



9.0 PROGRAM WEB SITE

9.1 DEVELOPMENT OF THE WEB SITE

The KACOT-II project team wrote a functional specification describing a web site that would be created specifically for public access to information on the KACOT program during this Phase II feasibility study. An additional goal of the web site was to provide an initial site that would be structured to carry forward into following projects associated with the long-term KACOT program. Each succeeding project would update and expand the site as appropriate so that it would become a living digital library and public information source for the KACOT program.

The web site was set up on a server apart from the Kankakee County server where the County web site is maintained. However, the appearance of the KACOT site is specifically designed to look like additional pages in the County site. The KACOT site can be reached by a link on the County site or directly at www.kacotstudy.com. The intention is that when this Phase II Feasibility project is completed, the Phase II consultant, Earth Tech, will transfer the site software and digital documents to the County for the County to install on its server with little or no apparent down time to the public.

A generalized version of the web site specification was reviewed with the Task Force in the December 12, 2006 meeting and a digital display of the site was demonstrated at the February 20, 2007 meeting. The site was opened to the public on February 28, 2007 and was edited and updated with new information and deleted old information several times during the course of the project. After the publication of this Final Report, this document will be converted to a pdf format, uploaded to the web site, and the resulting final web site will be transferred to the Kankakee County server in December 2007.

The site is structured with a choice of five buttons across the top to select from among the Home page and four other basic web pages. Links to project specific material and to other related web sites are embedded in the text or provided in bullet lists.

The intension of the KACOT-II project was to maintain the overall structure of a Home page plus the four other basic pages. However, this was intended to be a living site, so changes were made within any or all of those basic five pages as warranted by the progress of the project.



Appendix A9 shows a snapshot of the site with all final changes as of December 10, 2007.

9.2 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE WEB SITE

The KACOTStudy.com domain name was purchased and registered on February 26, 2007, through GoDaddy.com for the term of 1-year.

The site itself is hosted by BlueHost on a Linux server with dedicated 200 gigabytes storage, 2500 available email accounts, and 1000 available FTP accounts for the term of 1-year.

The markup language used to code the site was written with Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) 4.01/Extensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML) 1.0 utilizing the Strict XHTML 1.0 Document Type Definition. The dynamic scripting language used was PHP 4.0 coupled with JavaScript. All formatting of site layout was written in Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) 2.0.

KACOTStudy.com passes the World Wide Web Consortium's (W3C) Markup Validation Service for valid XHTML 1.0 Strict compatibility.

The site has been tested and proven compatible with Firefox 2.x, Internet Explorer 6.x, and Internet Explorer 7.x.

9.3 WEB SITE ACTIVITY

Typical activities on the site over the most active months of the project and one of the last months are shown in Table 9-1 below.



FINAL REPORT

Table 9-1. Typical Activity on KACOT Web Site

Statistic	Month			
	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Oct-07
Unique Visitors	39	41	56	54
Number of Visits	58	67	66	65
Pages	273	318	148	151
Hits - Total	844	994	485	508
Googlebot Hits		28	59	63
% Changes:				
Unique visitors		5%	36%	-4%
Number of visits		16%	-2%	-2%
Pages		16%	-53%	2%
Hits-Total		18%	-51%	5%
Googlebot Hits		na	211%	7%