



Alternative Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 2 PM
127 N Wyman St, Rockford, IL 61101

1) Call to Order

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Carol Erickson at 2:23 pm.

2) Roll Call

Members Present: I Bike Rockford; Rockford Mass Transit District; Rockford Park District; Stateline Mass Transit District; UW Health (Swedish American); The Workforce Connection; University of Illinois - Extension

Members Absent: Boone County Health Department; North-Central Illinois Council of Governments; Rockford Road Runners; Winnebago County Health Department

Others Present: Gabrielle Torina, Chelsea Glatz, Shelby Best, Sydney Turner, Gilton Cross, Melisa Ribikawskis, Alex Rosander, Region 1 Planning Council

3) Approval of the May 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Erikson entertained a motion to accept the May 11th, 2021 meeting minutes. First motion made by Ron Priddy, Rockford Mass Transit District; seconded by Leo Medrano, UW Health. Approved unanimously.

4) Items Presented for Discussion

- a) **Regional Mobility Hub Study:** Ms. Rosander provided information on the Mobility Hub Feasibility Study regarding what a mobility hub is, some features and amenities that can be found at a mobility hub and the different types of typologies. Ms. Rosander mentioned that the next steps of the project are to create a site analysis and criteria for where mobility hubs should be located within the region. Questions were proposed regarding if there were any current locations of mobility hubs, what other cities have mobility hubs and if there are any negatives to mobility hubs based on other city examples. Ms. Turner commented on the importance of gaining public/private buy in is going to be a key aspect for the successful implementation of mobility hubs. Additional comments regarding mobility hubs were made by committee members regarding how they could be a tool to help reduce the number of variance requests and help to reduce minimum parking requirements of new developments.
- b) **Active Community Design:** Ms. Erikson provided information regarding the New York City's plan for community groups and Active Community Design. The Active Community Design incorporates five core sections which are Active Transportation, Active Recreation, Active Buildings, Green Space and Nature and Healthy foods and Beverages. Following the brief presentation, the committee discussed how mobility hubs and the active community design can be connected to encourage ways to create gathering places for the public. Additional discussion focused on examples from other cities such as the Piano Initiative from Fort Collins and Rockford's own City Market. The information was presented to the committee in order start discussions on any potential project or ideas regarding active design and committee members.
- c) **RMTD Comprehensive Mobility Analysis:** RMTD is looking to add more routes to their fixed route service, however gaining funding has been a challenge. Service is looking to be expanded to reach the new hospital and

Baxter road, with larger loops to streamline service connections and reduce travel times for users. Ridership has been at 50 percent since the start of the pandemic and has not improved following RMTD going back to full service.

5) Progress Reports

- a) **Passenger Rail Siting Analysis:** Ms. Ribikawskis provided an update on the Chicago to Rockford Passenger Rail project, updating the committee that Farr and Associates are the main consulting firm conducting the project and have sub consultants who are looking into the transportation, environmental impacts and market analysis of the two station locations which will be located on the west side of Downtown Rockford and Downtown Belvidere.
- b) **Keith Creek Corridor Study:** Early states of the project have begun including a kick off meeting with R1 staff and an initial meeting with stakeholders. The next steps of the project include holding six different stakeholder meetings with approximately 85 stakeholders starting the first week of November.

6) Agency Reports

a) I Bike Rockford:

Completed the 3rd Cycle on Second with an estimated 500 riders who participated. Swarm the Market Ride will carry on Friday evenings through the end of October.

b) Rockford Mass Transit District:

None.

c) Stateline Mass Transit District:

As of September 1, 2021, Stateline Mass Transit District moved offices to Roscoe and are no longer working under the Rockton Township. There will be an open house at their new office at 11722 Main Street on October 27th with a ribbon cutting at 11 a.m. and an open house until 7 pm. Additionally moving forward with engagement with the public and stakeholders to see if service can be improved since Stateline Mass Transit District works under a service agreement with Rockford Mass Transit District.

d) UW Health:

None.

e) The Workforce Connection:

None.

f) University of Illinois – Extension:

Mid-town market was created 2 years ago due to an identified need of needed access to fresh produce in the area. This year the market accepted SNAP. The market recently became a winter market which will carry on through December to serve members of the public.

7) Other Business

The next Alternative Transportation Committee will be held in person on November 9th at 2 p.m.

8) Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Hecox, Stateline Mass Transit District, seconded by Mr. Smith, I Bike Rockford, to adjourn at 2:45 pm. Approved unanimously.

Prepared by Melisa Ribikawskis.

Minutes approved by action of the Committee: March 8, 2022.