



## Press Release

### For Immediate Release

**Date:** May 6, 2025

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### MPO Awards Funds for Major Winnebago County Transportation Projects

**ROCKFORD, IL** — Region 1 Planning Council (R1) announces that funding has been awarded to the Winnebago County Department of Transportation to complete regionally significant transportation projects. Projects awarded are:

**Central Ave. Roadway Reconfiguration** – FY 2025. This project will provide for safe left turns throughout the corridor, add sidewalks and shared use path connecting to path along Keith Creek.

**Riverside Boulevard Shared Use Path** – FY2026. This project will connect the Perryville and Bell School Road paths, which will eventually connect to Sportscore 2.

**Riverside Boulevard Traffic Signal Coordination** – FY 2025 & 2026. This project will synchronize 13 traffic signals from Material Ave. to I-39, replace span wire traffic signals at McFarland Rd. with mast arm/pole signals, and upgrade old controllers.

“The County Highway Department thanks the MPO Policy and Technical committee members and Region 1 staff for allocating funds for these important transportation projects. These improvements will increase safety and mobility for all public roadway users, including motor vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians,” said Carlos Molina, County Engineer for the Winnebago County Highway Department.

These projects were recommended for funding through a competitive selective process conducted by R1, as the Rockford Region MPO, and the MPO Technical Committee. Each project has been awarded the full amount requested.

**ABOUT R1** – [Region 1 Planning Council](#) is a special-purpose, regional government agency providing cross-jurisdictional, government-to-government collaborative planning for Northern Illinois. The regional planning model provides an efficient means to promoting a well-informed, comprehensive dialogue that holistically addresses regional issues by fulfilling the needs of government entities for long-range planning, securing funding, and analyzing and providing data in support of regional projects and initiatives.

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