MPO Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 26, 2026 – 8:30 am

127 N. Wyman St. Suite 100, Rockford, IL 61101

a. **Call to Order**

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Chiarelli at 8:31 am.

b. **Roll Call**

Members Present: Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County; Mayor Thomas McNamara, City of Rockford; Chairman Karl Johnson, Boone County; Faith Duncan, IDOT; Clint Morris, City of Belvidere; President Steve Johnson, Village of Machesney Park; Michael Stubbe, Rockford Mass Transit District; Mayor Greg Jury, City of Loves Park.

Members Absent: n/a

Other Present: Doug Delille, IDOT, OPP; Michael Dunn, Tim Verbeke, Sarah Renicker, and Keagan Carlson, of Region 1 Planning Council

c. **Public Comment**

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

d. **Discussion: n/a**

e. Action Items

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 1, 2026

Chairman Chiarelli entertained a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of the May 1, 2026 MPO Policy Committee. Motioned by Mayor Jury, seconded by Mayor Morris with no discussion. Motion **passed** by unanimous voice vote.

b. Adoption of the FY2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (Resolution 2026-07)

Mr. Verbeke explained that there are 114 projects, across 16 agencies in this TIP. This is a reduction of by 50 projects from the previous TIP, due to reduction in funding, projects being completed, and less new projects submitted. E-TIP training will be included at the next MPO Technical Committee meeting. Chairman Chiarelli called for a vote. Motioned by Mayor Jury, seconded by Chairman Johnson. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

c. Adoption of the Resilience Improvement Plan (Resolution2026-08) The plan has been underway for a year addressing transportation infrastructure hardiness and resilience. With the discontinuing of the PROTECT grant, agencies are waiting for new funding to initiate implementation. A working group identified priority projects. Mr. Chiarelli entertained a motion for approval. Motioned by Mayor Morris, seconded by Village President Johnson. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

d. Adoption of the EV Readiness Plan (Resolution2026-09) This is an update of the 2021 plan, necessary due to a sharp increase in EV vehicles and need for charging stations. DC fast chargers are now more in demand, which went from 2 to 15 in 2025 in the Rockford area. The plan provides guidelines and rules, as well as

suggestions for improvement. Mr. Chiarelli called for a motion to adoption of the EV Readiness plan. Mayor Jury extended a motion, seconded by Mayor Morris. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

e. Adoption of the Food and Transportation Access Study (Resolution 2026-10) This study looked at food access as it pertains to transportation and housing in order to support equitable access to grocery stores. Many areas did not meet the criteria. Strategies and recommendations were included for enhancements and improved access to nutritious food. Mr. Chiarelli called for a motion to adopt. Mayor Jury motioned, seconded by Village President Johnson. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

f. Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification This accompanies the TIP acknowledging policies that guide the TIP. Chairman Chiarelli called for a motion to approve. Mayor Jury motions, seconded by Mayor Morris. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

f. **Director Reports**

- Traffic Signal Management Perryville Study has concluded. Findings will be shared with staff, shared at the next MPO Technical meeting, and be posted on the R1 website when available. Study was concluded with the consulting services from ITERIS.
- Railroad update- A contract with Union Pacific has been signed, with construction scheduled to begin before the end of 2026. Will be working with Rockford and Belvidere to grade crossings, and a groundbreaking ceremony will be scheduled at a future date.
- ITEP-Off street facilities: $5 million in grant funds will be available, applications open from 8/1/2026-10/5/2026, and match will be covered by state. MPO offers free technical support on applications.
- Regional Storm Water Initiative- Dekalb, Winnebago and Boone county all asked for technical support for storm water plan which could open up grant opportunities. Metro Denver is a good example of a successful collaboration. The plan would provide a guiding document for all county storm water management, with the last plans developed in the late 90s. This would create a regional plan that is watershed based. Guide documents and decisions on watershed projects, 604B grants open in August and will help power the project and service hours will be available upon request.
- We are in the 3rd round of consideration for Google and Deloitte ERSI-GIS-TDM-3D Module grant which will be beneficial for safety improvements, site readiness infrastructure, economic impact-community health, housing and land use data. There will be an external stakeholder presentation to see if this is the best platform for our purposes.
- Airport is working on an updated master plan, focusing on impacts outside the gate of transportation networks. Staff are invited to participate. There was a question about Omnitrax railroad compatibility/construction with master plan.
- Rockford Area Arts Council-looking for funding opportunities for art at the airport and transportation visibility for the arts.

Agency Reports:

- Mayor Tom McNamara announced scheduling a ground-breaking ceremony for the Rt2/20 project.
- RMTD-ongoing building management study is underway-HS transportation plan/recommendations. Purpose is to improve coordination between entities and provide recommendations.

g. **Adjournment**

Chairman Chiarelli entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion by Village President Johnson, second by Mayor McNamara. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 am.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Sarah Renicker

Minutes approved by action of the Board: _____