

## **ILLINOIS STATE FREIGHT ADVISORY COUNCIL (ISFAC)**

Kickoff Meeting at UPS CACH

May 12, 2014

### **Opening Remarks**

Kevin Schoeben of IDOT substituted for Secretary Ann Schneider (who was unable to attend) and called meeting to order at 1:30. Mr. Schoeben had IDOT and federal agency attendees introduce themselves to the ISFAC members.

Mr. Ray Drake of UPS provided welcoming remarks and described UPS operations at its' Chicago Area Consolidated Hub (CACH), the role of the facility in sorting and distributing nationwide ground package delivery and the ability of the facility to provide backup capacity for special shipping seasons (e.g., Christmas) or for lost capacity through other UPS facilities (such as those impacted by Hurricane Katrina). His comments included a review of the Hodgkins, Illinois site benefits of locating adjacent to both the Interstate system and a major rail carrier (BNSF). In addition, the benefits of public transportation services allow approximately two thousand of the five thousand employees working at the site to utilize bus service to and from work. Prior to the meeting start, Mr. Drake provided a tour of the CACH facility, led by Traci Koblich .

Kevin Schoeben provided the opening remarks for Secretary Schneider. For IDOT, the purpose of the ISFAC is to provide a standing forum for freight interests to communicate concerns, needs and comments that will aid the agency in improving transportation services and freight operations in the state. MAP21 required states to prepare a freight mobility plan and encourages them to establish a freight advisory council. With the commencement of the ISFAC, IDOT has met these national requirements.

The recommendations from the ISFAC will contribute to establishing a state freight strategic plan. Based on that plan and other input from the ISFAC members, Illinois will provide knowledgeable and substantive input into the National Freight Strategic Plan.

Mr. Schoeben noted that Secretary Schneider has emphasized the Department's "One Transportation System" approach to upgrading and improving the Illinois transportation system. This approach provides a holistic approach that considers all modes and seeks to integrate the modal systems to provide efficient, effective and resilient transportation service to industry and freight service providers.

Mr. Schoeben noted that Governor Quinn and Secretary Schneider were seeking a collaborative process that gets public and private sectors working together and toward same goals. IDOT is following three key overarching policies to achieve this initiative:

1. Utilize a multi-modal approach for IDOT planning and investment program development;
2. Value the benefits of freight systems to the Illinois economy and seek to add-value through well-planned and focused investment programs; and
3. Incorporate freight benefit measures into all IDOT planning and programming functions.

## **Member Introductions**

Each ISFAC member introduced themselves to the group. These introductions outlined personal background, individual interests and professional experience relevant to the ISFAC mission. A list of attendees is attached.

## **Council Logistics and Tools**

Susan Stitt of IDOT provided an overview of what support staffing and facilities would be provided to the ISFAC members and their subcommittees. Ms. Stitt introduced the IDOT staff that will support the ISFAC and which committees each will serve. The ISFAC members and committees will have access to Share Point, a software that provides the ability to share information and ideas between participants. The Share Point site will be limited to the ISFAC members and the support staff. It will allow the committees to document, develop and discuss recommendations and ideas. It can be used to request outside expertise for subcommittees and to communicate on crossover topics between committees.

## **ISFAC Mission**

Kevin Schoeben provided an overview on the tasks ahead, the products to produce and the target timeline. Nathan Bishop reviewed each of the four subcommittees' foci and challenges. Each committee is being asked to do a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis for their specific topic. In identifying issues, concerns and problems, each committee is being asked to establish measures/rankings of priorities. Each committee will identify best practices for improving freight transportation performance. Finally, each committee is being asked to provide strategies for making improvement possible for their area of interest.

The timeline seeks to achieve specific products over the course of the next eight months. These products and their deadlines are as follows:

- May 12, 2014                      First ISFAC meeting
- June 30, 2014                     Submit Action Plan/Scope for Each Subcommittee
- October 1, 2014                  Submit Subcommittee Recommendations
- November 2014                  Recommendations Readout to Full Committee
- January 15, 2014                Adoption and Prioritization of Recommendations by Full Committee

## **Subcommittee Breakouts**

Each of the subcommittees held short breakout sessions to introduce one another and to discuss both their individual subcommittee's tasks and timeline. After these sessions, committee leaders reported back to the ISFAC as a whole.

The following is a short summary of what was reported:

- Regional Freight Planning & Development Subcommittee  
John Grueling reported that this committee would have an organizational phone call later this week and would meet in early June to discuss SWOT analysis; Mr. Grueling indicated that the committee felt that a statewide perspective was paramount.

- **Innovation, Technology & Trends Subcommittee**  
Adam Roth reported that two dates had been set by the committee: May 28 was set as deadline for ideas to be submitted to committee and June 5 would be date of first conference call to discuss the ideas. The committee will seek to identify the 4-5 most important needs or trends.
- **Freight Corridor Identification & Performance Subcommittee**  
John Yonan reported that the committee had set June 1 as the deadline for ideas to be submitted. Ideas could be on issues, concerns and/or policies. Two weeks later a meeting of the committee would be held.
- **Safety, Security and Environment Subcommittee**  
Yanfeng Ouyang reported that the subcommittee would hold an early June meeting. Initial discussion during breakout session indicated a wide variety of topics on safety and environment. Plans would include the use of a member survey to establish a subcommittee list of ideas and priorities.

### **Meeting Closure**

Kevin Schoeben closed the meeting by thanking all the participants for their willingness to work with IDOT. Mr. Schoeben thanked Mr. Drake and UPS for being wonderful hosts for the initial meeting of the ISFAC.

Susan Stitt indicated that presentation materials used by IDOT were open to edit and appropriate changes where identified.

The meeting closed at 4:30.

*Prepared by Keith Sherman  
Parsons Brinckerhoff*

**ISFAC Meeting Attendance**

Date: May 12, 2014 Meeting at UPS CACH, Hodgkins IL

<u>Members Attending</u>	<u>Organization/Affiliation</u>
Ed Barry	Chicago Laborers District Council LMCC
Bruce Bird	Macon County Highway Department
Ben Brockschmidt	Illinois Chamber of Commerce
Katie Brown	Truck Safety Coalition
Christopher Clott	University of St. Francis
Ray Drake	United Parcel Service
Dan Eichholz	Illinois Petroleum Council
James Ford	Clayco Inc.
Eric Gilbert (phone)	CenterPoint Properties
John Greuling	Will County Center for Economic Development
Jeff Gurnik	APL Ltd.
Matt Hart	Illinois Trucking Association
Kristi Lafleur	Illinois State Toll Highway Authority
Wes Lujan	Union Pacific Railroad
Shoshina Mabina	City College of Chicago
Mike McCarthy	Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis
William McInerney	Phoenix International Freight Service (Retired Owner)
Libby Ogard	Prime Focus LLC
Ed O'Neil	Caterpillar
Yangfeng Ouyang	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Paul Piekarski	Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen
Mark Poulos	Indiana, Illinois, Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting
Adam Roth	NAI Hiffman
Kevin Rund	Illinois Farm Bureau
Don Schaefer	Mid-West Truckers Association
Rebekah Scheinfeld	City of Chicago Department of Transportation
Scott Sigman	Illinois Soybean Association
Robert Stock	Stock Transportation Inc.
Bill Taft	Growmark
Thomas Vander Woude	South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association
Larry Walsh	Will County Executive
Paul Wellhausen	Lewis and Clark Fleeting LLC
Spencer White	Genesee & Wyoming Inc.
Jim Wolfe	Knight Partners LLC
John Yonan	Cook County Department Transportation
<u>Member Unable to Attend</u>	<u>Organization/Affiliation</u>
Omar Duque	Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Michael Forte	Illinois International Port District
Merritt Harrison	Maritime Delivery Services Inc.
Robert Nathan	Load Delivered Logistics LLC
Ken Ryan	Chicago Rockford International Airport
Ann Schneider	Illinois Department of Transportation
Mark Schweitzer	Archer Daniels Midland