



MPO Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 23, 2022 8:30 am

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

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Karl Johnson, Boone County, at 9:00am.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Boone County; City of Belvidere; City of Loves Park; City of Rockford; Illinois Department of Transportation; Rockford Mass Transit District; Village of Machesney Park; Winnebago County.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Tim Hansen, Four Rivers Sanitation District; Carlos Molina, Winnebago County Highway Department; Brandon Geber, IDOT Office of Planning and Programming; James Richter II, Village of Machesney Park; Makenzee Wilcox, Michael Dunn, Julia Halsted, Sydney Turner, Region 1 Planning Council.

3. Public Comment

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

4. Action Items:

A. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of April 29th, 2022

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to approve the April 29th, 2022 Policy Committee minutes.

Motion by Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County to approve the April 29th, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

B. Adoption of the Title VI & EJ Considerations (Resolution 2022-08)

Ms. Turner stated that per federal regulation, the Title VI Discrimination Complaint Procedure must be submitted to the Federal Transit Authority every 3 years. R1 submitted the procedure to FTA in February 2022, meeting the federal guidance. The document up for adoption today, is a complimentary document that provide more detailed information on how the MPO takes Title VI and EJ considerations into the planning and programming process. The document was released for a 30-day public comment period from March 15 - April 8, 2022. No public comments were received.

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to approve adoption of the Title VI & EJ Considerations.

Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, to adopt of the Title VI & EJ Considerations. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

C. Adoption of the FY 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (Resolution 2022-09)

Ms. Ribikawskis stated that the Fiscal Year 2023-2026 TIP was out for a 30-day comment period in which we did not receive any comments from the public. However, we did receive two project updates from IDOT. The first is a new project phase for project 1-17-1 under FY23 for I-39 at US 20 interchange and includes the tree removal for interchange construction. The second project is a new project for FY 23 with the project number 1-23-1 at US 20

over Coon Creek 2 miles east of Belvidere which includes bridge restoration with a deck overlay and deck and joint repairs.

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2022-09, adoption of the FY 2023 – 2026 TIP.

Motion by Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County, to approve of Resolution 2022-09, adoption of the FY 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

D. Adoption of the FY 2023 MPO Unified Work Program (Resolution 2022-10)

Ms. Turner stated that the draft UWP has been sent and reviewed by IDOT, as well as discussed at previous Technical and Policy Committee meetings starting in November 2021. The document was released for a 30-day public comment period from May 18 – June 17, 2022. No comments were received.

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2022-10 the adoption of the FY 2023 UWP.

Motion by Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Mayor Jury, City of Loves Park, to approve Resolution 2022-10, Adoption of the FY 2023 MPO Unified Work Program. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

5. Directors Report:

Ms. Turner reported on the following items:

A. Federal Discretionary Grant Opportunities

The US DOT Federal Highway Administration Bridge Investment Program – (1) Planning, (2) Bridge Projects, and (3) Large Projects (BIP) NOFO was recently released by USDOT. The purpose of this program is to help plan, replace, rehabilitate, protect and preserve the US’s largest bridges. The program will help important bridges across the nation in urban and rural areas remain operational, support local economies, strengthen supply chains, improve safety, and create good-paying jobs.

B. SPR Project Updates

- **Freight Study:** R1 is currently working on the Strategies & Recommendations section of the document. Some of the Project recommendations include the update to the 2015 Rail-Served Industrial Park in Southern Winnebago County, which includes reexamining the infrastructure needs leading to the industrial park; update to the rail consolidation study, and addressing system bottlenecks and improvements to key freight corridors.
- **Keith Creek Corridor Study:** Over the past few weeks, the consultants have led several successful public engagement events, including a discussion at Katie’s Cup (in-person and on Facebook Live), an event for youth engagement at Patriots Gateway, and a Block Party for residents and businesses along the Creek. A Bike Ride along the Creek will be taking place this Friday.
- **Passenger Rail Station Siting Analysis:** R1 staff and the steering committee received a draft version of the Basis of Design for both locations. Steering Committee meetings were held to further refine this basis. Over the next month, we will begin the public engagement phase of the project including two Charrettes (one for each station) lead by Farr Associates.
- **Regional Transportation Signal Operations Program:** The goal of this project is to Develop a Regional Traffic Signal Operations Program (RTSOP) for the strategic regional arterial (SRA) system and other key inter-jurisdictional arterials aimed at keeping functionality and performance of the arterial system at a maximum LOS. The key deliverables for this project is a Framework for the region in support of traffic signal maintenance & operations; a prioritized list of arterials warranting individual plans; resources identified to develop and operate individual arterial implementation plans; and 2-3 sub-area and/or corridor plans. The first Steering Committee Kick-off meeting was on June 7.

C. FY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Advance Construction Notice

The MPO has received advance construction notices for

Projects currently authorized in Advanced Construction Status:

- #18-20-1: Lawrenceville Road & Piskasaw Creek Connection, City of Belvidere/Lawrenceville Rd to Marengo Rd/Piskasaw Creek

- #1-21-9: ILL 251, New Milford School Rd to Toms Rd in New Milford
- #1-21-9: ILL 251, New Milford School Rd to Toms Rd in New Milford
- #1-23-1: US 20, Over Coon Creek 2 mi E of Belvidere

Projects or a portion of these projects have been converted from Advanced Construction to current status:

- #3-20-9: 8th Avenue, Over Keith Creek
- #1-22-3: I-39, Kishwaukee River 0.8 mi S of Blackhawk Rd
- #1-20-12: IL 251, Dry Creek 0.3 mi N of McCurry Rd, N Kinnikinnick Creek 0.1 mi S of Hononegah Rd & S Kinnikinnick Creek 0.8 mi S of Hononegah Rd
- #1-22-3: I-39, Eleven Bridges at Various Locations in Boone and Winnebago County - Section D2 BC 2022-7

D. Other Director Reports

- **IDOT Fall Planning Conference:** Rockford will be hosting the 2022 IDOT Fall Planning Conference this year. The event will be held from September 21-23 at the Embassy Suites Rockford.
- **Drive Electric Week:** This week-long series of the events focused on electric vehicles will be held on July 22-29th. Virtual events will include Positioning Rockford for EV Readiness with the IEPA's State EV Officer and the release of a Virtual Ride & Drive Video. In-Person events will include an EV Cruise-in Night, hosted in Belvidere; an expert panel discussion in downtown Rockford; and an informational booth at Rockford City Market.
- **STBG/TAP Call for Projects:** The MPO will be conducting a Call for Projects for the both the FY 2023 Surface Transportation Block Grant Funds & the FY 2022 Transportation Alternatives Program funds allocated to the region in August.
- **Livable Communities Initiative:** Staff has been working on developing the program for what will be the Livable Communities Technical Assistance program, including the tentative timelines. A pilot program will be launched in either FY 2023 or FY 2024.

6. Other Business

Mr. Dunn reported that R1 is currently working with IDOT on a conversion of the Travel Demand Model over to a more user-friendly model.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, to adjourn at 9:20 am.

Prepared by Sydney Turner.

Minutes approved by action of the Committee: _____