



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 24, 2014

(City of Belvidere, City Hall – 401 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere – Council Chambers)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Scott Christiansen, Winnebago County; Mayor Mike Chamberlain, City of Belvidere; Chairman Bob Walberg, Boone County; Mayor Jerry Bolin, Village of Machesney Park; Ms. Kris Tobin, IDOT District #2; Mr. Jim Ryan, City of Rockford.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: City of Loves Park.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Ernst, Jon Paul Diipla, Colin Belle, Michael Hren, RMAP Staff; Joe Vanderwerff, Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway Dept.; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway Dept.; Tim Savage, Chris Dopkins, Village of Machesney Park; Doug DeLille, IDOT Program Planning; Jim Johnson, RMTD; Jim Wise, Zach Wallace, Village of Cherry Valley; Mick Gronewold, Fehr-Graham; Bill Hoyt, Chastain & Associates; Matt Cerutti, Citizen.

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND REPRESENTATION:** Meeting was called to order by Chairman Christiansen with a quorum present at 1:15 PM.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 5, 2014 AND JUNE 13, 2014 RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**

Motion to approve the June 5, 2014 and June 13, 2014 minutes was made by the City of Belvidere, seconded by Village of Machesney Park. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

5. **RMAP TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) – RESOLUTION 2014-7:**

Mr. Ernst stated that MAP-21 provided a direct allocation of federal funds to the large MPOs for Transportation Alternatives Projects (TAP), similar to the ITEP program that is run by IDOT. The RMAP staff and the Technical Committee put together some criteria for awarding projects. There is slightly over \$620,000 to award.

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Chairman Scott H. Christiansen
Winnebago County, RMAP Chair
Mayor Mike Chamberlain
City of Belvidere, RMAP Vice-Chair

Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg
City of Loves Park
Mayor Jerry Bolin
Village of Machesney Park

Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
City of Rockford
Chairman Bob Walberg
Boone County

Deputy Director Paul Loete
Illinois Department of Transportation,
Region 2

Mr. Ernst provided a brief summary of the applications that were received. After the State announced the latest round of ITEP awards only two of the local project submittals remained eligible for TAP funding:

- City of Rockford's Riverwalk - Downtown Sports Complex
- Village of Machesney Park's Alpine Road Shared-Use Path

Mr. Ernst stated that this was a learning experience for the RMAP staff and thanked members for allowing RMAP the time to resolve all the technical issues. It is highly likely that the project development process would not allow any 2014 construction, so the timetable for award by the Policy Committee was not constrained. Construction is anticipated for 2015. After long discussion and numerous meetings with the applicants, RMAP and the TAP Subcommittee made a recommendation to award of the entire amount to the Machesney Park project. Mr. Ernst provided a brief summary on the process that was used to make the recommendation. Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP Resolution 2014-7 was drafted to reflect the recommendation, and was confirmed by the vote of the Technical Committee. Machesney Park is providing the required matching funds (20%), which brings the total project estimate to roughly \$845,000. After a brief discussion a motion was made by the City of Belvidere to approve Resolution 2014-7, seconded by the Village of Machesney Park and approved unanimously (6-0).

6. RMAP FY 2015-2018 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) – RESOLUTION 2014-8:

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP Resolution 2014-8 is the new Transportation Improvement Program for FY2015-2018, a compilation of all of the Policy member's capital programs and IDOT's multi-year program. Any project that includes federal funding is required to be shown in the TIP. Mr. Ernst stated that the Technical Committee has reviewed the entire TIP document and has given a unanimous recommendation for approval of the FY2015-2018 TIP. After a brief discussion a motion was made by the Village of Machesney Park to approve Resolution 2014-8, seconded by Boone County and approved unanimously (6-0).

7. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT:

Mr. Ernst stated that the Federal Transportation bill (MAP-21) is requiring representative(s) of public transit to be given a seat on the Policy Committee for all of the large MPOs, including RMAP. Rockford Mass Transit District (RMTD) is the designated recipient for transit funding in our region. A Cooperative Agreement was approved by the Policy Committee in 2008 which forms and empowers RMAP through intergovernmental agreement. To add RMTD to the Policy Committee will require a new version of the Cooperative Agreement. RMAP staff have updated the language of the Cooperative Agreement and copies have been provided to the Technical Committee members for review and comment. Mr. Ernst provided a brief summary of the changes that have been made to the Cooperative Agreement. Mr. Ernst stated that if the Policy members have any legal counsel that they would like to review the draft Cooperative Agreement, RMAP would appreciate any advice they can provide. It was agreed that copies would be sent to all Policy members. A vote on the revised Cooperative Agreement would be required at the August 2014 Policy Committee meeting.

8. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

8.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis & Amtrak Service:

Mr. Ernst reported that Jim Johnson and Jim Ryan have been working with IDOT on an agreement for station design services. Mr. Johnson stated that they are anticipating that the architectural services contract for could be approved by IDOT as early as Friday afternoon (7/25/14).

8.02 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:

Mr. Ernst reported that RMAP is connected to the iFiber network and is very pleased with the service. Most of the anchor institutions have been connected.

8.03 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy:

Mr. Ernst reported that the RAEDC has approached McHenry County to possibly be included in the next CEDS update. Based on the experience of putting together the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnerships application (IMCP) the McHenry County relationship in CEDS is a very positive development. It is also possible that Stephenson County may wish to develop a similar CEDS relationship in the future.

8.04 Strategic Highway Safety Plan:

Mr. Ernst reported that the IDOT Safety office in Springfield will be hosting another local workshop for transportation and safety professionals to review and fine-tune the Strategic Highway Safety Plan for Boone and Winnebago Counties. Adoption of Strategic Highway Safety Plan by the State of Illinois will determine priorities for funding and programs in the safety arena.

8.05 Regional School Planning:

No report.

8.06 Boone & Winnebago Greenways Plan:

Mr. Ernst reported that the partners that are involved in the creation of the Greenways Plan have met and there is a checklist of items that will be included in the 2014 update of the Greenways Plan. The Greenways Plan update is a key component of the 2015 update to the Long Range Transportation Plan. A brief discussion took place among members regarding what they would like to see in the updated Greenways Plan.

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY/PACE

Mr. Ernst stated the Illinois Tollway has made an announcement that they have come to an agreement with PACE for three (3) new park and ride lots in the I-90 corridor, one at Randall Road, one at Route 25 and one at Barrington Road. These lots will have space for 225 vehicles to park and will be served by a variety of PACE routes.

FEDERAL FUNDS

Chairman Christiansen stated that he would like Policy members to develop candidate projects for future federal funding, such as Surface Transportation Program - Urban funds (STP-U). The candidate project list has not been updated since 1992.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business, the Village of Machesney Park made a motion to adjourn, seconded by the City of Rockford. Approved unanimously (6-0). The meeting was adjourned at 1:56 P.M.