



MPO Technical Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 21, 2026 10:00 am

Region 1 Planning Council, 127 N. Wyman St. Suite 100, Rockford, Illinois 61101

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Tim Verbeke at 10:00 am.

2) Roll Call

Members Present: Justin Krohn, Boone County Highway Department; Josh Sage, Boone County Conservation District; Patricia Diduch, City of Byron; Scott Capovilla, City of Rockford, Community Development; Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford Public Works Department; Mike Holan, Forest Preserves of Winnebago County; Chris Baer, Four Rivers Sanitation District; Faith Duncan, IDOT District 2; Dan Egelkes, RMTD; Tim Bragg, Rockford Park District; Izzy Mandujano, Village of Machesney Park, Community Development; Troy Taylor, Village of Roscoe; Karl Palmquist, Winnebago County Community Development; Carlos Molina, Winnebago County Highway Department; Erin Marshall, Boone County Transit; Jon Paul Diipla, FHWA, IL Division (zoom); Henry Guerriero, IL Tollway; Doug Delille, IDOT, Division of Urban Planning and Programing; Henry Guerriero, IL Tollway; Sharon Hecox, Stateline Mass Transit District.

Members Absent: Boone County Planning Department; Chicago/Rockford International Airport; City of Belvidere, Planning Department; City of Belvidere Public Works Department; City of Loves Park, Public Works Department; City of Loves Park, Community Development; Village of Machesney Park, Public Works Department; Village of Winnebago; IDOT Division of Public Transportation; Ogle County Highway Department; SLATS.

Other Present: Eric Tison, Estelle Adiaba, Tim Verbeke, Jackson Sitter, Marilla Smith, Chloe Barnes, Keagan Carlson, , Lizette Gomez, Hallela Wagner, Nammratha Palli, Anushka Chipade, and Sarah Renicker of Region 1 Planning Council.

3) Public Comment

No public comments were brought forward at this time.

4) Discussion Items:

a) E-TIP Discussion (Pushed to July meeting due to internal issues: A motion to change the agenda was made by Ms. Mandujano, and seconded by Mr. Krohn. Vote passed by unanimous voice vote.) Replaced by Jason Holcomb discussion the Health Atlas. Mr. Holcomb described the background of the Community Health Needs Assessment and how it relies on access to data analytics tools. The Community Health Needs Assessment is seen as a resource to the community and regional health systems, so there is constant re-evaluation of efficiency and reliable data. Partnering with the Rockford Area Health Council & Platform Group, R1 established use of Metopio, which provides Geospatial information, scatter plots, automated AI features to write needs assessments (which is in beta testing). The Atlas looks a social determinant of health, including various transportation considerations. Mr. Holcomb also explained the information is put out there for public use, and is available to anyone that wants to use it, through the R1 website. Mr. Holcomb then walked attendees through how to use the online tool, highlighting features and customizable search parameters, and ease of use, including maps, charts and rank (score cards). Ms. Diduch, asked where the information was pulled from. Mr. Holcomb explained it comes from Google Maps, Proprietary algorithms, as well as direct

community reports. He also explained that you can add municipal layers to county information. Ms. Diduch also asked if there was additional cost for certain counties. Mr. Holcomb explained that the cost model was based on population size of county. Mr. Krohn asked if there was a current list of available data sets. Mr. Holcomb indicated that there are 100 published lists, which he would send to Tim to send out.

b) ADA Self Evaluation Update- Paige Withrow updated members indicating that the ADA Self-Evaluation process was in its final stages of publishing and will be available online shortly. The next steps will be to develop an outline for implementation suggestions. Staff are also actively researching grants to support implementation. A transition plan is also currently in development and will be available shortly. There has also been an update to the onsite fire system.

c) FY2026 Safe Streets for All (SS4A) NOFO- Mr. Verbeke explained that the SS4A NOFO closes on May 26, 2026 and that R1 will be submitting an application for continuation, looking at high injury networks and taking a consultant-based look at potential improvements and implementation. This is a supplemental grant to include the entire MPO.

5) Action Items:

a) Approval of the April 16, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Verbeke called for the approval of the 4/16/2026 meeting minutes. Mr. Carter, City of Rockford Public Works motioned, seconded by Mr. Krohn, Boone County Highway Department. With no further discussion, motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

6) Staff Reports-

- Update on the Transportation Reauthorization Bill-from AMPO (Capital Hill discussions): Tim will send information out to the group as well. Build America 2050 Act-going to committee for markup. At a high level it aligns with AMPO and R1 priorities. Local and Regional access is a focal point with 22% of transportation funding coming through formula grants with a 9.6% increase in MPO funding with an annual 3% increase. Proposal that the state match is reduced to 10%. Includes Access to FMS-fiscal tracking system, SS4A reauthorization, new ST accelerator grant, eligible for Jason's Law (truck parking program). Mr. Verbeke was unsure if bill will be approved prior to September 30, 2026 and will continue to engage with AMPO about changes, timing, etc.
- Congressman Ray LaHood/MPO Transportation Day May 28th at 9:30 am-Open to any transportation related individuals
- Congressman Eric Sorenson visit day is also being planned-stay tuned.
- Next MPO Technical meeting will include TIP Approval, Resilience Improvement Plan, Food and Transportation Assessment Study, EV readiness as well as MPO self-certification.
- Moving September 17th MPO Technical meeting to September 24th due to conflict with the AMPO annual conference.

6) Agency Reports

- a.) Boone County Highway Department:** North Boone School, Stone Quarry Bridge Replacement, Hunter Road widening, Edgewood Storm Sewer work. 27,000 ton road resurfacing, RTA Grant Award for Phase 1 & 2 (3 bridges).
- b.) Boone County Planning Department:** n/a
- c.) Boone County Conservation District:** n/a

- d.) **Boone County Transit:** n/a
- e.) **City of Byron:** n/a
- f.) **Chicago/Rockford International Airport:** n/a
- g.) **City of Belvidere, Public Works:** n/a
- h.) **Loves Park, Community Development:** n/a
- i.) **Loves Park, Public Works Department:** n/a
- j.) **City of Rockford Community Development:** n/a
- k.) **City of Rockford, Public Works Department:** n/a
- l.) **Forest Preserves of Winnebago County-** New Executive Director Dan Olson engaging in Strategic Planning, and issuing survey of usage.
- m.) **Four Rivers Sanitary District:** n/a
- n.) **IDOT, District 2:** Multi-year program draft submitted for approval
- o.) **Rockford Mass Transit District:** n/a
- p.) **Rockford Park District:** n/a
- q.) **Machesney Park, Community Development:** n/a
- r.) **Machesney Park, Public Works Department:** n/a
- s.) **Village of Roscoe:** n/a
- t.) **Winnebago County Community & Economic Development:** n/a
- u.) **Winnebago County Highway Department:** Rosco Rd. Bridge project bid opening at the end of April, closes in June. Harrison Ave. scheduled for resurfacing next week. Riverside project has run into issues with property owners. Rosco Rd (STBG project)-extension and using TAP funding for adjacent bike path.
- v.) **FHWA, IL Division:** n/a
- w.) **IDOT:** ITEP program applications open are due in October. Safe Routes to School updates are coming.
- x.) **Illinois Tollway:** Next summer (2027) I-90/I-39 resurfacing project will take place, inner to outer lanes along with bridge work. There will be a lot of truck interaction and will require coordination. Elevator Rd. bridge over I-90 will be replaced (Mr. Molina asked if it will be wider- HG indicated it will require coordination and that it along with a signage refresh is tentatively happening by 2028. Mr. Krohn asked about solution to rail bridge clearance, HG indicated they're looking at 2028).
- y.) **Stateline Mass Transit District:** n/a

Other Business:

Adjournment

Mr. Verbeke entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Capovilla, City of Rockford Community Development motioned; seconded by Mr. Molina, Winnebago County, Highway Department. A unanimous voice vote to adjourn at 10:42 am

Meeting minutes prepare by: Sarah Renicker

Minutes approved by action of the MPO Technical Committee on 6/18/2026