



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 17, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Long, IDOT District 2; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway Dept.; Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford Public Works Dept.; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park, Public Works Dept.; Carrie Houston, Village of Machesney Park; David Linberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport; Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development; Scott Capovilla, City of Rockford Community Development Dept.; Justin Krohn, Boone County Highway Dept.; Zachary Gill, Village of Roscoe Engineer; Tom Hartley, Forest Preserves of Winnebago County; Mick Johnston, Boone County Conservation District; Tim Bragg, Rockford Park District;

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: City of Belvidere Public Works Dept., Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development Dept., Village of Cherry Valley; Village of Winnebago; Rock River Water Reclamation District; Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District; Village of Poplar Grove

OTHERS PRESENT: Doug DeLille, IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning; John Donovan, Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division; Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Dunn, Colin Belle, Sydney Turner, Anna Ma, Christina Washington, RMAP Staff; Mark Rice, McClure Engineering

With a quorum present Mr. Diipla called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2016 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the September 22, 2016 Technical Committee minutes. First motion made to approve by Scott Capovilla, City of Rockford Community and Economic Development Dept. and seconded by Carrie Houston, Village of Machesney Park. The Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

2. COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

No communications, petitions, or public comments presented.

3. AGENCY REPORTS:

3.01 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:

Mr. Long reported that the S. Main St. pavement and sidewalks will have the final pour today and there is some minor landscaping to finish. All lanes will be open by Thanksgiving. N. Main Street from Riverside to Auburn has had one section poured and completed. Construction will be wrapping up for the year very shortly. Utility work will continue on N. Main during the nighttime hours during winter and into spring 2017. Safety project on IL2 just south of Roscoe Rd. that entailed the removal of some trees, clear zone removal, finishing up this project this week.

our future, our goals, our map

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Deputy Director Kevin Marchek
Illinois Department of Transportation
Region 2

3.02 Winnebago County Highway Department:

Mr. Vlk reported that most projects are wrapping up or will be completed in the next few weeks for the season. Phase I kickoff meeting with IDOT yesterday for the Perryville Path Extension ITEP Project scheduled for a 2019 letting.

Mr. Dunn asked Mr. Vlk how the Spring Creek and Perryville Road intersection is going. Mr. Vlk reported that the IDS is currently being reviewed by the consultant, some minor adjustments still need to be completed through coordination between the City of Rockford and other parties. Maybe another month and a half of finalizing the IDS, in 3 months total it should be submitted to IDOT for final Review.

3.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:

Mr. Carter reported that Harrison Ave. project is getting ready to button up for the winter. The strip between 9th and 11th St. will be opening soon. We are finishing up our road diet on Sandy Hollow Rd. That will be done with HSIP money so we are thankful to have received that. Also, last Wednesday was the first event at BMO where the parking deck was at full strength since being closed in June of 2012, having finished a \$6.8 million repair. The additional 450 spaces back is a big deal.

3.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:

Mr. Jacobson, on behalf of the Public Works Department, reported that the ITEP project, Willow Creek is nearly complete with only lighting and benches needing installation, very soon. All other projects are finished for the season.

3.05 Village of Machesney Park:

Ms. Houston reported that Kingsley and Drexel Road resurfacing project is almost complete. Most of the sidewalks are in and should all be completed within a week. The Alpine Path is finishing up. This project received a TAP award from RMAP. There is still some restoration to complete along the path but people are already using it. The ribbon cutting will possibly be next Monday, more information will be emailed when a date and time are finalized.

3.06 Chicago/Rockford International Airport:

Mr. Lindberg reported that the MRO had a job fair this past week and they have started to staff up. Also, it was announced that the two new launch customers are Norwegian Airlines and Atlas. The terminal expansion is just about closed in for the winter. Express Lane will be finished by the new entrance in a month. At this time the existing entrance will be closed, anticipated by the end of the month. New service with Amazon will go from 3 to 4 flights per day in a few months. Expansion will continue in the spring, they will require more room due to the size of large aircraft. Also, UPS has increased capacity slightly.

3.07 Rockford Mass Transit District:

Not Present.

3.08 City of Loves Park, Community Development Department:

No Report.

3.09 Village of Cherry Valley:

Not Present.

3.10 City of Rockford, Community Development Department:

No Report.

3.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department:

Not Present.

3.13 Boone County Highway Department:

Mr. Diipla welcomed Justin Krohn, and introduced him as the new Boone County Engineer.

Mr. Krohn stated that currently he is looking at ways to secure funding to replace the bridge over the Kishwaukee River on Popular Grove Rd.

3.14 City of Belvidere, Public Works Department:

Not present.

3.15 Village of Roscoe:

Mr. Gill reported that IL 251 and Bridge St. intersection currently has a Casey's General Store being built on it. Some curb had to be pulled back and just made that an urban section. That should be complete by Monday.

3.16 Village of Winnebago:

Not Present.

3.17 Rock River Water Reclamation District:

Mr. Baer is happy to report that the Spring Creek Rd. project is going to be finishing up the pavement areas for the season. Some operations will continue but away from traffic, as things are still moving forward over the next month. Fuller Creek Extension projects is just beginning. Also finishing up some minor point repairs is various communities.

3.18 Forest Preserves of Winnebago County:

Mr. Hartley reported that Stateline Area Transportation Study, SLATS the Beloit MPO, is proposing a roadway through Nygren Wetlands and the Northern Boundary of their property and the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County has submitted a letter of opposition for this proposed route.

3.19 Boone County Conservation District:

No report.

3.20 Rockford Park District:

Mr. Bragg stated that in addition to their TIP amendment to the Jefferson St. Bridge Underpass they hopefully by months end will have their sign contractor install the brown wayfinding park signs in Loves Park. These signs will be installed to identify and provide wayfinding for SportsCore 2, Rockford Rivets Stadium, and also the YMCA facilities. We would like to thank the City of Loves Park for their cooperation and help on this project.

3.21 Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District:

Not Present.

3.22 Village of Poplar Grove:

Not Present.

3.23 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:

Not Present.

3.24 Illinois Tollway:

Not Present

3.25 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:

Not Present.

3.26 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:

No Report.

3.27 Ogle County Highway Department:

Not Present.

3.28 Boone County Council of Aging:

Not Present.

3.29 State Line Area Transportation Study:

Not Present.

3.30 Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division:

Mr. Donovan reported that the county-wide functional reclassification for Boone and Winnebago County was approved at the Federal level earlier this month as presented by IDOT, which was approved by the RMAP Technical Committee at a previous meeting. Currently have applications open for IDOT Bureau of Local Roads local empowerment for accelerated projects, LEAP, 25 year pilot program that would directly provide federal funding to local agencies. There are a couple local entities in Northern Illinois that are seeking to apply. If others in this room are interested in applying please contact me first to get things moving faster for that part of the selection process.

Mr. Dunn stated to the group that RMAP with some of its partners have already begun to look at this program.

Mr. Donovan then explained in more detail what an eligible applicant was.

3.31 Economic Development District of Northern Illinois (EDDNI):

Not Present.

3.32 Growth Dimensions:

Not Present.

3.33 Stateline Mass Transit District:

Not Present.

3.34 Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning:

Mr. Diipla reported that the ITEP award announcement was made from IDOT and the Rockford Park District received funding for the Jefferson St. Pedestrian Underpass and Winnebago County Highway Dept. received funding for the Perryville Path Extension. Congratulation to both agencies. This information is also included in the TIP amendment prepared for this meeting.

The RMAP Human Services Transportation Plan, HSTP, is currently under an update. RMAP has sent out two versions of a survey, one for public transit providers and the other for the users of public transit. We are approaching from both sides. As of right now we have about 35 completed surveys. The survey is open until Nov. 23rd, 2016. Based upon this information we will reassess the needs that were identified in the 2008 document. Since this time there are new needs and gaps that need to be addressed. When the first draft is released in 2017 a detailed updated demographic analysis looking at various transit dependent populations, vehicle availability, and income levels, and find an in-depth narrative of the regional snapshot of where we are. Mobility Subcommittee is talking about this monthly at their meetings. RMAP is looking to adopt the plan by July 1, 2017, this date was identified from the FTA, FHWA joint certification review. RMAP will be spending a good deal of 2017 updating and keeping this data up to date.

The RMAP Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan is well underway. There was a BPAC meeting this past Monday. Ms. Turner stated that this was our 3rd BPAC meeting. The previous meeting we developed a Vision Statement. Goals and Objectives will be developed as the committee meets for another 2 meetings. Once this is complete we will go through all of the objectives and figure out an action plan to incorporate into the plan, including performance measures to track success. Mr. Diipla stated that as part of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan update we are looking at trying to streamline and coordinate with other initiatives in the region such as the City of Rockford Bicycle Share Feasibility Study. As such individuals from the BPAC may also serve on the City of Rockford Bike Share Feasibility Study as well. Additionally, we are looking at possibly forming other committees to keep momentum moving.

RMAP was requested at the last Technical Committee meeting to submit a letter to the IL Secretary of State in regards to further educational opportunities for flashing yellow turn signals. This was submitted to the Illinois Secretary of State, in hopes of this being covered on drivers' tests in the future. If the Technical Committee has any questions or comments on this topic please let us know as there are now two of these lights in Winnebago County now. Also, there is an IDOT Webinar scheduled for Tuesday Nov. 29th, at 1:30pm. We will go ahead and forward this to the Technical Committee. The flashing yellow lights will be the topic discussion. RMAP also provided copies of FHWA, USDOT Fact Sheet in regards to Performance Measures. The MPO will be responsible for gathering data and coordinating with our partner organizations to obtain that data in order to address 7 key areas within the federal transportation law, FAST Act. Also, the Final Rule was released for the Statewide and Metro Planning Agencies. This will include the standards that MPOs are to be held to, including Certification Review Requirements. RMAP will incorporate this Final Rule into all future Planning Documents, including Performance Measures. Mr. Diipla stated that he and Mr. Dunn attended an MPOwerment conference on such topics that relate to MPO planning. A final report will be issued by FTA and FHWA on this topic and program. Mr. Dunn stated that there was a strong presence by FTA and FHWA, but that RMAP was one of only 2 MPOs present from Illinois. There was a lot of concern over some of the performance measurement items coming down from the federal level based on the available data for the MPOs. To IDOT's credit there was a lot of acrimony in the room between the MPOs and the state DOTs from other states. Holly Ostdick was there from IDOT and Illinois put a very positive light to how well IDOT works with the MPOs in our state.

4. TIP AMENDMENT – RESOLUTION 2016-10:

Mr. Diipla reported that we have received revisions/updates from 4 agencies including, Rockford Park District, IDOT, Rockford Mass Transit District, and Winnebago County Highways Dept. for the addition of projects to our TIP as well as modifications to previous projects that were listed in the adopted version.

Ms. Ma reported the revised tables have been updated and will be available for review on our website.

Mr. Diipla added that in regards to this we will have a Policy Committee Meeting this afternoon. We are looking for a recommendation from the RMAP Technical Committee. Entertain a Motion to Approve. First motion made to approve by Daryl Lindberg, Chicago Rockford International Airport and seconded by Wayne Vlck, Winnebago County Highway Department. The Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

5. PROGRESS REPORTS:

No reports presented.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Jacobson, Loves Park, reported that the Rockford Area Visitors and Convention Bureau is releasing a video this afternoon that anyone is allowed to use. It highlights the positive quality of life opportunities in our region. Mr. Carter reported that Matt Vitner, Rockford's Public Works Director, would like to bring the topic of trying to encourage more transparency from ComEd. This included the billed money for relocation services and the City would like to discuss the ComEd policy in place to help bring light to possible charges the City should not be held accountable for. For a lot of communities customer service issues have been coming up and we just wanted to discuss these topics with the Policy Committee to encourage a discussion for more transparency from ComEd Billing, etc.

Mr. Dunn stated that he has discussed this with Mr. Vitner and Mr. Carter and will share this information with the RMAP Policy Committee.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford, and seconded by Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway Department. Meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.