



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 30, 2015

(Winnebago County, Administration building, Room 303 – 404 Elm Street, Rockford)

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

Pastor Herbert Johnson, RMTD arrived at 1:31p.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: City of Belvidere.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael P. Dunn, Jr., Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, Colin Belle, Michael Hren, RMAP Staff; Ken Terrinoni, Rich Lunding, Boone County; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway Department; John Lewis, Glenn Trommels, iFiber; Bruce Carmitchell, Doug DeLille, IDOT Program & Planning; Tim Savage, Village of Machesney Park, Steve Nailor, Better Roads; Conor Brown, Illinois Association of Realtors; Brian Leaf, Rockford Register Star.

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

3. COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Dunn, Jr., stated that he had a few administrative modifications that he would like to inform the Policy Committee of:

1. Project 3-12-90 City of Rockford city wide Local Bridge Program which has been brought into advance construction status.
2. Project 27-15-1 Ogle County Mulford Road from Lindenwood Road to Ogle/Winnebago County Line has entered and left advanced construction status.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 26, 2015 RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to approve the March 26, 2015 minutes was made by the Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Boone County. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

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Chairman Scott H. Christiansen
Winnebago County, RMAP Chair

Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg
City of Loves Park

Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
City of Rockford

Gary L. Marzorati, Board Chair
Rockford Mass Transit District

Mayor Mike Chamberlain
City of Belvidere, RMAP Vice-Chair

Mayor Jerry Bolin
Village of Machesney Park

Chairman Bob Walberg
Boone County

Deputy Director Paul Loete
Illinois Department of Transportation
Region 2

5. RMAP TIP AMENDMENT – RESOLUTION 2015-4:

Mr. Dunn, Jr. stated that RMAP received a request from the City of Rockford, IDOT, the Winnebago County Highway Department, and the Boone County Highway Department for the amendment of existing projects as well as the addition of new projects.

1. IDOT Project #1-15-2 US 20 Business for a reconstruction project 0.3 & 0.4 miles of E. Meridian Road.
2. IDOT Project #1-15-6 Trail Groomer for an enhancement project for Tri-County Snowmobile Trails. This project is sponsored by IDOT on behalf of the Tri-County Snowmobile Alliance. This groomer's intended for use on Winnebago County, Lee County, and Ogle County Trails. The entirety of this project does not fall within RMAP's borders. It is noted here in full, rather than prorated.
3. WCHD Project #2-15-4 Trail Groomer for enhancement project for Roscoe Township Snowmobile Trails. This groomer's use is intended for Roscoe Township, which is served in part by both RMAP and SLATS. The entirety of this project does not fall within RMAP's border. It is noted here in full, rather than prorated.
4. Rockford Project #3-12-90 Local Bridge Program for a bridge project over the south branch of Keith Creek and Alpine Road Box Culvert.
5. BCHD Project #13-15-2 Traffic Sign Upgrade Program for a safety County-Wide project.

A motion to approve RMAP Resolution 2015-4 was made by the City of Rockford, second motion was made by Boone County. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

6. BETTER ROADS:

Mr. Dunn stated that RMAP staff (Michael Hren) has been working with Mr. Steve Nailor focusing on a standard to the book that focuses on state projects, reasonable project dollar amounts and that they were accurate and that all six (6) partner organizations were comfortable with was being listed as the content of the Better Roads Booklet. Chairman Christiansen stated that RMAP is looking for an approval on the Better Roads Booklet and asked Mr. Dunn to provide details on each of the organizations projects that are listed in the Better Roads booklet.

Mr. Dunn provided details of each of the following project and then a brief discussion took place among the Policy members regarding each project:

▪ IL-2/N. Main Street	\$30,000,000
▪ Alpine Road	\$55,800,000
▪ U.S. Business 20 (Shaw to Belvidere)	\$57,000,000
▪ IL-251/Whitman St. Interchange	\$11,500,000
▪ U.S. Business 20/West State Street	\$12,900,000
▪ IL-251 (11 th Street & Harrison Avenue)	\$52,000,000
▪ IL-251 & Forest Hills Intersection	\$3,951,000
▪ U.S. Business 20 (IL-76 to U.S. 20)	\$45,000,000
▪ IL-2/Blackhawk Blvd.	\$5,000,000
▪ U.S. 20 Bypass & I-39	\$169,000,000
▪ Jefferson Street Bridge (U.S. Business 20)	\$51,800,000
▪ IL-76	\$25,000,000

Mr. Dunn stated that while he was in Springfield the other day for the Illinois Railroad Summit during legislative days there was an inconsistent message on how far out a capital bill is. Mr. Dunn suggested that Secretary Blankenhorn's upcoming Rockford open houses could be a platform to engage IDOT regarding the projects listed in the Better Roads booklet as well as any TIGER grant applications.

There was a consensus on identifying project priorities for the region and having it listed in the Better Roads booklet. Chairman Christian entertained a motion to approve the Better Roads booklet with changes as discussed. Motion to approve the Better Roads booklet made by Boone County; second motion was made by City of Rockford. Motion carries (8-0)

7. REGIONAL FIBER OPTIC AND BROADBAND:

Mr. John Lewis-CEO, iFiber and Mr. Gelnn Trommels-IT Director, City of Rockford, provided a brief presentation on I-Fiber:

Who is iFiber:

- Illinois NFP corporation
- Capitalized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funded project under the program Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).
- Built around “Community Anchor Institutions” (CAI’s).
- Founding project partners
 - NIU
 - LaSalle County
 - Rockford
 - Blackhawk Hills RC&D
- iFiber project budget was \$68 million (\$46 million Federal, \$14 million State, \$8 million Local).
- Network is – 900 miles of fiber with 711 new miles of fiber.
- Spans over nine (9) counties.
- Connect – 500 community anchor institutions.

Project History

- Round 1 grant submitted 08/2009 – Failed
- Round 2 grant submitted 03/2010 – Awarded 09/2010
- Grant concluded 12/2013
- Project completed 2014 (connecting CAIs to the network)
- Developing strategies and products for the private sector
- Developing strategies to support economic development
(The iFiber Network map was referenced and briefly discussed)

iFiber Opportunities

- Continue to add CAIs
- Fiber swaps with other carriers
- Interconnects with other carriers
- Provide transport for other networks (Rural Health Care)
- Dark fiber sales
- Partner with local ISPs to deliver services to private sector
- Partnerships with utilities (?)
- Partnerships with Municipalities (?)

A brief discussion took place among members regarding the opportunities iFiber is looking at in the future.

8. RMAP 3RD QUARTER BUDGET UPDATE:

Mr. Dunn stated referenced the RMAP 3rd Quarter Budget spreadsheet he provided the Policy Committee members for FY-2015. Mr. Dunn provided a brief overview of the expenses RMAP has incurred for FY-2015. RMAP is currently at 72% of their budget with three months left of FY-2015. Mr. Dunn stated that there was a reduction in the 3rd quarter due to retirements and his starting with RMAP as well as being short one Metropolitan Planner position. Mr. Dunn stated that he wanted to provide members an overview of the FY-2015 RMAP budget as RMAP heads into FY-2016 budget.

9. FY2016 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP):

Mr. Dunn stated that Mr. McIntyre has worked hard in getting the FY-2016 UWP crafted and ready for formal adoption in May-2015. The FY-2016 UWP has been available for review on RMAP's website and anticipates formal adoption at the May 28, 2015 RMAP Policy Committee meeting.

**10. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:
2040 LRTP DOCUMENT UPDATE**

Mr. Dunn stated that 2040 LRTP document update will be holding another round of public participation session in May-2015. RMAP will be working with other organizations to tag on to their events in order to get more eyes on the LRTP document. Mr. Dunn stated that RMAP is working hard in providing more public participation opportunities and welcomes feedback from such public participation events.

Mr. Dunn stated that RMAP anticipates on asking for formal adoption of the 2040 LRTP document update the month of July-2015.

REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

Mr. Dunn stated that he's met with Mr. Kevin Richardson and anticipates on receiving a proposal from Mr. Richardson in mid-May and will keep members apprised of any new development.

ILLINOIS RAILROAD SUMMIT /LEGISLATIVE DAY

Mr. Dunn stated that he and Mr. Ryan participated in the Illinois Railroad Summit that was held in the Governor's mansion on Wednesday, April 29, 2015. Mr. Dunn stated that there are other municipalities also apprehensive about losing funding for their passenger rail projects and that there was no new news provided at the Illinois Railroad Summit.

A brief discussion took place among members on how the region could attract commuter rail.

I-39

Mr. Ryan asked Ms. Tobin if there's been any environmental work done to the I-39 corridor. Ms. Tobin stated that Phase 1 has been going on for 8-9 years and just needs to be finished up.

II. ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business, Village of Machesney Park made a motion to adjourn, seconded by the City of Loves Park. Approved unanimously (8-0). The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 P.M.