



MPO Technical Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 20, 2022

127 N Wyman St, 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: Boone County Conservation District; Boone County Highway Department; Boone County, Planning Department; City of Loves Park, Community Development Department; City of Loves Park, Public Works Department; City of Rockford, Community Development Department; City of Rockford, Public Works Department; Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2; Rockford Mass Transit District; Village of Machesney Park, Community Development Department; Village of Machesney Park, Public Works Department; Village of Roscoe; Village of Winnebago; Winnebago County Highway Department; Winnebago County Planning & Econ Development Department; Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District;

City of Belvidere, Planning Department and City of Belvidere, Public Works Department arrived at 10:10 AM.

Members Absent: Chicago/Rockford International Airport; Four Rivers Sanitation District; Forest Preserves of Winnebago County; Rockford Park District.

Others Present: Jon Donovan, Federal Highway Administration, IL Division, Brandon Geber, Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Urban Program Planning; Sydney Turner, Melisa Ribikawskis, Makenzee Wilcox, Gilton Cross, Jacob Doro, Brandon Rucker, Region 1 Planning Council.

3. Public Comment

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

4. Discussion: US-20/Town Hall Road (Boone County Highway Department)

Mr. Krohn, Boone County Highway Department, led a discussion on the US-20/Town Hall Road project, which is currently listed in the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program.

5. Presentation: Rockford Mass Transit District's Climate Action Plan

Ms. Best presented to the Technical Committee the Rockford Mass Transit District's (RMTD) Climate Action Plan, which is a collaborative effort between RMTD and the MPO.

6. Presentation: Safety Performance Measures

Mr. Cross presented on the proposed 2022 Safety Performance Targets, which are federally required to be adopted on an annual basis by the MPO. MPO staff is recommending adopting the Illinois Department of Transportation's targets of a 2 percent reduction in all five categories: (1) number of fatalities, (2) rate of fatalities per 100 million VMT, (3) number of serious injuries, (4) rate of serious injuries per 100 million VMT, (5) number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries.

7. Staff Reports

7.01 USDOT Planning Emphasis Areas

Ms. Turner updated the committee on a letter released jointly by FHWA/FTA in December regarding the Planning Emphasis Areas in each MPOs are encouraged to include in their upcoming Unified Work Program. In total, there are 8 areas that are highlighted in this document: Tackling the Climate Crisis; Equity and Justice40 in Transportation Planning; Complete Streets; Public Involvement; Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET)/U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) Coordination; Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA) Coordination; Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL); and Data in Transportation Planning. While the MPO currently incorporates many of the emphasis areas, such as complete streets, equity, planning and environmental linkages, and public involvement, our goal is to make sure these areas are clearly incorporated into our planning process and work products.

7.02 FY 2023 Unified Work Program

Ms. Turner provided an update on the annual allocation of federal planning funds to complete the federal and state requirements for transportation planning. She also noted that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) also denotes several new programs and planning efforts that MPO are encouraged or required to incorporate into their Unified Work Program. As such, Ms. Turner is recommending an adjustment to the work elements in the FY 2023 Unified Work Program.

7.03 FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program

Ms. Ribikawskis provided an overview on the proposed changes to the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program annual development, including a new project submission form.

7.04 FY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program – Administrative Modifications

The MPO has received and processed two administrative modifications to the FY 2022 TIP:

- #1-22-8: I-39 bridge over Blackhawk Road (to move the project from FY 2024 to FY 2022 Annual Element)
- #18-20-1: Lawrenceville Road & Piskasaw Creek Connection (to move the project from Previously Approved to FY 2022 Annual Element)

The MPO has received advance construction notices for:

- #1-18-10: IL-173, 0.2 Mi E of IL 75
- #3-22-14: Sandy Hollow Road & Illinois Railway At-Grade Crossing Improvements, Railroad Mile Post 20.29

The following projects are being moved from advanced construction to current status.

- #20-18-2: Jefferson St. Bridge Underpass Approaches, East Bank of the Rock River & West Bank of the Rock River

7.05 SPR Project Updates

Ms. Turner provided an update on the following SPR projects:

- Freight Plan – The next working group meeting will be held January 26 to present the finding of the initial needs and opportunities section of the plan, as well as present possible goals and objectives for the plan.
- Keith Creek Corridor Study – The consulting team has been putting together the existing conditions report for the study. Public engagement opportunities will be held this Spring
- Passenger Rail Station Study – The consulting team is currently working on the initial conceptual designs for the two study areas. We are anticipating the Basis of Design will be sent to R1 Planning and the advisory committee at the beginning of February. With an Advisory Committee meeting at the end of February and public engagement at the end of March/early April.

8. Agency Reports

8.01 – Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:

No report.

8.02 – Winnebago County Highway Department:

No report.

8.03 – City of Rockford, Public Works Department:

No report.

8.04 – City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:

No report.

8.05 – Village of Machesney Park, Public Works:

No report.

8.06 – Chicago Rockford International Airport:

Not present.

8.07 – Rockford Mass Transit District

Msp. Hughes reported that hours of operation will be starting an hour earlier and running an hour later in the evening. RMTD will also be starting a new program to provide free rides to veterans and students.

8.08 – City of Loves Park, Community Development Department:

No report.

8.09 – Village of Machesney Park, Community Development Department:

No report.

8.10 – City of Rockford, Community Development Department:

No report.

8.11 – Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department:

No report.

8.12 – Boone County, Planning Department:

No report.

8.13 – Boone County Highway Department:

No report.

8.14 – City of Belvidere, Public Works Department:

No report.

8.15 – City of Belvidere, Planning Department:

No report.

8.16 – Four Rivers Sanitation Authority (Rock River Water Reclamation District)

Not present.

8.17 – Forest Preserves of Winnebago County:

Not present.

8.18 – Boone County Conservation District:

No report.

8.19 – Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District:

No report.

8.20 – Rockford Park District:

No report.

8.21 – Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:

Not present.

8.22 – Illinois State Toll Highway Authority:

Not present.

8.23 – IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:

Not present.

8.24 – IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:

Mr. Geber reported the Unified Budget templates for the FY 2023 Unified Work Program are due by February 14, 2022.

8.25 – Ogle County Highway Department:

Not present.

8.26 – Boone County Council of Aging:

Not present.

8.27 – State Line Area Transportation Study:

Not present.

8.28 – Federal Highway Administration, IL Division:

No report.

8.29 – Stateline Mass Transit District:

Not present.

8.30 – Village of Roscoe:

No report.

8.31 – Village of Winnebago:

Mr. Insko thanked the R1 Planning staff for their assistance on a recent grant application.

9. Other Business

Ms. Hughes noted that RMTD has increased the number of service hours beginning in November.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Makenzee Wilcox

Minutes approved by action of the Board: April 21, 2022.