



## MPO Policy Committee Meeting

**Friday, June 2, 2023, 8:30 am**  
Region 1 Planning Council  
127 N. Wyman St., Ste 100, Rockford, IL 61101

### Agenda

1. **Call to Order**

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County, at 8:30 am.

2. **Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Boone County; Winnebago County; City of Belvidere; City of Loves Park; City of Rockford; Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2; Rockford Mass Transit District; Village of Machesney Park

**Members Absent:** None.

**Others Present:** Micheal Stubbe, Rockford Mass Transit District; Doug DeLille, IDOT Division of Urban Planning and Programming; Michael Keuhn and Rob Bates (virtual), IDOT District 2; Chris Dopkins, McMahon; Ryan Fitzgerald, Shorewood Development Group; Michael Dunn, Sydney Turner, Eric Tison, Melisa Ribikawskis, John Paul Diipla, Gabrielle Gamily, Laura Phillips, 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 28, 2023**

Chairman Chiarelli entertained a motion to approve the April 28, 2023 Policy Committee minutes.

Motion by Mayor Jury, City of Love Park, seconded by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, to approve the April 28, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

b. **Amendment to the FY 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (Resolution 2023-08)**

Ms. Turner requested an amendment to FY 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program for a project adjustment.

Rockford Mass Transportation requested the inclusion of the following project(s):

- # 7-23-4. Low/No Application: Purchase of seven hybrid replacement buses

Chairman Chiarelli entertained a motion to amend the FY 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program via Resolution 2023-08.

Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Mayor Jury, City of Love Park, to approve of Resolution 2023-08. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**c. IL-173 Corridor Access Plan**

The City of Loves Park requested the MPO Policy Committee to discuss an amendment to the Illinois Route 173 Access Plan for the purposes of an additional right-in, right-out access for the Rockford Speedway Redevelopment, at the southwest corner of the Illinois Route 173 (West Lane Road) and Forest Hills Road intersection in Loves Park. This amendment was proposed to IDOT District 2.

Mr. Diipla provided the history of the Illinois Route 173 Corridor Access Plan. Illinois Route 173 (IL-173) Corridor Access Plan per MPO records. The access plan was developed by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to determine spacing of intersections and access points as well as the desirable cross sections for IL-173. This access plan covers the IL-173 corridor between Illinois Route 251 and Belvidere/Argyle Road. IDOT originally presented the corridor access plan to the Rockford MPO in 1994 and was subsequently adopted by MPO Policy Committee on October 27, 1994 via MPO Resolution 94-11. Since the corridor plan's adoption, new information and supporting materials for amendments to the plan were provided to the MPO Technical Committee for consideration. These were presented to the MPO Technical Committee for discussion and subsequent concurrence in 2000, 2006, 2010, and 2013, which Mr. Diipla discussed the amendments in detail. Prior amendments to the IL-173 Corridor Access Plan were requested by developers, in which the requesting developer provided information to the respective via site plans and traffic reports to supported justification for the requested modifications.

Chairman Chiarelli opened the floor for questions and discussion regarding the details of the corridor plan and the proposed amendment to the access plan. It was noted in the discussion the importance of this corridor in serving commercial and retail development for economic development in both the City of Loves Park and the Village of Machesney Park.

Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, motioned to amend the IL-173 Corridor Access Plan to allow for the additional access point on IL-173, at the southwest corner of the Illinois Route 173 (West Lane Road) and Forest Hills Road intersection in Loves Park.

Motion was seconded by Mayor Morris, City of Belvidere, to approve. Motion approved by seven (7) affirmative voice votes, with Illinois Department of Transportation abstaining.

**5. Director's Report**

Ms. Turner reported on the following items:

**a. PROTECT Grant:**

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the USDOTs' PROTECT Grant program was recently posted. This program aims to increase resiliency of the surface transportation network. R1 staff is currently reviewing the NOFO and the eligibility. Staff will present the information to the MPO Technical Committee in order to determine if this grant should be pursued and identify roadways of interest and need.

**6. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

**7. Adjournment**

Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Mayor Jury, City of Love Park, to adjourn at 8:54 am.

Prepared by Melisa Ribikawskis and Sydney Turner.

Minutes approved by action of the Committee: 06/30/2023.