



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 30, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bob Walberg, Boone County; Mayor Darryl Lindberg, City of Loves Park; Dan Long, IDOT District 2; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County (Chairman Scott Christiansen joined meeting at 1:20p.m.); Mayor Larry Morrissey, City of Rockford joined meeting at 1:30p.m.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: City of Belvidere; Village of Machesney Park.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Ernst, Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, Colleen Hoesly, Colin Belle, RMAP Staff; Dan Jacobson, Loves Park Public Works; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway; Patrick, Zuroske, Rockford Public Works; Joshua McClusky, IDOT Transit & Metro Planning; Mark Lynch, Poplar Grove Village Administrator; Maria Hawley, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Bill Hoyt, MDES; Matt Cerruti, citizen.

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND REPRESENTATION:** Meeting was called to order by Chairman Walberg with a quorum present at 1:17 PM.

2. **COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MAY 30, 2013 RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**

Motion to approve the May 30, 2013 minutes was made by the City of Loves Park, seconded by IDOT District 2. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

4. **RMAP TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT – RESOLUTION 2013-6:**

Mr. Ernst stated that at the end of the Transportation bill which was called SAFETEA-LU there are allocations of funding for transit in the JARC and New Freedom programs. The RMAP Mobility Subcommittee has met and made some recommendations in the best interest of the region on the expenditures of those funds. Resolution 2013-6 amends those recommended projects into the TIP so federal funds can be spent. A major recommendation is to continue the existing service to Belvidere using the leftover JARC funds which will guarantee the service through mid-year 2015. The Technical Committee recommends approval of the resolution. Motion to approve Resolution 2013-6 was made by the City of Loves Park, seconded by Winnebago County and approved unanimously (5-0).

Chairman Walberg stated that it will be difficult for Boone County to fund the Belvidere Route on their own after 2015 but welcome the availability of the service until that time. Mayor Chamberlain stated that the City of Belvidere has been grateful for the service and wish it to continue. There was a brief discussion among members regarding future funding of the Belvidere Route and RMTD's use of New Freedom funds for Same Day Paratransit services.

5. RMAP FY14 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP) – RESOLUTION 2013-4:

Mr. Ernst stated that the UWP outlines the staff work for RMAP for the next fiscal year which starts July 1, 2013, which is a status quo budget for RMAP. IDOT is providing discretionary funds to allow RMAP's transportation model to add an economic component. Eventually the RMAP staff will be able to forecast job creation, economic output and return on investment calculations.

RMAP will continue with implementation of Vital Signs and dollars have been allocated to provide an update to the Flora Neighborhood Playbook document. Mr. Ernst stated that the local match amounts will not be changing for FY14.

RMAP is required to have the Chair of the Policy Committee sign a Self Certification Document which states that RMAP certifies itself in compliance with all of Federal regulations. Mr. Ernst requested that Policy take action to (a) adopt Resolution 2013-4 and (b) authorize Chairman Walberg to sign the RMAP Self Certification document. A motion was made by the City of Loves Park and seconded by the City of Rockford. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

6. UPDATE ON THE REGIONAL GOVERNANCE MODEL:

Mr. Ernst provided a brief summary the regional governance model being developed through Vital Signs. Mr. Ernst stated that there are some issues of regional significance that would benefit from an expanded policy level board. One potential issue is the regulation of Facility Planning Areas by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The IEPA would like to transfer this responsibility to local government. RMAP is close to signing a contract with the Heartland Solutions Group to initiate the implementation of the regional governance model. Mayor Morrissey stated that with seven (7) new Aldermen on the Rockford City Council there a need for coordination of planning objectives. Mayor Morrissey invited Mr. Ernst as well as the other Policy members to attend upcoming retreats with the Council.

7. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

7.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis & Amtrak Service:

No report.

7.02 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:

Mr. Ernst reported that there is a little work left to do but otherwise it is on track and by the end of summer should have the final fiber ring completed. They are anticipating on having the ring lit by the end of the August.

7.03 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee:

No report.

7.04 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters:

Mr. Ernst stated that Mr. Paul Callighan, ComEd offered to host a future Policy meeting to be held at ComEd's new Training Facility and they would provide a tour of the facility after the meeting. Staff will coordinate the scheduling, probably in the fall of 2013.

7.05 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy:

Mr. Ernst reported that the Ms. Patricia Diduch has resigned as RREDD's Executive Director and has accepted a Planning Director position with the Village of Rockton. RREDD will be seeking a new Director.

7.06 HUD Sustainability Grant:

Mr. Ernst reported that he has been making presentations to a wide variety of organizations discussing current conditions of the region and making outreach for the Topic Teams. The final Steering Team Meeting has been postponed to June 26, 2013 to be held in the Regional Design Center.

7.07 Regional School Planning:

Mr. Ernst reported that RMAP has received all of the GIS layers from District 205 and the student file for the entire District. RMAP has geocoded all of the student information so that it can be analyzed in GIS and will help with the analysis of student assignment.

7.08 Chicago/Rockford International Airport Part 150 Noise Study: No report.

8. OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Ernst introduced Mr. Doug DeLille. Doug is IDOT's Metro Manager for RMAP and he will work out of the Dixon office.

Mr. Ernst stated that the State of Illinois has released a call for projects for the traditional ITEP program. In addition the sub-allocated amount for Transportation Alternatives (about \$625,000) has been released by the Governor' Office and the project selection process will start immediately. The sub-allocated amounts may be programmed by RMAP at their discretion. Mr. Ernst stated that the Technical Committee is developing criteria that will be used to make local project selections. A draft scoring matrix is currently under review. Mr. Ernst anticipates putting out a call for projects in the middle of June with applications due by Labor Day. Mayor Morrissey asked that the Policy Committee give staff direction before the call for projects is released. There was a brief discussion among policy members regarding the criteria for the projects as well as the funding availability and what kind of projects should be a priority.

Mr. Ernst announced an Open House for the Regional Center for Planning and Design on Friday June 7th as part of the First Friday event.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by the City of Loves Park and seconded by Winnebago County. Approved unanimously (6-0). The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 P.M.