_\_ Better lighting on sidewalks
- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps showing safe routes to popular destinations
- \_\_\_\_\_ More supporting infrastructure (bike-racks, water fountains, lights, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve sidewalk maintenance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve trail maintenance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Slower car/vehicle traffic
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other→ Please specify:

[END PAGE]

**Q10 Please list the places you would like to go that you can't get to by active transportation now.**

[END PAGE]

**Q11 What else could be done to improve active transportation in the DeKalb region?**

[END PAGE]

**Q12 Including yourself, how many people live in your household? Please list a number > or = 1.**

**Q13 Of those living in your household, how many are children under 18? Please list a number > or = 0.**

[END PAGE]

**Q14 Do you have access to a car/vehicle, including borrowing a car/vehicle from a friend or relative?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know/Not sure

[END PAGE]

**Q15 Where do you currently live?**

- NIU residence halls
- DeKalb
- Sycamore
- Cortland
- Other →Please Specify:

[END PAGE]

**Q16 In which city do you currently work?**

- DeKalb
- Sycamore
- Cortland
- Does not apply/I'm not working
- Other →Please Specify:

[END PAGE]

**Q17 How old are you?**

- 18 - 24
- 25 - 29
- 30 - 39
- 40 - 49
- 50 - 59
- 60 - 69
- 70 - 79
- 80 and over

[END PAGE]

**Q18 What is your gender?**

- Female
- Male
- Other →Please Specify:

[END PAGE]

**Q19 How do you classify yourself? Please select all that apply.**

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino/a
- Middle Eastern
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Other →Please specify:

[END PAGE]

**Q20 What was your total household income before taxes during the past 12 months?**

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 to \$34,999
- \$35,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more

[END PAGE]

[THANK YOU PAGE]

[END SURVEY]

## **DeKalb Region Active Transportation Plan**

### **Tentative Public Outreach Schedule**

**March 15, 2017**

#### **3/15/17 – 3/21/17 Test Web Survey**

- Finalize survey design

#### **3/22/17 – 4/18/17 Survey Open**

- Target non-representative populations as survey progresses

#### **3/22/17 – 3/27/17 Schedule Open Houses**

- Contact NIU Holmes Student Center, DeKalb Public Library, and Sycamore Public Library to schedule room as well as tables and chairs for room
- Send confirmation e-mail to DSATS Subcommittee

#### **3/27/17 – 3/29/17 Announce Open Houses**

- Notify media, contact community boards, post on social media
  - Note: DSATS must publish ad in paper at least 14 days in advance of first open house

#### **3/29/17 – 4/7/17 Prep for Open Houses**

- Prior to Open House reconfirm room availability, including tables and chairs setup
- Prepare all materials, including print materials

#### **4/10/17 – 4/14/17 Open Houses**

- NIU Student Group Participation

#### **4/17/17 – 4/21/17 NIU Students to Summarize Open House Input**

- Provide statistics on attendance and summarize data collected from activities
- Present data in memo

#### **4/24/17 – 4/28/17 NIU Students to Summarize Survey**

- Provide statistics on response and summarize data collected
- Present data in memo

#### **May Active Transportation Meeting: Present Results of Open Houses and Survey**

- Memos on open houses and survey presented





## **FHWA Pedestrian and Bicycle Goal Guidelines:**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provides the following guidelines for the development of pedestrian and bicycle community goals:

Performance measures allow transportation agencies to align decisions with established community goals. In most cases, transportation itself is not a goal, but rather a means by which other community goals are achieved.

The first step in establishing a performance measurement program is identifying the community's goals and priorities. Community goals may be developed through several processes and/or documents, but are most commonly developed through comprehensive plans or local, regional, and State transportation plans. These processes should emphasize public and stakeholder engagement to establish community priorities. The research identified seven primary community goals which are commonly used across the United States. Transportation plays a key role in each of the goal categories.

FHWA has identified the following types of goals to guide pedestrian and bicycle performance measures. Not all types of goals must be chosen. Members can pick and choose which type of goals are appropriate for this plan.

1. **CONNECTIVITY** – interconnected pedestrian and/or bicycle transportation facilities that allow people of all ages and abilities to safely and conveniently get where they want to go.
2. **ECONOMIC** – describes how transportation decisions impact the economic health of a municipality or region.
3. **ENVIRONMENT** – environmental measures promote the creation and maintenance of a transportation system that minimizes and/or mitigates impacts to the natural environment. Air quality impacts are the most common type of environmental measure, but others evaluate impervious surface and stormwater and noise pollution.
4. **EQUITY** – recognizing the disparate costs and impacts of transportation decisions on populations of different income levels, agencies are beginning to calculate equity factors. Households without access to vehicles are not usually well-served by auto-oriented transportation solutions and require walking, bicycling, and transit infrastructure. One component of equity is ensuring that pedestrian facilities along public rights-of-way are accessible so they do not discriminate against people with disabilities and serve people of all ages and abilities.
5. **HEALTH** – public health impacts of transportation decisions typically include changes to levels of physical activity, safety, and air quality. Increases in walking and bicycling are correlated with higher levels of public health.
6. **LIVABILITY** – quality of life impacts of transportation systems are evaluated by many local jurisdictions. Livability measures directly acknowledge the trade-offs between the demands of auto travelers passing through an area and those living adjacent to transportation infrastructure. Measures that reflect public opinion are also included within this category.
7. **SAFETY** - addresses the safety of the transportation system for all users. Safety performance measures typically track crashes, injuries, and fatalities, though some are based on estimated changes in numbers of crashes.