



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 19, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works; Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; Patrick Zuroske, City of Rockford CIP; Kathy Miller, Boone-Belvidere Planning; John Donovan, FHWA; Dan Long, IDOT District 2; Dana Carroll, RRWRD; Jim Johnson, RMTD; David Nord, Village of Cherry Valley; Mark Painter, Village of Winnebago; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago Co. Highway; Sue Mroz, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Village of Machesney Park, Village of Roscoe, RAEDC.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Ernst, Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Hren, RMAP Staff; Colin Belle, Our Vital Signs; Bob Soltau, SLATS; Bunny Anderson, Illinois Tollway; Mike Williams, Rock River Training Corporation; Paul DeBruyne, McClure Engineering; Brian Leaf, Rockford Register Star.

With a quorum present Mr. Diipla called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 22, 2012 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the March 22, 2012 Technical Committee minutes. Motion to approve by Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works, seconded by Patrick Zuroske, City of Rockford CIP. Motion carried.

2. AGENCY REPORTS:

2.1 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2: Mr. Long reported that IL251 from Samuelson Road to Blackhawk Road is a resurfacing project and will start May 1, 2012.

IL251 at Spring Creek Road construction is underway. Continue to expect lane and ramp closures.

Springfield Road construction is to begin Monday, April 23, 2012 to pave shoulders with rumble strips.

IL2 from Elmwood to Latham still going on. Should be setting the beams in two weeks, but utility conflicts could slow them down. On May 1, 2012 the west leg of Latham will be shut down.

IL251 at IL173 the culverts are in, pavement removed and they are working on storm sewer. Should be paving by May 15, 2012.

I-90 the coring is finished and they are laying rock now. They are expecting to lay hot mix next week for the temporary pavement.

our future, our goals, our map 313 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101 **815.964.RMAP** direct **815.967.6913** fax rmapil.org

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Acting Deputy Director Eric Therkildsen
Illinois Department of Transportation,
Region 2

I39 Northbound to US20 Eastbound is a ramp resurfacing and has been awarded to Alliance Contractors.

US20 at IL251 ramps project has been awarded to Rock Road.

IL173 at IL251 RBT was the low bidder. IL173 from Alpine to Rock Cut is still looking at a March letting next year. The ROW has been set, but the plats have not been completed.

IL2 South Main Beltline to Clifton plans have been submitted to Springfield for the April letting.

Clifton to Cedar the plans are complete. ROW will be the issue as far as making the November letting. Having the Rail Road involved causes an extra level of coordination.

IL2 from Auburn to Riverside the IDS's are under review. The construction limits should be completed by next week and sent over to Land Acquisition to set ROW. The ROW and easements will be shown at the next public meeting which will be pushed back to June. A CAG meeting will be held about a week prior to the public meeting as a preview.

West State Street Sunset to Kent Creek the plans are 98% complete and the City is purchasing ROW and easements.

IL2 Elmwood to Latham RBT was the low bidder.

IL173 at IL176 the public meeting was held last month and is on schedule with engineering. The project is in the multi-year program and the ROW will be purchased a year ahead of the construction.

2.2 Winnebago County Highway Department: Mr. Vlk reported that their Meridian Road resurfacing project should be starting soon.

Our various sign upgrade program continues and should finish up in a month or so.

We received bids on our downtown parking lots in the City of Rockford and should be awarded in early May.

We're getting closer to going to bid on our Perryville Broadcast and Nimtz traffic signal installation. Probably out to bid in early May.

We continue our design for Baxter Harrisville Road intersection improvements and probably out to bid in early summer.

Condore Road resurfacing project is up for review down at IDOT.

Montague Road Bridge project will be closing next week for the replacement of the bridge.

Pecatonica Prairie Path project should be starting and has been awarded.

We are expediting a Township road bridge replace out in Durand Township and should go out to bid in early summer.

Our various guard rail project last phase should go to bid this June.

Mr. Vlk pre-announced that on May 8, 2012 from 4:00-6:30p there will be a Public Open House as part of our ITEP application process for the extension of Perryville bike path from Harlem to the Stonebridge trail (Village of Roscoe).

2.3 City of Rockford, Public Works Department: Mr. Zuroske reported that programs and projects are underway.

2.4 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department: Mr. Jacobson reported that their Garden Plain Bridge project is scheduled for letting next week.

2.5 Village of Machesney Park: Not present.

2.6 Chicago/Rockford International Airport: Mr. Lindberg reported that they have two (2) letting coming up in June. First one is the second phase of runway 119 reconstruction project. Second one is the first phase of the replacement of the 10 foot security fence that surrounds the airport.

Tentatively the airport has an August letting for the 2 additional parking lot that the State has allocated funds for.

The Chicago/Rockford International Airshow is scheduled for June 2-3, 2012.

2.7 Rockford Mass Transit District: Mr. Johnson reported that the Grand Opening for the RMTD East Side Transfer Center is scheduled for May 22, 2012 at 10:00a.

Mr. Johnson reported that they are making progress on the Route Study and they are working on some punch list items.

2.8 City of Loves Park, Community Development Department: No report.

2.9 Village of Cherry Valley: No report.

2.10 City of Rockford, Community Development Department: Mr. Zuroske reported that the Train Station process is moving along.

Mr. Zuroske reported that they have been able to add some streetscape development to their South Main Corridor project.

2.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department: Ms. Mroz reported that they continue to work on expansion and request for loans, unfortunately some don't qualify for the loans.

2.12 Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning Department: No report.

2.13 Boone County Highway Department: Not present.

2.14 City of Belvidere, Public Works Department: No report.

2.15 Village of Roscoe: Not present.

2.16 Village of Winnebago: No report.

2.17 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency: Not present.

2.18 Illinois State Toll Highway Authority: Ms. Anderson provided members a fact sheet on the I-90 reconstruction project. Construction on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) in 2012 includes shoulder widening and reconstruction and widening of bridges between Randall Road in Elgin and I-39 in Rockford to prepare for the rebuilding and widening of I-90 scheduled to begin in 2013. Toll increases were effective January 2012 and these monies will be used system wide for upcoming projects.

Ms. Anderson reported that the Illinois Route 47 Interchange Project is a new, all-electronic interchange at Illinois Route 47 on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) in Huntley, being constructed in partnership with the Village of Huntley, Kane County, McHenry County and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). The project completes an existing partial interchange that currently provides access to and from the east. This work is part of the Tollway's new \$12 billion capital program, Move Illinois: *The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, and is scheduled to be complete in 2013.

Ms. Anderson asked Mr. Ernst who is the Chairman for the I-90 Corridor Council to provide a brief summary of the I-90 Corridor Council's report.

Mr. Ernst reported that the I-90 Corridor Council committee has a set of recommendations that they will be presenting at next month's Illinois Tollway Board meeting. Mr. Ernst stated the highlights of the recommendations are:

- Transit and the availability of special treatments within the highway for transit use has to be a priority.
- Over time implementation of managed lanes in the corridor.
- Access to O'Hare has to be improved.

2.19 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation: Not present.

2.20 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning: Not present.

2.21 Ogle County Highway Department: Not present.

2.22 Boone County Council of Aging: Not present.

2.23 State Line Area Transportation Study: Mr. Soltau reported that SLATS Technical/Policy meeting was held this week. Mr. Soltau stated that they are programming a lot of stuff for Wisconsin because of the add lane project on I-39/I-90 all the way from Beloit to Madison.

2.24 Federal Highway Administration, IL Division: Mr. Donovan reported that RMAP's Certification Review report is sitting with management for review and will be released anytime now. We have heard from the FTA regional that they are prepared to sign off on the report.

Mr. Donovan reported that the House took action and passed a measure of a ninety (90) day extension of the Transportation Bill. Secretary LaHood made remarks yesterday indicating disappointment in the current stage and progress of the Transportation Bill.

2.25 Rockford Area Economic Development Council: Not present.

2.26 Rock River Water Reclamation District: Mr. Carroll reported that RRWRD has made the adoption of the Village of Winnebago into system and is moving along smoothly. The IGA should be done in 30 days. We are awarding engineering for the sewer system and it should take 3-4 years to finish construction.

2.27 Growth Dimensions: Not present.

2.28 Stateline Mass Transit District: Not present.

2.29 Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning: Mr. Ernst reported that Colin Belle has been hired as a new RMAP Metropolitan Planner and starts on Monday, April 23, 2012. Currently Colin is a Research Associate with Our Vital Signs and has been working on RMAP's HUD Sustainability Project.

Mr. Ernst reported that Earth Day activities are being held on Saturday, April 21, 2012 and held at Rock Valley College. Mr. Ernst will be providing a presentation at 1:30p regarding RMAP's HUD Sustainability Grant project.

Mr. Ernst reported that the 2012 Tri-State Alliance Summit is scheduled for Friday, May 18, 2012 and will be held in Dubuque, Iowa. IBM will be giving a presentation of Smart City Application. RMAP and RAEDC will be providing motor coach transportation free of charge for anyone interested in riding down to the Tri-State Alliance Summit. Please contact Christina at RMAP if you are interested in riding down in the motor coach. Registration for the Tri-State Alliance can be made through TriStateAlliance.com or the Rockford Chamber of Commerce's website.

Mr. Ernst reported that ITEP applications are due in by May 29, 2012 and is the last round of ITEP. If anyone has questions or needs further assistance with their application, please contact Gary McIntyre at RMAP.

3. RMAP TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT – RMAP RESOLUTION 2012-6:

Mr. Diipla stated that this TIP amendment is for the City of Rockford. It is to amend two bridge replacement projects (Reed Avenue at Buckbee Creek and Pierce Avenue at Northwest Drainage Way) and Froberg/Nashold Infrastructure (build off-road walking/bicycling paths and to create traffic controls using traffic lights or signs).

Mr. Diipla asked members if there were any questions or concerns. None given.

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve recommendation of Resolution 2012-6. First motion made by Mr. Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport, second motion made by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford, CIP. Motion carries.

4. RMAP TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT – RMAP RESOLUTION 2012-7:

Mr. Diipla stated that this TIP amendment is to include JARC/New Freedom funds and 5307 funding for RMTD. The projects include the following:

- New Freedom funding for the full amount of \$95,413 to provided Same Day Paratransit Service for RMTD.
- JARC funding for the amount of \$232,276 to continue RMTD Belvidere Fixed Route Service Partial FY10 and partial FY11 funds will be used to implement this project.
- JARC funding for the amount of \$2,900 to develop a web based commute management system called the Commuter Connection. Partial FY11 funds will be used to implement this project.

All projects went through the Mobility Subcommittee at their April 10, 2012 meeting and were unanimously recommended.

Mr. Diipla asked members if there were any questions or concerns. None given.

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve recommendation of Resolution 2012-7. First motion made by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford, CIP, second motion made by Mr. Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works. Motion carries.

5. LEP – RMAP RESOLUTION 2012-8:

Mr. Diipla asked Mr. Hren to provide more details on this agenda item regarding LEP.

Mr. Hren stated that the LEP is a document brings RMAP into compliance with executive order 13166 “Improving Access to Services for Person With Limited English Proficiency”. RMAP has released a draft of the RMAP Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP) to the public for comment and analysis, including the creation of a public notice and allotment of a forty-five day comment period from February 22, 2012 – April 7, 2012. The LEP plan was developed, announced and distributed in accordance with RMAP’s Public Participation Plan and federal guidelines.

Mr. Hren asked members if there were any questions or concerns. None given.

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve recommendation of Resolution 2012-8. First motion made by Kathy Miller, Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning Department, second motion made by Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works. Motion carries.

6. RMAP FY13 DRAFT UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP):

Mr. Diipla stated that the draft UWP is available on RMAP’s website for review and has been available for review for several weeks now. Mr. Diipla asked Mr. Ernst to provide members more details.

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP received a slight decrease in PL funding. Mr. Ernst provided members a brief summary of the overall UWP funding for FY13.

Mr. Ernst stated RMAP will be looking to approve the final UWP document at the May 24, 2012 RMAP Policy Committee meeting.

Mr. Ernst asked members if there were any questions or concerns. None given.

7. URBANIZED AREA BOUNDARIES:

Mr. Diipla stated that on March 26, 2012 the Census Bureau released the new urbanized boundaries nationwide. Mr. Diipla provided a brief summary of the new changes in the urbanized areas.

The new Boundaries has expanded somewhat to the east; Poplar Grove and parts of Timberlane are now in the urbanized areas as well as conditional parts of Roscoe and the urbanized areas has gone further north to touch part of South Beloit. Davis Junction is contiguous.

Mr. Diipla stated that Roscoe is eligible for RMAP Policy Committee membership and Poplar Grove is eligible for Technical Committee membership.

The new population for the urbanized area is 296, 863.

A brief discussion took place among members.

Mr. Carroll stated to Mr. Ernst that RRWRD has requested previously that they would like to be added as a voting member on the RMAP Technical Committee.

Mr. Zuroske indicated that it might be a good idea to form a Subcommittee of the Technical members to address the new urbanized area changes. Mr. Ernst concurred.

The new urbanized area boundaries will be discussed further in upcoming Technical meetings.

8. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

8.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis: Mr. Ernst reported that the final report is due to RMTD on May 7, 2012 and they will transmit the report to the FTA Regional Office and IDOT-DPIT. This project will be closed out by June 30, 2012.

8.02 Amtrak Service to Rockford Metro Area: Mr. Ernst reported that the request for proposals/qualification for the design of the South Main Street Downtown Train Station should be released in the next 30 days.

8.03 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband: No report.

8.04 RMAP Regional Freight Study: Mr. Ernst reported that the Regional Freight Study is due by June 30, 2012. Mr. Ernst stated that he is working on having the consultants make a presentation for the Technical and Policy meeting in June 2012.

8.05 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee: Mr. Diipla reported that the Mobility Subcommittee has been working on selection projects for JARC/New Freedom funds.

Mr. Diipla reported that 5310 Consolidated Vehicles Procurement Program applications has been approved by Mobility Subcommittee and will be forwarded to IDOT-DPIT for review and final approval.

8.06 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs): Mr. Zuroske stated the first EDA application applied for under CEDs has received notification yesterday that the project for the Eastern Airport access has been accepted and the City of Rockford will need to supply further information next week. It appears that it will be approved and it is a 2.7 million dollar EDA grant.

8.07 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters: No report.

8.08 HUD Sustainability Grant: Mr. Ernst reported that the first Regional Governance Task Force meeting was held on Thursday, April 12, 2012.

Mr. Ernst reported that HUD is requiring Sustainability Grant recipients to do an analysis for Fair Housing for the entire region. We will be issuing a request for proposals in the next 30 days for consultant assistance to complete this effort.

9. COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

10. OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Soltau asked about the upcoming urbanized area webinar and whether RMAP has signed up for the webinar. Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP is signed up and we welcome other members to participate in the UA Webinar that is scheduled for Friday, April 27, 2012.

Mr. Jacobson stated that there is a good article regarding Electrical Aggregation in the Rockford Register Star recently. Loves Park is moving forward and passed an IGA (Inter-governmental Agreement) and are finalizing our business plans and hopefully we'll have bids out soon. Machesney Park has gone their own way and are currently soliciting bids so we should see their results first.

Mr. Zuroske asked if members have seen the RACVB's Reclaiming First Project. Reclaiming First: An Economic Development Case and Master Plan for Regional Sports Tourism examines the current economic benefits resulting from amateur sports tournaments, the effect and reason for lost events, an analysis of competitive facilities in other communities and recommendations on how to retain, regain and grow regional sports tourism in Winnebago County. Mr. Zuroske suggested that the RACVB or Rockford Park District give a presentation to the Technical Committee on their Reclaiming First project.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Diipala entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford CIP and seconded by Ms. Mroz, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development Department. Meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.