



## MPO Technical Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 17th, 2023, 10:00 am

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

### Minutes

#### 1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Ms. Turner at 10:00 am.

#### 2. Roll Call

**Members Present:** Boone County Highway Department; Boone County, Planning Department; City of Belvidere, Public Works Department; City of Loves Park, Public Works Department; City of Rockford, Community Development; City of Rockford, Public Works Department; Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2; Rockford Mass Transit District; Rockford Park District; Village of Machesney Park, Community Development Department; Winnebago County Community & Economic Development; Winnebago County Highway Department; Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Boone County Highway Department arrived at 10:17 am.

**Members Absent:** Boone County Conservation District; Chicago Rockford International Airport; City of Belvidere, Planning Department; City of Loves Park, Community Development; Forest Preserves of Winnebago County; Village of Machesney Park, Public Works Department; Village of Roscoe; Village of Winnebago.

**Others Present:** Doug Delille, Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Urban Program Planning; Colin Belle and Tim Hinkens, City of Rockford, Public Works; Sydney Turner, Eric Tison, Gabrielle Gamaly, Brandon Rucker, John Paul Diipla, Makenzee Wilcox, Lauren Kleve, Nathan Larsen, and Jamie Johnston, Region 1 Planning Council.

#### 3. Public Comment

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

#### 4. Discussion Items

##### a. 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Ms. Turner directed members to reference the provided document which goes over the Metropolitan Transportation Plan's (MTP) 2025 update. The MTP is developed on a 5-year update cycle and takes roughly 18-24 months to complete the update. Ms. Turner explained the outline of the MTP, including the different sections and what they cover. Included with the 2025 MTP update, there will be a variety of technical reports prepared by the MPO. The provided packet included the various phases of the project including public engagement, technical and policy committee items, and the associated dates. The goal is for the document to be adopted by April 2025, despite a June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 deadline.

#### 5. Action Items

##### a. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2023

Motion Ms. Mandujano, Village of Machesney Park, Community Development and seconded by Mr. Molina, Winnebago County, Highway Department to approve the June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**b. Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (Resolution 23-12)**

Ms. Turner explained the request the MPO received from IDOT to amend the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for updates to various projects after the adoption of the MYP.

The projects include cost breakouts for 16 projects with the addition of 6 new project phases for existing projects, as well as the deletion of two projects (1-23-7: IL-72 at Black Walnut Creek, 1-23-8: IL-72 at Killbuck Creek). The amendment also requests the addition of three new projects including: 1-24-1 (2026 Districtwide Highway Safety Improvement Program projects), 1-24-2 (2027 Districtwide Highway Safety Improvement Program projects), and 1-24-3 (I-39 Northbound ramp to US-20 Westbound).

Motion by Mr. Molina, Winnebago County, Highway Department and seconded by Mr. Messinger, City of Loves Park, Public Works Department. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**c. Adoption of Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan for the Rockford Region (Resolution 23-13)**

Ms. Turner discussed the MPO's comprehensive update to the Bicycle & Pedestrian. The document was released for a 30-day public comment period on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and closed on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. No public comments were received and only minor administrative modifications were made to the document.

Motion by Mr. Messinger, City of Loves Park, Public Works Department and seconded by Mr. Belle, City of Rockford, Community Development.

Discussion was held on the public comment period.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**d. Amendment to the FY24 Unified Work Program (Resolution 23-14)**

Ms. Turner stated that the MPO has a remaining balance of \$37,000 from the FY23 planning funds, allocated as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The MPO has until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 to spend the remaining funds. The amendment to the FY24 reflects the remaining balance and identifies the work elements in which the FY23 agreement will be attributed to. The MPO is seeking a recommendation from the MPO Technical Committee for the amendment to the FY 2024 Unified Work Program.

Motion by Mr. Carter, City of Rockford, Public Works Department and seconded by Ms. Mandujano, Village of Machesney Park, Community Development. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

**e. Transportation Alternative Program Funds Award (Resolution 23-15)**

Ms. Turner discussed the \$216,871 to the City of Belvidere for the Kishwaukee overlook project. A call for projects opened on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and closed on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The MPO only received the one project application from the City of Belvidere. The City of Belvidere submitted the project for the construction of a scenic overlook on the Kishwaukee River in downtown Belvidere. The project will include ADA-compliant pedestrian sidewalk from the North State Street to the Kishwaukee river, pedestrian lighting, and landscaping. Certain project elements had to be followed up with the FHWA and IDOT to determine the reimbursement eligibility. It was determined that the elements in question were ineligible, which resulted in an updated project scope from the City of Belvidere. Additional details were provided in the meeting packet.

Motion by Mr. Messinger, City of Loves Park, Public Works Department and seconded by Mr. Molina, Winnebago County, Highway Department.

Discussion was held on the available funds under the Transportation Alternatives Program.

Motion was approved with a roll call vote.

Ayes: 12          Nays: 0          Abstain: 1

## 6. Staff Reports

### a. FY24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Turner reported that the MPO processed four administrative modifications since the last committee meeting, all four were moved between fiscal years. Projects include 3-20-15 (Park Avenue sidewalk, Spring Creek Rd to University of Illinois College of Medicine project), 1-20-18 (IL-2 from Latham Rd to Roscoe Rd), 1-23-3 (I-39 at Baxter Rd), 1-23-17 (US-20 at Alpine Rd project).

### b. Safe Streets for All (SS4A)

Mr. Diipla reported that MPO staff is working with multiple sponsor agencies to develop 4 plans. One for the MPO, one for the City of Rockford, one for Winnebago County, and one for Boone County. Staff has been collecting finalized crash data from IDOT for 2017 through 2021, and incorporating 2022 crash data. Both crash data tables and trees are consisted with IDOT reporting forms. The project agreement has been executed with the FHWA. Region 1 has also been working with Boone County, Winnebago County, and the City of Rockford for Intergovernmental agreements (IGA). Initial kick-off meetings with sponsor agencies will take place in the coming weeks.

### c. SPR: GHG & Air Quality Inventory Project

Mr. Diipla explained that Region 1 now has access to the ICLEI Clearpath tool, which assists in the calculations of emissions relative to Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and vehicle type. On-road emissions for the MPA are nearing completion and are being reviewed internally. The current phase of the project is the data collection of air quality data, which is planned to take place in the Spring of 2024. Staff is currently identifying corridors for the placement of air quality sensors. Staff will also be coordinating with partner agencies to discuss the project and request permission for air quality sensor placement. With that information, the MPO can direct data collection consultants on where sensors will be placed.

### d. 2020 Adjusted Urbanized Area Boundary

Mr. Diipla reported that IDOT reached out to local government agencies in June to request any updates to the adjusted urbanized area. Mr. Diipla explained that the adjusted urbanized area effectively informs urban versus rural designation and transportation planning functions. Modifications include the modified shared boundary with SLATS to correlate with the Rockford Urban Area, annexes in the southwest portion in the City of Rockford, and the City of Belvidere and Boone County provided feedback to include Garden Prairie. Once additional information is received from IDOT, the MPO Technical Committee will be updated.

## 7. Agency Reports

### a. Boone County, Highway Department

Mr. Krohn reported that they are completing the construction of the Poplar Grove Road bridge over Beaver Creek, which is set to be opened within a month or two. Three TARP projects are expected to be completed within the next 45 days: Poplar Grove Rd, Centerville Rd, and Irene Rd.

### b. Boone County, Planning Department

No report.

### c. City of Belvidere, Public Works Department

No report.

### d. Loves Park, Public Works

Mr. Messinger reported that the Maple Avenue project is complete. Orth Road is almost complete and just needs some final grading. Paulson Road is slightly delayed due to utilities.

### e. City of Rockford, Community Development Department

No report.

### f. City of Rockford, Public Works Department

Mr. Carter reported that the Charles Street construction project is still on schedule, but utilities have caused delays and the project will therefore not be completed by the original date. The road diet on Broadway will

be delayed, but should still be completed this year. Mr. Carter discussed utility coordination and is trying multiple solutions to get utility companies to engage with their planned projects earlier.

**g. Illinois of Transportation, District 2**

No report.

**h. Rockford Mass Transit District**

No report.

**i. Rockford Park District**

No report.

**j. Village of Machesney Park, Community Development**

No report.

**k. Winnebago County Community & Economic Development**

No report.

**l. Winnebago County Highway Department**

Mr. Molina reported on the HSIP project on Belvidere Road that started a couple weeks ago and is moving according to schedule. The SPR grant data collection has been completed. Guilford Road between Alpine Road and Mulford Road has been closed for a few weeks now, and should be completed in about two weeks due to weather delays. Bell School Road and Guilford Road project plans for next year are mostly complete and are being reviewed. The Perryville Road path extension has incurred a slight delay due to an expired permit. Discussion on this project occurred among a few committee members.

**m. Winnebago County, Soil & Water Conservation District**

No report.

**n. IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning and Programming**

No report.

**8. Other Business**

Discussion regarding the coordination with utility companies on various transportation projects occurred among the group, with a general consensus that the problem has caused multiple delays and should be addressed.

**9. Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Molina, Winnebago County, Highway Department and seconded by Mr. Belle, City of Rockford, Community Development to adjourn at 10:40 am.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Brandon Rucker and Sydney Turner.

Minutes approved by action of the Board: \_\_\_\_\_

*Opportunities for public comment will be afforded on all agenda items.*

*Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact R1 Planning at 815-319-4180 at least two working days before the need for such services or accommodations.*