



MPO Technical Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 17, 2021

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

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: Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2; Winnebago County Highway Department; City of Rockford, Public Works Department; City of Loves Park, Public Works Department; Village of Machesney Park, Public Works; Rockford Mass Transit District; City of Loves Park, Community Development Department; City of Rockford, Community Development Department; Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department; Boone County, Planning Department; Boone County Highway Department; City of Belvidere, Public Works Department; Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District; Rockford Park District.

Members Absent: Chicago/Rockford International Airport; Village of Machesney Park, Community Development Department; City of Belvidere, Planning Department; Rock River Water Reclamation District; Forest Preserves of Winnebago County; Boone County Conservation District.

Others Present: Doug Delille, IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning; John Donovan, Federal Highway Administration, IL Division; Colin Belle, City of Rockford, Community Development Department; Carlos Molina, Winnebago County Highway Department; Sydney Turner, Michael Dunn, Kara Harmet, Chuck Klutho, Mackenzie Wilcox, Melisa Ribikawskis, and Alex Rosander, R1PC Metropolitan Planning Organization

3) Public Comment

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

4) Consent Agenda

a) Approval of the April 22, 2021 MPO Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

b) MPO FY 2021 – FY 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment - MPO Resolution

2021-11: Amendment to the MPO FY 2021-2024 TIP at the request of Illinois Department of Transportation and Rockford Mass Transit District. Amendment includes the inclusion of projects and updates in project costs.

- IDOT District #2 requested the following amendments:
 - #1-22-1: Various, Districtwide – IL 72 over the Rock River in Byron (New project)
- Boone County Highway Department requested the following amendments:
 - #13-21-10: Denny Road Bridge, 2000 feet north of Orth Rd (New project)
- Rockford Mass Transit District requested following amendments:
 - #7-21-10: New Discretionary Grant Application, Electric Buses & Charging Stations (Cost update, moved between FY)

- #7-21-19: Replacement Paratransit Vehicles w/ equipment (New project)
- #7-21-20: Replacement Paratransit Vehicles w/ equipment (New project)
- #7-21-21: Bus Stop Infrastructure/Amenities (New project)
- #7-21-22: ARPA Operating Costs (New project)
- #7-21-23: ITS Needs, Risk Management Software (New project)
- #7-21-24: Electric Battery Charging Equipment Installation (New project)
- #7-21-25: New Discretionary Grant Application, Bus Shelters with Real Time Signage (New Project)

Ms. Turner entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda for the April 22, 2021 MPO Technical Committee Meeting Minutes and MPO Resolution 2021-11.

Motion by Mr. Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works Department, and seconded by Mr. Krohn, Boone County Highway Department to **approve** the Consent Agenda.

Motion **approved** by unanimous voice vote.

Motion **approved** by roll call vote.

5) FY 2022 Unified Work Program – MPO Resolution 2021-12:

Ms. Turner lead discussion regarding the final draft FY 2022 Unified Work Program (UWP). Ms. Turner reported that the MPO received an annual apportionment of \$934,799 to carry out the federally-required continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning for the Rockford Region. Federal funding allocated to the MPO totals \$747,588 PL and FTA matched with \$187,211 in State Planning Funds (SPF). Many of the projects under the FY 2021 UWP will be carried over into FY 2022, including the Transportation System Management & Operations Plan (TSMO), Transportation Resiliency Study, and EV Readiness planning and implementation initiatives. Additional projects the MPO will begin working on in FY 2022, include the development of a Livable Communities Initiative (Local Technical Assistance Program), connected and autonomous vehicle readiness study, and innovative mobility services. A public comment period was held from April 26, 2021 – May 28, 2021.

Ms. Turner entertained a motion to recommend MPO Resolution 2021-12 to the MPO Policy Committee for adoption.

Motion by Mr. Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works Department, seconded by Mr. Anthony, Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District to **recommend** MPO Resolution 2021-12.

Motion **approved** by roll call vote.

6) Transportation Safety Plan for The Rockford Region – MPO Resolution 2021-13:

Mr. Klutho provided an overview of the Transportation Safety Plan for the Rockford Region, including information on the structure of the document and some of the data analysis and stakeholder engagement that occurred as a part of the planning process. A public comment period was held from March 29, 2021 – April 30, 2021.

Ms. Turner entertained a motion to recommend MPO Resolution 2021-12 to the MPO Policy Committee for adoption.

Motion by Mr. Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development Department and seconded by Mr. Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works Department to **recommend** MPO Resolution 2021-13.

Motion **approved** by roll call vote.

7) FY 2022 - 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

Ms. Ribikawskis provided an update to the committee on the progress of the FY 2022 – 2025 TIP development. She requested members of the committee to review tables relevant to their jurisdiction and provide any additional changes by Monday, June 21, 2021. The final document will be presented to the MPO Technical and Policy Committees for adoption at the August meetings. No action was required by the committee.

8) Transportation System Management & Operations (TSMO) Plan:

Ms. Ribikawskis reported on the progress of the development of the TSMO Plan currently underway by the MPO, including an overview of the initial findings from the working group and individual stakeholder meetings. Those in attendance at the meeting, including members of the committee and the public, were asked to participate in a poll identified the region’s top needs and opportunities that should be addressed in the plan. No formal actions were required by the committee.

9) Agency Reports

9.01 – Illinois Dept. of Transportation, District 2:

No report.

9.02 – Winnebago County Highway Dept.:

Mr. Hodina reported that bids for the Perryville Path, Hart Road to IL-173, were taken by the state last Friday.

9.03 – City of Rockford, Public Works Dept.:

Mr. Carter reported that construction season currently is underway and the City has received some good bid numbers.

9.04 – City of Loves Park, Public Works Dept.:

Mr. Messinger reported the 2021 Overlay Bid Packet opening is this week and will be awarded within the next week. The River Lane Road Phase 1 project’s bid opening is next week. The City is also a recipient of ITEP grant funding for IL-251 (N Second Street) sidewalk/pedestrian improvements.

9.05 – Village of Machesney Park, Public Works:

Mr. Hunter reported the Alpine Road project began two weeks ago. The milling, curb repairs, and back filling will be done in preparation of center lane closures. Additionally, the Village will be going out for bid for pavement maintenance program in the next two weeks.

9.06 – Chicago Rockford International Airport:

Not present.

9.07 – Rockford Mass Transit District:

Ms. Hughes reported that regular route services and fares began on May 30, 2021. RMTD has five hybrid electric buses coming in June and will be ordering six additional electric-powered vehicles

9.08 – City of Loves Park, Community Development Dept.:

No report.

9.09 – Village of Machesney Park, Community Development Dept.:

Not present.

9.10 – City of Rockford, Community Development Dept.:

No report.

9.11 – Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Dept

No report.

9.12 – Boone County, Planning Dept.:

No report.

9.13 – Boone County Highway Dept.:

Mr. Krohn reported that the summer street maintenance program is underway. The County Board will be looking to award a federally-classified structure on Miller Road. A federally-funded project is set to go out for letting in July. IDOT has awarded the County three TARP grants for Irene Road, Poplar Grove Road, and Centerline road.

9.14 – City of Belvidere, Public Works Dept.:

No report.

9.15 – City of Belvidere, Planning Dept.:

Not present.

9.16 – Rock River Water Reclamation District:

Not present.

9.17 – Forest Preserves of Winnebago County:

Not present.

9.18 – Boone County Conservation District:

Not present.

9.19 – Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District:

No report.

9.20 – Rockford Park District:

No report.

9.21 – Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:

Not present.

9.22 – Illinois State Toll Highway Authority:

Not present.

9.23 – IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:

Not present.

9.24 – IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:

Mr. Delille reported the Omar Osman was appointed as the Transportation Security and Mike Vanderhoof was appointed as the a new Bureau Chief of Planning.

9.25 – Ogle County Highway Department:

Not present.

9.26 – Boone County Council of Aging:

Not present.

9.27 – State Line Area Transportation Study:

Not present.

9.28 – Federal Highway Administration, IL Division:

No report.

9.29 – Stateline Mass Transit District:

Not present.

9.30 – RPC Metropolitan Planning Organization:

Ms. Turner reported on the following items:

- Human Service Transportation Plan
 - For the past several months, MPO staff, led by Alex Rosander, has been working on an update to the federally-required HSTP. The Human Services Transportation Plan looks to further strengthen coordination among transportation providers within the region and enhance the opportunity for mobility among residents. It is a federally-mandated planning document that identifies local transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, seniors, and people with low incomes, provides strategies for meeting those local needs, and prioritizes transportation services and projects for funding and implementation. It has been developed with feedback and input from the Alternative Transportation Committee. The draft is currently out for a 30-day public comment period until July 12. The final document will be presented to the MPO Technical and Policy Committees for adoption at the August meetings.
- SPR Updates
 - Freight Plan: Staff has wrapped up the quantitative data collection for the Freight Plan and is moving forward with the qualitative data collection through a Freight-Industry Stakeholder Survey, which will close at the end of this month. The Needs and Issues identified will be discussed at a future technical committee meeting.
 - Passenger Rail Station Siting Analysis: The MPO has contracted Farr Associates to conduct a Siting Analysis for the Passenger Rail stations located in Belvidere and Rockford to support the Rockford to Chicago

service. The first Steering Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, June 24, with a series of stakeholder focus group meetings to occur at the beginning of July.

- Keith Creek Corridor Study: The project official kick-offed in February. An RFP for consulting services was published last month. Staff and the Working Group is currently reviewing the proposals submitted and being choosing a final consultant within the next week or so.
- Regional Interchange Study: The MPO has received the final documents from the 3-County Regional Interchange Study in April. Since then the RPC has been coordinating several projects that will help further the economic development strategies identified within the document.
- Advanced Construction Notices:
 - The MPO has received advance construction notices for
 - #1-16-7: US 20 Business/West State Street, Day Ave to Independence Ave
 - #1-21-1: US 20 Rockford Bypass, 0.2 mi W of Falconer Rd to Simpson Rd SW of Rockford
 - #1-22-1: Various, Districtwide (IL 72, over the Rock River in Byron)
 - #3-20-9: 8th Avenue, Over Keith Creek
 - The following projects are being moved from advanced construction to current status:
 - #1-17-17: I-39, US 20, & Harrison Ave, I-39: 0.8 miles N of Blackhawk Rd to I-90; US 20: I-39 to 0.3 miles E of Kishwaukee River; Harrison Ave: Bell School Rd to I-39
 - #1-20-1: IL-2, IL-72 to Beltline Rd
 - #1-20-2: Springfield Ave, Over North Fork of Kent Creek, 0.5 mi South of IL 70
 - #1-20-3: US BUS 20, Shaw Rd E of Winnebago Co Line to 0.1 mi NE of State St in Belvidere
 - #1-21-6: Districtwide, SN 004-0001, 004-0005/6, 004-0016, 004-0017, 101-0123
 - #2-18-1: Alpine Road Bridge, Over Forest Hills Rd
 - #3-19-19: Seminary Street, Keith Creek Bridge
 - #21-18-1: Meridian Rd, IL Rte 64 to IL Rt 72

10) Other Business

No other business was discussed.

11) Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works Department, seconded by Mr. Carter, City of Rockford Public Works Department to **adjourn** at 10:34 am.

Prepared by: Makenzee Wilcox

Minutes approved by action of the Committee: August 19, 2021