



MPO Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 23, 2024

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

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Joseph Chiarelli, Winnebago County; Rodney Riley, Boone County; Clint Morris, City of Belvidere; Greg Jury, City of Loves Park; Thomas McNamara, City of Rockford; Steve Johnson, Village of Machesney Park; Michael Stubbe, Rockford Mass Transit District; Rob Bates, IDOT District 2

Members Absent: None.

Other Present: John Paul Diipla, FHWA IL Division; Doug DeLille, IDOT OPP; Tim Hansen, Four Rivers Sanitation District; Karen Elyea, Winnebago County; Michael Dunn, Sidney Turner, Tim Verbeke, Brandon Rucker, Eric Tison, Sarah Renicker, and Luran Kleve, Region 1 Planning Council

3. Public Comment

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

4. Action Items

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2024

Chairman Chiarelli called for a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of the June 28, 2024 MPO Policy Committee. Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Mr. Stubbe, Rockford Mass Transit District. Motion **passed** by unanimous voice vote.

b. Approval of FY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement (Resolution 2024-13)

Ms. Turner presented FY2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The adoption was slightly delayed due to the necessity of a second public comment period after Illinois Department of Transportation released their multi-year program during the first public comment period. During the second round of public engagement the City of Rockford requested the addition of several railroad crossing projects, as well as some administrative modifications. Administrative corrections were also made and duplicate projects removed.

With no discussion necessary, Chairman Chiarelli called for a motion to approve the FY 2025-2028 TIP.

Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Mayor Morris, City of Belvidere. Motion

approved by unanimous voice vote.

5. Directors' Reports

Ms. Turner reported that the MPO was awarded State Planning and Research (SPR) funds from the Illinois Department of Transportation for a State of Trails Report. This report will examine the condition of the multi-use paths using a data bike. Partners for this project including Boone County Conservation District, Rockford Park District, Boone and Winnebago County Highway Departments. Ms. Turner also recognized the work of Nathan Larson in getting this project going. Ms. Turner also indicated that R1 has started on Housing Coordination Plan. This plan will be a blueprint on how the region approaches housing over next 5 to 10 years. As a part of the planning process, staff will also be developing three different toolkits for funding, policies, and best practices. This effort will involve a lot of stakeholder/public engagement and feedback. The hope is that this project will continue the momentum from activities done with

governing board last year. Ms. Turner also provided an update on the Winnebago County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Eric Tison has been working with Winnebago County on this update. Work efforts include data collection, updating narrative, develop a list via stakeholder engagement. She indicated that this project is required by FEMA for national declarations, and applies to any municipality in the county. It also includes a list of projects that could be funded by FEMA. The update should be drafted before end of October, in order to be adopted by Winnebago County Board before the end of the year. Ms. Turner updated on the SW Railyard Project-Reconnecting Communities, indicating the FRA shifted to working with FHWA, hopefully agreement will be in place in the next few months.

Mr. Dunn reported that the MPO/Landbank/EDD are working together to pursue the EPA Community Change grant. The lead applicant is Habitat for Humanity servicing census tracks along South Main Street in Rockford. Mr. Dunn also cautioned those at the meeting about being approached for letters of support, as R1 and the City of Rockford are putting their support behind Habitat for Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Dunn noted that R1 is still pursuing \$3 million for Boone County sewer system. Tim Hansen from Four Rivers Sanitation District added that determining a final location is the only hold-up, and once that's determined there is no anticipated barriers to this completion.

A discussion on the housing plan was held.

6. Adjournment

Chairman Chiarelli then asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, second by Village President Johnson, Village of Machesney Park. Meeting adjourned at 8:43am.

Meeting minutes prepare by: Sarah Renicker and Sydney Turner

Minutes approved by action of the Board: October 1, 2024