



MPO Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 26, 2022

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 8:30 am.

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 Sanitary District; Brandon Geber, IDOT Office of Planning and Programming; Eric Tison, Michael Dunn, Sydney Turner, Region 1 Planning Council.

3. Public Comment

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

4. Action Items:

A. Election of Officers

Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Mayor Morris, City of Belvidere, to elect Chairman Karl Johnson as Chair and Chairman Chiarelli as Vice-Chair of the MPO Policy Committee. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

B. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of June 26, 2022

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to approve the June 26, 2022 Policy Committee minutes.

Motion by Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County, to approve the April June 26, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

C. Amendment to the FY 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (Resolution 2022-11)

Ms. Turner noted that this amendment is for the inclusion of the IDOT projects from the recently released Multi-Year Program. In total, the amendment includes 14 updates to cost breakouts, 6 updated fiscal years the project was occurring, 8 added an additional project phase, 3 updated the phase of work for the project, 1 updated the project type and, 14 new projects were included. In addition to the Multi-Year Plan, IDOT requested the inclusion of the Downtown Rockford Revitalization Project, which was awarded a federal RAISE Grant.

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2022-11, an amendment to the FY 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program.

Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, to approve of Resolution 2022-11, amendment of the FY 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

D. Amendment to the FY 2023 MPO Unified Work Program (Resolution 2022-12)

Ms. Turner stated that staff is look for the approve of an amendment of the FY 2023 UWP. Due to COVID-19 Pandemic and recent staff gaps, the MPO has a remaining balance of approximately \$158,000 from the FY 2022 PL allocation as of June 30, 2022. In accordance with the intergovernmental agreement between IDOT and RPC, the MPO has until 12/31/2022 to spend the remaining funds. The amendment to the FY 2023 UWP reflects this remaining balance and identifies the work elements in which the FY 22 agreement will be attributed to.

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

Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Mayor Jury, City of Loves Park, to approve Resolution 2022-12, an amendment to 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

At last week's Technical Committee Meeting, members of the committee voted to recommend a regional application to the Safe Street 4 All grant. The grant application would fund an update to the Transportation Safety Plan completed by R1 in 2021 and provide a more robust stakeholder and public outreach that we were unable to complete last time due to COVID-19. In addition to the Regional Plan update, we are proposing in the application to complete Local Traffic Safety Plans for the municipalities and counties within the region that would like to participate.

B. FY 2023 STBG/TAP Call for Projects

MPO is currently conducting a Call for Projects for the FY 2023 Surface Transportation Block Grant Funds. The Call for Project will be open from August 22 – October 6, 2022. The application form for projects is available on the R1 Planning website. For STBG, the available funding for STBG award is \$4,252,154.71. MPO staff be reaching out to agencies with projects currently listed in the current program of projects for any updates that may be needed or if the project needs to be removed. New projects can be submitted using the application form.

The MPO had also planned to conduct the FY 2022 TAP call for projects during the same time frame, however we received notice this Monday from IDOT OPP that will need to use their NOFO template and have agencies submit a GATA budget template as a part of the project solicitation. Because of this new information from IDOT, we will need to push back the TAP call for projects.

C. SPR Project Updates

Keith Creek Corridor Study: The consulting team has developed concept plans for various opportunity sites throughout the study area and has conducted additional stakeholder meetings for comments on those potential concepts. The project will be completed by the end of November.

Passenger Rail Station Siting Analysis: On Wednesday, R1 staff met with Mayor Morris and his staff regarding the Belvidere Passenger Rail Station regarding the upcoming public engagement events. We will be hosting a virtual information session on September 14 highlighting the work completed on the project and the location of the station. On October 5, we will be hosting an in-person charrette to further engage the public in the planning process.

Regional Transportation Signal Operations Program: The second Steering Committee meeting for the RTSOP was held this past Wednesday. Members in attendance included IDOT D2 Operations, IDOT Bureau of Operations, Cities of Belvidere, Loves Park, and Rockford, Village of Machesney Park, and Winnebago County. Additionally, several members of the steering committee will also be coordinating on possible near-term cooperation stemming from that meeting.

D. IDOT Fall Planning Conference

Rockford will be hosting the 2022 IDOT Fall Planning Conference this year, then first time Rockford has hosted the event in almost 2 decades. The event will be held from September 21-23 at the Embassy Suites Rockford. Topics will include aviation, electric vehicle infrastructure, DEI, climate resiliency, and more. The conference will include two mobile tours, a training session on transportation data tools and analysis. The link to registration was included in the Committee Packet

E. Advanced Construction Notices

Projects currently authorized in Advanced Construction Status:

- #1-17-7: I-39, US 20 & Harrison Ave

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

- #1-18-10: IL 173, 0.2 miles east of IL 76
- #1-22-8: I-39, Blackhawk Road
- #1-23-1: US 20, Over Coon Creek 2 mi E of Belvidere
- #2-18-5: Gleasman Road, 0.5 miles east of Rockton Ave to 0.11 miles east of Riverview Road
- #18-20-1: Lawrenceville Road & Piskasaw Creek Connection, City of Belvidere to Marengo Rd

Administrative Modification

- The MPO also received a request this week for an administrative modification request from IDOT D2 Local Roads on behalf of the City of Rockford for the movement of project #3-20-15, which is the Spring Creek Road to U of I College of Medicine Connection. The purpose of this movement is to allow the project to be let this fall.

F. Other Updates

Mr. Dunn reported that MPO staff is in communication with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning on regional planning funding. Additionally, the MPO has an open position a Housing Planner to assist with housing coordination plan that is now option for MPOs under the Bipartisan Infrastructure. Finally, staff is looking into the Carbon Reduction Strategy funding allocation.

6. Other Business

The MPO Policy discussed the expenditure of federal transportation dollars spent in TMA. The MPO Policy Committee requested staff to conduct an analysis on the expenditure of federal dollars in the region as well as the amount in being spent in the other TMAs in the state. The Policy Committee also requested a report on the status of the performance measures.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Mayor Jury, City of Loves Park, seconded by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, to adjourn at 9:22 am.

Prepared by Sydney Turner.

Minutes approved by action of the Committee: _____