



MPO Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 27th, 2021

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

1) Call to Order, Roll Call, and Representation

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Karl Johnson, Boone County, at 8:32 am.

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

Members Absent: City of Belvidere.

Others Present: Doug DeLille, IDOT, Bureau of Planning and Programming; John Donovan, Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division; Justin Krohn, Boone County; Carlos Molina, Winnebago County; Michael Stubbe, Rockford Mass Transit District; Sydney Turner, Michael Dunn Jr, Makenzee Wilcox, Melisa Ribikawskis, Alex Rosander, Region 1 Planning Council.

2) Public Comment

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

3) Approval of the June 25th, 2021 MPO Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Chairman Johnson entertains a motion to approve the June 25th, 2021 MPO Policy Committee minutes.

Motion by Chairman Jury, City of Loves Park, seconded by Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County, to **approve** the meeting minutes of the MPO Policy Committee.

Motion **approved** by unanimous voice vote.

4) MPO FY 2021 – FY 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment - MPO Resolution 2021-14:

Ms. Turner provided an overview of the proposed amendments to the MPO FY 2021-2024 TIP at the request of Boone County Highway Department, Winnebago County Highway Department, and Rockford Mass Transit District.

Amendment includes the inclusion of projects and updates in project costs.

- Winnebago County requested the following amendments:
 - #2-21-2: Belvidere Road, IL 173 to Main Street (New Project)
 - #2-21-3: Perryville Road Bike Path (Phase II), Willowbrook Lane to Anjali Way (New Project)
- Boone County Highway Department
 - #13-21-2: Poplar Grove Bridge, over Beaver Creek (Update in cost breakouts and sources)
 - Please note, that Boone County has provided updated numbers for this project following the release of the Meeting Packet to the Committee. The following amounts will be reflected in the TIP Amendment presented to the MPO Policy Committee at their August 27, 2021 meeting: ISBP = \$2,613,000; MFT = \$653,000; Total = \$3,266,000
- Rockford Mass Transit District requested following amendments:
 - # 7-20-9: Capital Program Application, Replacement of Alternative Fuel Vehicles (Update cost breakout)
 - #7-20-11: Capital Program Application, Battery Electric Charging Station (Facility #1-Mulberry) (Update cost breakout)
 - #7-21-4: Capital Program Application, Rehabilitation/Facility Expansion (Facility #1 – Mulberry) (Consolidation of projects and update in funding source)
- Additionally, the two project TIP # for illustrative projects have been updated.
 - #13-21-10: Irene Road

- #13-21-11: Woodstock Road Extension

The MPO Policy Committee is asked for its adoption of **MPO Resolution 2021-14**.

Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded Chairman Chiarelli, to **approve** MPO Resolution 2021-14.

Motion **approved** by unanimous voice vote.

5) FY 2022-2025 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) – MPO RESOLUTION 2021-15:

The public comment period for the draft document was held from July 19, 2021 until August 18, 2021. One comment was received by the MPO in regards to several roadways that were not listed in the TIP document. MPO staff will forward the comments to appropriate jurisdictions.

The MPO Policy Committee is asked for its adoption of **MPO Resolution 2021-15**.

Motion by Chairman Bates, IDOT District 2, seconded by Chairman Ernst, Rockford Mass Transit District to **approve** MPO Resolution 2021-15.

Motion **approved** by unanimous voice vote.

6) FY 2022 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP) AMENDMENT – MPO RESOLUTION 2021-16:

Ms. Turner stated that there has been request for an amendment to the MPO FY 2022 UWP. Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, the MPO has a remaining balance of approx. \$140,000 from the FY 2021 PL allocation as of June 30, 2021. In accordance with the intergovernmental agreement between IDOT and RPC, the MPO has until 12/31/2021 to spend the remaining funds. The amendment to the FY 2022 UWP reflects this remaining balance and identifies the work elements in which the FY 21 agreement will be attributed to.

Additionally, it has been requested that the MPO incorporate two additional studies to the FY 2022 UWP, which had not been identified in the June 25, 2021 version of the FY 2022 UWP. Both these additional projects align with the goals and strategies identified within the 2050 MTP adopted by the Policy Committee on July 31, 2020.

The first project is to update to the Regional Freight Rail Site Feasibility Study. This project would be conducted by the MPO in conjunction with a consulting firm to reevaluate the assessment of the existing infrastructure and updated cost estimated on the infrastructure improvements needed at the site. The second project is technical assistance in the development of a Climate Action Plan for RMTD. This plan will highlight current and forecasted GHG emissions from RMTD, energy demand, sustainability and emission reduction targets, and a prioritized implementation action plan. Additionally, it could open up additional funding sources for RMTD and future sustainability efforts within the region.

Discussion was held regarding the pending infrastructure bill in Congress.

The MPO Policy Committee is asked for its adoption of **MPO Resolution 2021-16**.

Motion by Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County, seconded by Chairman Ernst, Rockford Mass Transit District, to **approve** MPO resolution 2021-16.

Motion **approved** by unanimous vote.

7) COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN (HSTP) – MPO RESOLUTION 2021-17:

Ms. Turner notes the public comment period for the draft document was held from June 14, 2021 until July 12, 2021. There is discussion regarding the final draft of the Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan for the Rockford Region.

Ms. Rosander provided explanation of the HSTP and discussed two public comments on land use and routes. One comment noted inconsistencies in municipal population and another on how current land use development patterns exacerbate challenges identified in the plan. The plan has been updated accordingly.

Ms. Turner describes the benefits of this document across all agencies, such as identifying needs and how to strategically meet those needs.

The MPO Policy Committee is asked for its adoption of **MPO Resolution 2021-17**.

Motion by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Chairman Ernst, Rockford Mass Transit District, to **approve** MPO Resolution 2021-17.

Motion **approved** by unanimous voice vote.

8) Other Business

Ms. Turner reported on the following items:

- Regional Traffic Signal Management Program: Ms. Turner informed the committee that last week MPO staff was informed that the MPO has been awarded \$400,000 in SPR/State funds to complete a Regional Traffic Signal Management Program. The program will focus on the Strategic Regional Arterial network. The project will be conducted in three phases. A significant amount of data will need to be collected to develop the TSMP, including an asset inventory (signal controller type, cabinet type, video monitoring and vehicle count capabilities, etc.); traffic and turning movement counts; signal timing and phasing; and intersection geometry.
- Advanced Construction Notices:
 - The MPO has received Advanced Construction notices for the following projects:
 - #1-17-2 IL-251 from railroad south to Illinois 72
 - #1-22-12 various safety project district wide for IDOT
 - The following projects are being moved from advanced construction to current status:
 - #1-17-4: IL-2, 0.1 mi N Luther Dr to 0.1 mi S of Beltline Rd
 - #1-20-10: ILL 70, Pecatonica River to 0.1 mi W of Stafford Rd in Rockford
 - #1-21-1: US 20 Rockford Bypass, 0.2 W of Falconer Rd to Simpson Rd SW of Rockford

Mr. Dunn led discussion on the following items:

- Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan: Mr. Dunn added that with the additional money to spend we are looking to contract with outside expertise for those who want to participate on EV charging stations in the next 3 to 4 weeks. Mr. Dunn invited everyone to attend Drive Electric week events. There was a brief discussion on the EV Request for Proposals on timeline and overview.
- Surface Transportation Block Grant: Discussion continued on the remaining \$3.2 Million dollars STBG funds. There was debate on when to award the money. Mr. Dunn explains we can ask the technical committee. Describes what a Livable community initiative is and how we could use it in the future. Planning decision made by MPO board. Chairman Johnson asks if we should have a specific time of year every year to award STBG Funds. Mr. Dunn says it is not needed. Maybe the Spring time would be a good idea if we decide that, but plans to ask technical committee.

9) Adjournment

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to adjourn. **Motion** by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford, seconded by Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County, to **adjourn** at **9:08 am**.

Motion **approved** by unanimous voice vote.

Prepared by Makenzee Wilcox.

Minutes approved by action of the Committee: October 29, 2021