



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

## RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 24, 2012

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Bob Walberg, Boone County; Mayor Fred Brereton, City of Belvidere; Mayor Darryl Lindberg, City of Loves Park; Chairman Scott Christiansen, Winnebago County; Mr. Patrick Zuroske, City of Rockford; Mr. Tim Savage, Village of Machesney Park; Mr. Jay Howell, IDOT District 2.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** All present.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steve Ernst, Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Hren, Colleen Hoesly, Colin Belle, RMAP Staff; Ken Terrinoni, Boone County; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park; Dave Townsend, Winnebago County; Bob Soltau, SLATS.

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND REPRESENTATION:** Meeting was called to order by Chairman Walberg with a quorum present at 1:21 PM.

2. **COMMUNICATIONS:** Mr. Ernst stated there is only one communication he received from IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider regarding IDOT's Long-Range State Transportation Plan. Secretary Schneider encouraged participation and local outreach in the development of the updated long-range planning process. Mr. Ernst provided members a copy of the letter.

Mr. Ernst introduced Ms. Colleen Hoesly who is a new RMAP Metropolitan Planner.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 26, 2012 RMAP POLICY MEETING MINUTES:** Motion to approve minutes by the City of Loves Park, seconded by the City of Belvidere. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

#### 4. **RMAP FY13 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM:**

Mr. Ernst briefly reviewed issues related to the Unified Work Program (UWP). A comparison of the census demographics from 2000 and 2010 was provided to members. Mr. Ernst stated that the UWP is basically the program that sets about what RMAP plans to do with the federal funding that is received and provides an allocation of the staff hours to various tasks. It helps RMAP to program any special planning funding that is received. The FY13 version is a status quo work program from previous years.

**our future, our goals, our map** 313 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101 **815.964.RMAP** direct **815.967.6913** fax [rmapil.org](http://rmapil.org)

Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
City of Rockford, Chairman  
Chairman Bob Walberg  
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Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg  
City of Loves Park  
Mayor Frederic C. Brereton  
City of Belvidere

Chairman Scott H. Christiansen  
Winnebago County  
Mayor Tom Strickland  
Village of Machesney Park

Acting Deputy Director Eric Therkildsen  
Illinois Department of Transportation,  
Region 2

IDOT's Office of Program and Planning has requested that RMAP become the main signatory to the annual MPO agreement with the State, which align RMAP with the other MPOs in Illinois. Currently the fiscal agent for RMAP signs the agreement. RMAP has obtained a Federal Tax ID number enabling the changes to occur. The invoices to the local RMAP partner agencies for the local match will now come from RMAP rather than the fiscal agent. The fiscal agent will then deposit the funds into the RMAP account.

Mr. Ernst stated that as a result of the 2010 Census there was a slight change in the population percentages for our region. Assuming that the local match amount remains the same as previous years (\$148 594), then the local match breakdown will be:

City of Rockford	\$76,292.00
City of Loves Park	\$11,866.00
Village of Machesney Park	\$11,547.00
Winnebago County	\$27,763.00
City of Belvidere	\$12,330.00
Boone County	\$ 8,796.00

A brief discussion took place among members on the population changes and local match changes. Mr. Ernst stated that the Technical Committee at its meeting on May 19, 2012 recommended moving the UWP forward with the new match amounts to start July 1, 2012. The billing in September 2012 will be the first quarterly billing with the new match amounts.

In a related work item Mr. Ernst stated that a new metropolitan boundary (MPA) needs to be drawn. The MPA should contain all land forecast to be urbanized in 15-20 years. Because of the growth in Davis Junction and Byron it makes sense to meet with Ogle County representatives and get their input regarding planning for highways, transit and land use.

Mr. Ernst requested that Policy take action to (a) adopt Resolution 2012-3 and (b) authorize Chairman Walberg to sign the RMAP self-certification document. Motion by the City of Loves Park, seconded by Winnebago County. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

**5. RMAP FY 2013-2016 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP):**

Mr. Ernst stated that the RMAP staff are compiling member agency capital plans to form the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for both highways and transit. No action is required but agencies are reminded to submit their information as soon as possible so that final approval of the TIP document can occur in July 2012. RMAP staff will be in contact with Technical Committee members to obtain all the necessary information.

**6. URBANIZED AREA BOUNDARIES:**

Mr. Ernst stated that this was covered under agenda item 4. RMAP will continue to engage surrounding communities with the hope that the new boundaries can be wrapped up later this summer.

## **7. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:**

**7.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis & Amtrak Service:** Mr. Ernst reported that last Friday, May 18, 2012 the Tri-State Alliance Summit was held in Dubuque, Iowa. Mr. George Weber from IDOT provided an update on the Amtrak Service. The Canadian National is required to do an infrastructure study of their own assets and then determine the cost to upgrade those assets prior to negotiating an agreement with IDOT. They are about three (3) months behind the original schedule which has caused the projected start of service to slip to late 2014 or early 2015. Mr. Ernst stated that IDOT rail staff (George Weber and Mike Garcia) are retiring.

**7.02 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:** Mr. Ernst reported that at the May 19, 2012 Technical Committee meeting members raised concern about JULIE locates for I-Fiber corridors. Mr. Ernst stated that he's discussed this with Mr. John Lewis, Chair of I-Fiber, and the contractor will be notified of their responsibility until the fiber assets are accepted. Mr. Savage asked if a wire is hit, who is responsible for repair. Mr. Ernst stated that the contractor would be responsible. Mr. Terrinoni stated that the current effort is getting the community anchors connected and signing of agreements. Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP did send a letter to the I-Fiber Board stating intent to be connected as an anchor institution.

**7:03 RMAP Regional Freight Study:** No report.

**7.04 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee:** No report.

**7.05 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters:** Mr. Ernst stated that he received two (2) power point presentations from Mr. Paul Callighan titled (a) Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act (EIMA) and (b) ComEd upgrade schedule for Boone & Winnebago County. The presentations are posted on RMAP's website. Mr. Ernst congratulated the Village of Machesney Park on their success of getting Electrical Aggregation bids. The low bid contains a 39% savings across the board. Mayor Lindberg stated that the City of Loves Park is also starting their process for Electrical Aggregation bids.

**7.06 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy:** No report.

**7.07 HUD Sustainability Grant:** No report.

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Ernst stated the next round of enhancement grants are due May 29, 2012. There are five (5) projects that RMAP has been made aware of in the region.

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP has received a draft of RMAP's Certification Review report from FHWA/FTA. RMAP received excellent marks and the reviewers are very pleased with the changes RMAP has made, with a few minor recommendations.

RMAP will concentrate on environmental NEPA process to assist the Phase 1 engineering work for major highway and transit projects. FHWA and FTA are encouraging RMAP to do advance planning work on the environmental side for some of these major capital projects. RMAP has till Friday, June 1, 2012 to provide comments on the draft certification review report. Mr. Norm Stoner from FHWA will be coming in June or July to make a formal presentation to Policy members.

Mr. Ernst attended the IL Tollway Board meeting this morning. Mr. Don Kopec and Mr. Ernst chair the I-90 Corridor Council and provided a presentation of the final recommendations for the I-90 Jane Addams corridor. Copies of the recommendations are posted on the Tollway website and a press release was issued after the meeting. There was a good quote about connecting the two metropolitan area and our markets. Staff will forward the press release.

Additionally the Tollway board discussed recommendations from a blue ribbon committee looking at the I-290 extension along IL-53 from the Woodfield area north to IL-120. A toll parkway was recommended that will have some unique elements and cross section.

Mr. Ernst stated that at the Tri-State Alliance Summit there was conversation about Tollway involvement in the rebuilding and modernization of US20 between Rockford and Dubuque. The toll parkway concept might be a good fit for this corridor.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:** As there was no further business. Chairman Walberg entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by the Village of Machesney Park, and seconded by the City of Rockford. Approved unanimously (7-0). The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 P.M.