



MPO Technical Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 19, 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; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works Department; Patricia Diduch, City of Byron; Shannon Messenger, City of Loves Park, Public Works Department; Scott Capovilla, City of Rockford, Community Development; Tim Hinkens, City of Rockford Public Works Department; Matt Campbell, Four Rivers Sanitation District; Doug Delille, IDOT District 2; Dan Egelkes, RMTD; Izzy Mandujano, Village of Machesney Park Community Development; Mitch Hilden, Village of Machesney Park Public Works Department; Garrett Flores, Village of Roscoe; Carlos Molina, Winnebago County Highway Department; Karl Palmquist, Winnebago County Community Development; Erin Marshall, Boone County Transit; Jon Paul Diipla, FHWA, IL Division (zoom); Henry Guerriero, IL Tollway

Members Absent: Boone County Planning Department; Chicago/Rockford International Airport; City of Belvidere, Planning Department; City of Loves Park, Community Development; Forest Preserves of Winnebago County; Rockford Park District; Village of Winnebago; IDOT Division of Public Transportation; Ogle County Highway Department; SLATS; Stateline Mass Transit District.

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

3) Public Comment

No public comments were brought forward at this time.

4) Discussion Items:

a) Draft FY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) -Mr. Verbeke explained the draft UWP and how there are not many changes from previous years. The new projects the MPO will focus on are under Task 3.5 Regional Transportation Initiatives. The projects include a Regional Pavement Toolkit, an Emerging Technology Study focused on round two of the Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Plan, a plan forwarding the work of the green streets plan, and a community-based transportation plan looking at neighborhood level corridor planning.

b) BASICS Act Briefing – Mr. Verbeke gave a detailed outline on the proposed BASICS Act, what stage it is in congress and how this will impact members of the Technical Committee. The BASICS Act focuses on federal transportation investment on core infrastructure needs by ensuring funding reaches communities efficiently and is used where it delivers the greatest public benefit.

5) Action Items:

a) Approval of the February 19, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Verbeke called for the approval of the 2/19/2026 meeting minutes. Mr. Anderson, City of Belvidere, Public Works motioned, seconded by Mr. Egelkes, RMTD. With no further discussion, motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

b) Award of MPO-Attributable Funds (Resolution 2026-03). Mr. Verbeke explained that in conjunction with IDOT the allocated funding authorized under the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) is proposed to be awarded. Mr. Verbeke indicated that there are no changes to the scoring or funding amounts since the last time this item was presented (Feb Tech Meeting). The funding allocation can be found in Resolution 2026-03. Many letters of public comment were submitted during the public comment period. Those letters were summarized for the committee. Mr. Verbeke called for a motion. Mr. Molina, Winnebago County Highway Department motioned, seconded by Ms. Mandujano, Village of Machesney Park Community Development, vote passed by unanimous voice vote.

6) Staff Reports-

- AMPO Technical Committee Meeting Recap – Mr. Verbeke explained that Michael Dunn and himself met with several members of congress and senate as well as the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Mr. Verbeke has a sit down with both directors from FHWA and FTA. The goal of this meeting was to support the BASICS Act and educate the elected officials on the BASICS Act.
- Passenger Rail Update- R1 and the Southwest Railyards Reconnecting Communities consultant (AECOM) are scheduling a feasibility study for all the stakeholders. This meeting will most likely be combined with the station design meetings. One meeting in Rockford and one in Belvidere.

6) Agency Reports

- a.) **Boone County Highway Department:** Received approval for the North Boone Bridge project, still have 8 other bridge related lettings left this year.
- 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:** RAISE Grant Complete and waiting on Feds for approval. STBG awarded project from FY2025 will go to June 2027 letting. West State Street has an issue with HUD but has a solution to avoid HUDs property. There will be a land acquisition on East State. The 15th Ave Bridge project will go to September letting. High Crest TAP project will go to letting in late 2026. STBG project on Harrison Ave will go into design / phase 2 shortly. Alpine Road project is coming along and will be done in phases. 11th Street construction will start in May. Madison St. phase 2 starting in June. This is a two phased project.
- l.) **Four Rivers Sanitary District:** n/a

- m.) **IDOT, District 2:** n/a
- n.) **Rockford Mass Transit District:** n/a
- o.) **Rockford Park District:** n/a
- p.) **Machesney Park, Community Development:** n/a
- q.) **Machesney Park, Public Works Department:** n/a
- r.) **Village of Roscoe:** n/a
- s.) **Winnebago County Community & Economic Development:** n/a
- t.) **Winnebago County Highway Department:** Roscoe Bridge rehab project (5-month closure) starts in June. Roscoe TAP project will be combined with HSIP Project in late 2027. Harrison Ave resurfacing starts in May. Riverside TAP project is in design. Riverside CRP Traffic Signal project is scheduled for 2027. South Perryville Road STBG project is scheduled for construction in 2027. Riverside STBG project is currently in land acquisition phase. Owen Center HSIP Project is in Phase 2 engineering and ROW acquisition. Perryville path ITEP extension is underway.
- u.) **FHWA, IL Division:** n/a
- v.) **IDOT:** n/a
- w.) **Illinois Tollway:** n/a

Other Business:

Adjournment

Mr. Verbeke entertained a motion to adjourn. Ms. Diduch, City of Byron motioned; seconded by Mr. Molina, Winnebago County Highway Department. A unanimous voice vote to adjourn at 10:46 am

Meeting minutes prepare by: Tim Verbeke

Minutes approved by action of the MPO Technical Committee on 4/16/2026