



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 29, 2015

(City of Belvidere, City Hall – 401 Whitney Blvd., Belvidere)

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

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: City of Loves Park.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jon Paul Diipla, Christina Washington, Colin Belle, Michael Hren, RMAP Staff; Joe Vanderwerff, Winnebago County Highway Department; Jim Johnson, RMTD.

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND REPRESENTATION:** Meeting was called to order by Chairman Christiansen with a quorum present at 1:23 PM.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mr. Diipla introduced Pastor Herbert Johnson, Vice-Chair for RMTD Board. Pastor Johnson will be representing RMTD on RMAP’s Policy Committee.

Mr. Diipla reported that Governor Rauner has appointed Mr. Randy Blankenhorn as the new Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Secretary. RMAP is looking forward to working with the new Secretary.

Mr. Diipla stated there has been a Notice of Proposed Rule Making for Air Quality Standard that has come out and there is a ninety (90) day comment period. RMAP is preparing a response. Mr. Hren reported that they are looking to lower the ozone standard and there is a range that they are looking to reduce it to. The upper end of the range, RMAP would remain in-conformity with the current ozone levels. The lower end of the range will basically place any major urbanized areas in non-conformity including the RMAP region.

RMAP has written a letter stating that RMAP supports reduction in the change to promote overall health and healthy communities but that we would prefer to be on the other end of the spectrum as we think dropping the levels too radically will not be supportive.

Mr. Diipla provided administrative modification notices; 1-15-1 which was an IDOT IL-76 resurfacing project is no longer in advance construction and 1-15-3 IDOT I-39 resurfacing project is now in the advance construction state and RMAP has made an administrative modification to the TIP.

Mr. Diipla stated that the RMAP staff is currently working on completing the draft document of the 2040 LRTP update which is scheduled to be updated every five (5) years. The deadline for the 2040 LRTP update is in July-2015. Mr. Diipla stated that the original scheduled release date for the draft was January-2015 but it has taken a little more time to make sure we have perfected some of the chapter information. Mr. Diipla anticipates on having a first draft available prior to the next RMAP Technical Committee meeting in February. The updated LRTP will be made available on RMAP's website. There will be a round of LRTP Open Houses scheduled and the details are still being worked out. Mr. Diipla thanked members for the feedback RMAP has received.

4. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 20, 2014 RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to approve the November 20, 2014 minutes was made by Boone County, seconded by the Village of Machesney Park. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

5. TIP AMENDMENT – RESOLUTION 2015-1:

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP Resolution 2015-1 is a TIP amendment at the request of Winnebago County Highway Department for four (4) projects: project 2-06-06 is the Perryville Road Bridge project over the UP Railroad for a bridge replacement, project 2-14-1 is the Baxter Road Intersection Improvements project at Lindenwood Road for an intersection reconstruction, project 2-14-3 is the Harrisville Road project at Baxter Road Intersection and South for a roadway reconstruction, project 2-15-2 is the Baxter Road project at I-39 to Mulford Road for widening and resurfacing, and project 2-15-3 is the Forrest Hills Road project at Pepper Drive for an intersection improvement. Mr. Diipla stated that the RMAP Technical Committee gave a unanimous recommendation at their January 22, 2015 meeting.

A motion to approve RMAP Resolution 2015-1 was made by the City of Loves Park, second motion was made by the City of Rockford. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

6. FY2016 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP):

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP is developing their annual Unified Work Program (UWP) for Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16). Mr. Diipla provided a list of planning areas/issues that is involved in our daily and yearly planning activities. Mr. Diipla provided a brief summary on the thirty one (31) transportation planning related categories that are linked to the UWP. During this process if there are any upcoming projects that a member of the organization feels would be important to add into the work program, please contact RMAP to discuss further and possibly get those projects included within the document.

Mr. Diipla stated that he is looking to have a draft of the UWP in March-2015 for the Technical Committee to review and the final document itself will be available in May-2015 and will be tentatively adopted by the RMAP Policy Committee at that time.

We have not yet received our planning marks for FY 2016. RMAP has spoken to IDOT central office and we should be hearing something in the next couple of weeks. At that point we will have a better idea of where our budget stands for FY 2016. Mr. Diipla stated he will keep Policy members posted as more information becomes available.

7. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

7.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis & Amtrak Service:

Mr. Diipla stated that he placed a call to Joseph Schacter, IDOT but his call was referred to Deputy Director John Oimoen who indicated that currently there is no update.

Mayor Chamberlain stated what he has been hearing is that it is just a review process and that the project is not in jeopardy.

7.02 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:

No report.

7.03 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy:

Mr. Diipla reported that RREDD will be scheduling their first meeting with their Strategy Committee which consists of a three (3) county area. RREDD has asked RMAP to participate on the Strategy Committee and RMAP has agreed.

7.04 Strategic Highway Safety Plan:

No report.

7.05 Regional School Planning:

Mr. Diipla reported that RMAP has submitted an invoice to Superintendent Ehren Jarrett for planning services received for calendar year 2014 per the IGA agreement with Rockford School District #205.

7.06 Boone & Winnebago Greenways Plan:

Mr. Diipla reported that RMAP staff will be meeting with the committee in the next few weeks to review the final draft..

8. CLOSED SESSION:

Not held.

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

None

10. ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business, Village of Machesney Park made a motion to adjourn, seconded by the City of Belvidere. Approved unanimously (6-0). The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 P.M.