



## MPO Technical Committee Meeting

**Thursday, May 23, 2024 10:00 am**

Region 1 Planning Council  
127 N. Wyman Street, 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:

Justin Krohn, Boone County, Highway Department  
Josh Sage, Boone County Conservation District  
Jeff Polsean (Proxy), Chicago/Rockford International Airport  
Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere, Public Works Department  
Shannon Messinger, City of Loves Park, Public Works Department  
Colin Belle (Proxy), City of Rockford, Community Development Department  
Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford, Public Works Department  
Chris Baer, Four Rivers Sanitary District  
Rob Bates, IDOT, District 2  
Paula Hughes, Rockford Mass Transit District  
Tim Bragg, Rockford Park District  
Izzy Mandujano, Village of Machesney Park, Community Development Department  
Josef Kurlinkus, Village of Roscoe  
Karl Palmquist, Winnebago County, Community & Economic Dev. Department  
Carlos Molina, Winnebago County, Highway Department

##### Members Absent

Boone County, Planning Department  
City of Belvidere, Planning Department  
City of Loves Park, Community Development Department  
Forest Preserves of Winnebago County  
Village of Machesney Park, Public Works Department  
Village of Winnebago  
Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District

##### Others Present

Melaney Dembicky, Boone County Council on Aging  
Todd Schmidt, Federal Highway Administration - IL Division (Virtual)  
Jon Paul Diipla, Federal Highway Administration - IL Division  
Doug Delille, Illinois Department of Transportation – Office of Planning & Programming  
Henry Guerriero, Illinois Tollway

### Region 1 Planning Council Staff

Autumn Carlson, Clara Romeo, Eric Tison, Estelle Adiaba, Juliana Charlesbois-Berg, Lauren Kleve, Nathan Larsen, Sydney Turner, Tim Verbeke, and Vanessa Mauries

### 3. Public Comment

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

### 4. Discussion Items

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

Ms. Turner presented an overview of the MTP, focusing on the plan's regional assessment. Ms. Turner requested members to share projects related to connectivity & accessibility, maintenance & operations, traffic safety, funding considerations, economic vitality, balanced development, and quality of life. Discussion was held on existing and planned transportation projects, programs, policies, and current barriers in the region that could be highlighted in the MTP.

#### b. Regional Traffic Safety Action Plan – Goals & Emphasis Areas

Ms. Turner provided an update on the vision, mission, and objectives for the Regional Traffic Safety Action Plan. The objectives will be updated to align with the MTP and adopted traffic safety targets. The Regional Traffic Safety Action Plan Engage R1 survey was highlighted to share the community's traffic safety concerns; as of May 23<sup>rd</sup> the survey has received 51 responses.

Ms. Turner facilitated an activity using Mentimeter to gain stakeholder input on the project's goals and emphasis areas. This feedback will be used in coordination with regional data to create priority emphasis areas to identify safety improvement strategies. The Mentimeter results indicate that speeding and aggressive driving were voted as the two biggest concerns related to traffic safety behavior in the region; pedestrians were voted as the top priority for safer road users; intersections were voted as the highest safer road concern; and the overall largest traffic safety concerns for the region were distracted driving and speeding.

### 5. Action Items

#### a. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2024

Ms. Turner entertained a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of the March 21, 2024 MPO Technical Committee.

Motion by Mr. Anderson, City of Belvidere, Public Works Department, and seconded by Mr. Molina, Winnebago County Highway Department with the amendment to change "Elevator Road" to "Bell School Road" to approve the March 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

#### b. Amendment to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (Resolution 2024-07)

Mr. Larsen reported that the MPO had received several amendment requests for requested the addition three (3) updated cost breakout and the addition of seven (7) new projects into the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. These projects included:

- 1-21-11: IL 173, from 0.4 mile east of Lyford Road to 0.1 mile west of Winnebago County Line (*Updated Cost Breakout*)
- 2-24-1: Riverside Boulevard, from Material Avenue to Renn Hart Hills Road/Sage Road (*Updated Cost Breakout*)
- 2-24-5: Riverside Boulevard, from Material Avenue to Renn Hart Hills Road/Sage Road (*New Project Phase*)
- 7-23-4: Low/No Application, Replacement Buses - 7 Hybrids Buses (*Updated Cost Breakout*)
- 7-24-1: Low/No Application, Replacement Buses - 4 Hybrids Buses (*New Project*)
- 7-24-2: 520 Mulberry Renovation - Construction, Renovation of older building to make space more efficient (*New Project*)
- 7-24-3: 520 Mulberry Renovation - Furniture and Equipment, Renovation of older building to make space more efficient (*New Project*)

- 7-24-4: 520 Mulberry Renovation - A&E, Renovation of older building to make space more efficient (*New Project*)
- 7-24-7: Demand Response Vehicle, Replacement Vehicles - 4 Medium Duty Demand Response Vehicles (*New Project*)
- 26-24-1: Demand Response Vehicle, Replacement Vehicles - 3 Medium Duty Demand Response Vehicles (*New Project*)

Motion by Mr. Krohn, Boone County Highway Department, seconded by Mr. Anderson, Belvidere Public Works Department to recommend Resolution 2024-07 for adoption.

RMTD requested an amendment Resolution 2024-07 that would to reduce the 5310 award to RMTD from four (4) demand-response vehicles to three (3) vehicles (TIP #7-24-7) and increase the 5310 award to Boone County Transportation from three (3) demand-response vehicles to four (4) vehicles (TIP #26-24-1).

Motion by Ms. Hughes, Rockford Mass Transit District, seconded by Mr. Messinger, City of Loves Park, Public Works Department to amend Resolution 2024-07 with the aforementioned updates to transit projects #7-24-7 and #26-24-1 and recommend it for adoption by the MPO Policy Committee. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**c. Adoption of the Complete Streets Standards Guide (Resolution 2024-08)**

Ms. Turner provided a description of the Complete Streets Standards Guide and the associated Policy, that was adopted in January. The purposed of the Standard Guide is to identify and describe the design and structure of complete streets in the region. No comment was received during the document’s public comment period.

Discussion was held on annual MPO requirements under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and restrictions compared to state guidelines.

Motion by Ms. Mandujano, Village of Machesney Park, Community Development Department, and seconded by Mr. Belle, City of Rockford, Community Development Department to recommend the adoption of the Complete Streets Standards Guide. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**6. Staff Reports**

Ms. Turner reported that the next MPO Technical and Policy Committee meetings will discuss the new Metropolitan Planning Area boundaries before going to IDOT for review. The MPA updates are based on the Urbanized Areas as defined in the 2020 Census. Additionally, the next MPO Technical Committee meeting will present an item related to a functional classification change request for a jurisdictional transfer between IDOT and City of Rockford for concurrence from the committee.

**7. Agency Reports**

**a. Boone County, Highway Department**

Mr. Krohn reported that Boone County Highway Department’s road resurfacing and replacement program has started and will occur over the next few months.

**b. Boone County Conservation District**

No report.

**c. Chicago Rockford International Airport**

No report.

**d. City of Belvidere, Public Works Department**

No report.

**e. City of Loves Park, Public Works Department**

Mr. Messinger reported that the City’s Evans Avenue Reconstruction water main work is complete. Additionally, the City’s storm sewer work and other 2024 projects have begun.

**f. City of Rockford, Community Development Department**

Mr. Belle reported that last month the City of Rockford adopted a housing needs assessment market study.

**g. City of Rockford, Public Works Department**

Mr. Carter reported that in the first week of June the City of Rockford, with support from the IDOT, will begin a pilot program to reduce the roundabout on Main Street and Auburn Street to one lane as a means of reducing

the frequency of accidents. The pilot program will last one year before a final decision is made to maintain one lane or revert to its original two lanes.

**h. Four River Sanitation District**

No report.

**i. IDOT, District 2**

No report.

**j. Rockford Mass Transit District**

Ms. Hughes reported they had received 14 demand-response vehicles, which are all on the road right now. There has been a delay on 4 hybrid vehicles due to supply chain issues.

**k. Rockford Park District**

Mr. Bragg reported that on Friday May 31<sup>st</sup> there will be a grand opening for Levings Lake Unity Pavilion. Additionally, RPD is hosting a Sunday music series and a Thursday summer music series. The Lockwood Indoor Equine Center is under construction to begin a youth equine-assisted therapy program.

**l. Village of Machesney Park, Community Development Department**

No report.

**m. Village of Roscoe**

Mr. Kurlinkus reported that the Village is starting its annual residential streets resurfacing program at the end of June, which is scheduled to last three weeks.

**n. Winnebago County, Community & Economic Development Department**

No report.

**o. Winnebago County, Highway Department**

Mr. Molina reported that the Riverside STBG project has started Phase II right-of-way acquisition. Funds will be used for local material and storm sewer over the next 3 months. Elevator Road construction, resurfacing and widening, will start on June 3. Linden Road, east of Alpine Road, opened bids a week ago and will hopefully be awarded by the County Board on May 23. Perryville Road Path construction, north of Anjali Way, has taken place over the past 3 weeks and should be completed soon. Bell School Road project is making progress with no delays anticipated. The Water Main Extension project on Baxter Road will start within the next 2 weeks.

**p. Boone County Council on Aging**

No report.

**q. FHWA, Illinois Division**

Jon Paul Diipla introduced himself as the new FHWA contact for the Rockford MPO. Mr. Diipla reported that the Safe Streets for All grant applications for demonstration grants are due on August 29, 2024 and Active Transportation Investment Program grant applications are due on June 17, 2024.

**r. IDOT, Division of Urban Planning and Programming**

No report.

**s. Illinois Tollway**

No report.

**8. Other Business**

Discussion was held on the upcoming cycle of the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program. Winnebago County is anticipating on submitting two applications for engineering for bike paths along Riverside Road and Prairie Hill Road.

The next MPO Technical and Policy Committees will be held in June for the adoptions of the FY 2025 Unified Work Program and Transportation Improvement Plan.

**9. Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Molina, Winnebago County Highway Department, and seconded by Mr. Paulsen, Chicago/Rockford International Airport to adjourn at 11:06 am. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.