



## Community Advisory Forum

**Thursday, February 27, 2025, 3:30 PM**

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

### Minutes

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chelsey Glatz at 3:32 PM.

2. **Roll Call**

Members present:

<input type="checkbox"/>	AGHL Law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural Land Institute
<input type="checkbox"/>	Belvidere Chamber of Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NICNE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Boone County Conservation District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ogle County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Boone County Health Department	<input type="checkbox"/>	Olson Ecological Solutions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Boone County Soil & Water Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	RAMP Disability Resources & Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Boys & Girls Club of Rockford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rock Valley College
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cliffbreakers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rockford Consulting & Brokerage, Inc.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Climate Reality Project (Northern Illinois)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rockford Park District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comprehensive Community Solutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rockford Public Library
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IL Dept. of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (3:45)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rockford Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
<input type="checkbox"/>	Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rockford Urban Ministries
<input type="checkbox"/>	Highland Community College	<input type="checkbox"/>	Severson Dells
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hope Fellowship	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sierra Club Northwest River Valleys Chapter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I Bike Rockford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stateline Mass Transit District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Illinois REALTORS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Temple Beth-El
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ignite Change Solutions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Workforce Connection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful	<input type="checkbox"/>	UW Health SwedishAmerican
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lifescape	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Veterans Assistance Commission of Winnebago Co.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McHenry County (3:48)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Winnebago & Boone County Housing Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Midland States Bank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation (3:37)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Muslim Association of Greater Rockford (3:51)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAACP Rockford Chapter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dyanna Rose Walker

3. **Public Comment**

There were none present who wished to address the forum.



## Action Items

### a. *Approval of December 2024 Meeting Minutes*

**Motion** by VAC, seconded by Boone County Conservation, to **approve** the Action Item. Motion **approved** unanimously by voice vote.

## 4. Discussion Items

### a. Community Advisory Forum Updates

Chelsey Glatz explained the core purpose of the Community Advisory Forum, member expectations, and distributed the CAF charter. The CAF will be focusing on increased ad hoc forums to address specific interests. This CAF members may be asked to serve on one of these ad hoc groups.

The meeting packet includes a list of projects where the CAF played a significant role in providing informing feedback and advocacy.

## 5. Agency Reports

### a. Livable Communities Initiative

Tim Verbeke gave an update on LCI. Keith Creek was awarded the first LCI planning grant. Future rounds will be open later in 2025, as well as implementation funding for Keith Creek.

### b. Health & Transportation Study

Nathan Larsen gave details about the purpose and contents of the Health & Transportation Study. This was recently completed and published and was one of the first projects that benefitted from CAF feedback. This study was a collaboration between R1's MPO and Community Impact teams and provides recommendations for the transportation system that, when addressed, can improve community health.

### c. Resilience Improvement Plan (RIP)

Lauren Kleve introduced the Resilience Improvement Plan, now in the early stages of development. RIP is a new R1 initiative intended to make our transportation more resilient in the face of climate change and extreme weather events. When finished, the plan will include climate impacts to the transportation system, emergency evacuation routes, ways to increase transportation resiliency, and funding opportunities. Lauren also included specific populations that will be impacted by the plan.

R1 requests CAF assistance during the stages of public engagement: risk assessment, project identification and prioritization, and final public comment. There is a RIP working



group formed in part by representatives from the CAF. Contact Lauren if interested in being a part of this working group. A survey will be live on Monday, March 3 and the CAF is being asked to spread that survey among its networks.

CAF members discussed appropriate communities and locations to host engagement events.

d. Climate Action Plan (CAP)

Lauren Kleve announced that the Climate Action Plan (CAP) will be going out for public comment from March 18-April 22. CAF members are encouraged to distribute the plan among their networks to give their feedback.

e. Parking Reimagined

Clara Romeo gave an update on the Parking Reimagined plan. It is a plan to transform parking in the Rockford region over the next 10 years. The public comment period will be open from March 12 – April 22. CAF members are encouraged to distribute the plan among their networks to give their feedback.

6. **Other Business**

a. Engage R1 Spotlight

Chelsey Glatz described features on Engage R1 and that it is the main way that R1 asks for feedback on its plans. As completed plans, updates, or other progress is made on agency plans and initiatives, it will be posted to its Engage R1 page. This format supports R1's commitment to transparency in the projects it adopts and decisions made.

Discussion followed on ways to increase feedback and make the Engage R1 site more user-friendly.

b. Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board Data Dashboard

Michael Welford and Seth Boswell demonstrated features of the now-live WCCMHB data dashboard. This dashboard provides timely, filterable results of the Mental Health Board to activity and for each of its funded programs.

7. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2025 from 3:30–5:00 PM



8. **Adjournment**

**Motion** by Climate Reality Project (Northern Illinois), seconded by Winnebago County SWCD, to **adjourn**.

Motion **approved** unanimously by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 5:06 PM.

Opportunities for public comment. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the Region 1 Planning Council at 815-319-4180 at least two working days before the need for such services or accommodations.