



MPO Policy Committee Meeting

Friday, January 26, 2024 – 8:30 am
Region 1 Planning Council
127 N. Wyman St., Ste 100, Rockford, IL 61101

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County, at 8:30 am.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Boone County, Winnebago County, City of Loves Park, City of Rockford, Village of Machesney Park, Rockford Mass Transit District, Illinois Department of Transportation-District 2

Members Absent: City of Belvidere

Other Present: Todd Schmidt and Betsy Tracey, Federal Highway Administration-IL Division; Doug DeLille, Illinois Department of Transportation-Office of Planning and Programming; William Wheeler and Evan Gross, Federal Transit Administration; Carlos Molina, Winnebago County; James Richter, Village of Machesney Park; Tim Hansen, Four Rivers Sanitary District; Sydney Turner, Michael Dunn, Jon Paul Diipla, Melisa Ribikawskis, Makenzee Wilcox, Eric Tison, Nathan Larsen, Phil Pittford, Isaac Guerrero, and Amanda Colver, Region 1 Planning Council

3. Public Comment

These were none present who wished to address the committee.

4. Presentation: FHWA/FTA Planning Certification Review

Mr. Dunn introduced the FHWA and FTA review team conducting the TMA Certification Review. Mr. Schmidt provided a presentation on the certification process, scope of the review, topics discussed, and an overview of the first day of the review, which occurred on January 25. A final report will be completed and sent to the Policy Committee as part of the review. The two corrective actions from the previous Certification Review have been addressed by the MPO. Comments can be sent to the review team via mail, fax, or email by February 26, 2024.

5. Discussion: MPO Programming Recommendations

Ms. Turner lead a discussion on recommendations for the programming of MPO-attributable transportation funding. These recommendations are aimed at streamlining programming process, establishing set guidelines, and addressing a growing concern of a lapsing or recession of unobligated funds. Recommendations included (1) Conducting a single annual call for projects for all programming; (2) Establish standard project evaluation process; (3) Establish funding caps for MPO-attributable federal funds; (4) Set aside a percentage of all MPO-attributable funding for the implementation of the Livable Communities Initiative; (5) Formalize the prioritization of shovel-ready projects; and (6) Institute a

project monitoring system. Ms. Turner requested that a STBG Ad Hoc committee be convened to discuss a number of the recommendations presented.

Discussion was held on project readiness and funding caps.

The committee provided a concurrence with convening the ad hoc committee.

6. Action Items

a. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of October 22, 2023

Chairman Chiarelli entertained a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of the October 19, 2023 MPO Technical Committee.

Motion by Chairman Riley, Boone County, and seconded by Village President Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, by to approve the October 22, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

b. Amendment to the FY 2024 – 2027 Transportation Improvement Program (Resolution 2024-01)

Ms. Turner reported that the MPO had received several amendment requests for the addition of two new projects and a new project phase into the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. These projects included:

- 1-23-14: IL-2, 0.2 mi S of Clifton Avenue to Pond Street in Rockford (Update in breakout costs)
- 1-24-5: Bridge Deck Sealing, Districtwide (New project)
- 1-24-7: IL-76 Bridge Painting, Beaver Creek 2.5 mi south of IL-173 (New project)
- 13-24-1: Townhall Road Extension, from Townhall Road/State Street and IL-76/Caledonia Road (New project)

Motion by Mayor Jury, City of Loves Park, seconded by Village President Johnson, Village of Machesney Park to approve Resolution 2024-01. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

c. Adoption of the Federally-Required Performance Management Targets (Resolution 2024-02)

Ms. Turner presented the annual safety targets (PM1) for the federally-required performance management and Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP). The MPO is proposing to adopt the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) targets for the five safety performance measure. Two percent (2%) annual reduction criteria for the number of fatalities, rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and number of non-motorized fatalities. Ordinary least squares regression reduction for the number of serious injuries, rate of serious injuries per 100 million VMT, and non-motorized serious injuries. Rockford Mass Transit District has adopted the targets established in their Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP).

Motion by Chairman Riley, Boone County, seconded by Mr. Stubbe, Rockford Mass Transit District to approve Resolution 2024-02. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

d. Adoption of the Complete Streets Policy for the Rockford Region (Resolution 2024-03)

Ms. Turner presented the Complete Streets Policy for the Rockford Region. The Policy will be used for the programming of MPO-attributable federal funding. It was developed based on best practices with input from an ad hoc advisory committee.

Motion by Village President Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Chairman Riley, Boone County to approve Resolution 2024-03. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

7. Directors' Reports

Ms. Turner reported that the MPO is exploring applications to the State Planning & Research program for two projects. The first project is a Paths and Trails Asset Condition Analysis, this project is a partnership with the Rockford Park District, Belvidere Park District, Boone County Conservation District, and Winnebago County. The second application is for the development of a Resiliency Improvement Plan, which would support the region's pursuit of federal discretionary programs, such as the PROTECT grant.

Ms. Turner provided an update on the Toll Development Credit policy. MPO staff is still coordinating with the Illinois Department of Transportation in the policy development.

Ms. Turner reported that she is currently working on the FY 2025 Unified Work Program budget. There is an emphasis on personnel costs. There will be an increase in consultant services for projects that cannot be completed in-house, such as the Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility Study.

Mr. Dunn reported that staff hosted the new Planning Director of the Illinois Tollway. The Illinois Tollway is open to helping with a shared use path along Riverside Boulevard across I-90.

8. Other Business

Ms. Turner noted that a memo was provided in the meeting packet in regards to a broadband planning grant.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Village President Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Chairman Riley, Boone County to adjourn.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Sydney Turner.

Minutes approved by action of the Board: March 29, 2024