



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 23, 2012

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dan Long, IDOT District #2; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway; Patrick Zuroske, Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford Public Works; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; Colin Simpson, Village of Machesney Park Public Works; Jim Johnson, RMTD; Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development; David Nord, Village of Cherry Valley; Sue Mroz, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development; Kathy Miller, Belvidere/Boone County Planning; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works; Mark Painter, Village of Winnebago; Dana Carroll, RRWRD.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Chicago/Rockford International Airport, City of Rockford Community Development, Boone County Highway, Village of Roscoe.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steve Ernst, Jon Paul Diipla, Colin Belle, Christina Washington, RMAP Staff; Josh McClusky, IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning; Bob Soltau, SLATS; John Donovan, FHWA; Tim Bragg, Rockford Park District; Mark Rice, McClure Engineering.

With a quorum present Mr. Ernst called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

#### 1. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 19, 2012 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Carroll requested a correction for Agency Report 2.17 first line should read: Mr. Carroll reported that their Annual Sewer Rehabilitation reading app is underway.

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve the July 19, 2012 Technical Committee minutes. First motion made to approve Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works, second motion made by Wayne Vlk, Boone County Highway. Motion carried.

#### 2. AGENCY REPORTS:

##### 2.1 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:

Mr. Long reported that IL-251 at Spring Creek Road bridge replacement project continues and to expect lane and ramp closures. Expected to finish by mid-October.

Springfield Road shoulders project is completed.

IL-2 from Elmwood to Latham is a few weeks behind because of utility conflicts but they are laying hot mix now and expect to wrap up by October.

IL-251 at IL-173 intersection reconstruction project is on schedule and is expected to finish by November 1st.

I-90 reconstruction project is currently doing some small pours mostly near interchange this week, but the northbound lanes are out and they are going to start paving next week. Traffic is still head to head.

I-39 Northbound to US-20 Eastbound ramp resurfacing project is complete.

I-39 at Kishwaukee River is underway and to expect lane closures.

Rockton Road at IL-251 resurfacing will start next week.

US-20 at IL-251 ramps is complete.

Harrison Road from Oliver Road to Wishop Road resurfacing project starts next week.

US Bus-20 from Alpine to Mulford patching project starts next week and there will be lane closures.

IL-75 in Rockton resurfacing project started last week and is expected to finish in a couple of weeks.

IL-251 at N. Kinnikinnick Creek deck repair project is underway with lane closures and expected to finish in September.

US-Bus 20 at Anderson Drive turn lane project is nearly completed-punch list items.

US-Bus 20 at the Kishwaukee River Bridge joint repairs will start after Labor Day.

South Main project is split in half. The south portion has been let and still have a couple of ROW parcels to clear. Once the parcels have cleared we should be able to officially award it. The north section is still looking at a spring letting.

### **2.02 Winnebago County Highway Department:**

Mr. Vlk reported that the County's ongoing retro-reflectivity sign upgrade project is still suspended pending material certification.

In-house work on Condone Road is completed and the remaining resurfacing work will be contracted this fall from Kishwaukee to IL-251.

Downtown parking lots continue.

Montague Road Bridge over the east branch of Mill Creek is now open.

Pecatonica Prairie Path project continues.

Holverson Road Bridge continues.

The County has awarded the traffic signal project at Perryville/Broadcast/Nimtz but it has not been executed due to some funding issues.

This Fall, Alworth Road, south of Cunningham Road will be widened by County forces. We are anticipating letting a contract for completing the resurfacing of this section next year as our EDP project.

Next summer the Harrisville & Baxter Road intersection and the Lindenwood and Baxter Road intersections are anticipated to be under construction with turning lane addition projects.

The guardrail upgrade project continues.

We received notification from IDOT that we will be receiving HSIP funding for upgrading the remainder of our sign system for retro-reflectivity.

Design work continues on Rockton Road between IL-251 and Willow Brook and for extending the Perryville Road bike path from Hart Road to Stonebridge Trail.

### **2.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:**

Mr. Zuroske reported that the majority of the neighborhood program is complete.

Arterial program is still underway. Harlem Boulevard still under construction. Broadway will be going to construction shortly. Springbrook and Highcrest are joint projects with Rockford Township.

We had a successful opening of the Riverwalk on July 20, 2012.

The Morgan Street bridge project structural steel is currently being installed.

Train station project that is done jointly with RMTD, the RFP is completed and waiting for IDOT-DPIT approval.

The Indoor Market project which is part of the River Edge Funding, the selection process for the design teams will begin at 11:00am today. We expect significant work and hopefully move to construction throughout 2013 and an opening the Fall of 2013.

We are working with the Rockford Park District on the RFP for the Ingersoll building along with the ISC Complex and Sportscore II as part of a larger Reclaiming First Initiative will be going out the next 3-4 weeks.

Working on CIP for 2013 and is about 80% complete.

**2.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:**

No report.

After arriving from Governor Quinn's press conference with Woodward Governor, Mr. Jacobson reported that the City of Loves Park has been working with Woodward Governor for over a year on their expansion project. The announcement of a \$200 million investment at the existing campus in Loves Park and a new campus would be built near Rock Cut State Park. Woodward will build a 60-70 acre campus on land bordered by Forest Hills, Harlem and North Perryville roads. The new manufacturing facility will provide high value jobs to the region and within ten (10) years will be adding 1300 new jobs. Mr. Jacobson stated that the State and DCEO came through with some incentives to make this project come to fruition.

**2.05 Village of Machesney Park:**

Mr. Simpson reported that IL-173 and IL-251 is going really well.

A resurfacing project will be going on with a new process called re-heat and will be going out to bid this week

**2.06 Chicago/Rockford International Airport:**

Not present.

**2.07 Rockford Mass Transit District:**

Mr. Johnson reported that they are still working on the RMTD Route Study and wrapping up things at the RMTD East Side Transfer Center.

**2.08 City of Loves Park, Community Development Department:**

Mr. Bruck reported they have finished the Eligibility Study for the TIF at Forest Hills and will be moving forward.

Re-districting work is completed and will be in effect in May 6, 2013.

**2.09 Village of Cherry Valley:**

Mr. Nord reported that the resurfacing project on Harrison Avenue in front of Cherry Vale Mall is complete.

They are about 2-3 weeks away from assigning its rights over to Winnebago County for operation of a water system down on Baxter Road.

**2.10 City of Rockford, Community Development Department:**

Mr. Zuroske reported that the EDA grant that we received for the Airport Infrastructure project will have the construction kick off meeting in the next couple of weeks.

They have received an economic development program grant for rehabbing Blackhawk Park Boulevard and Seminary Street.

**2.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department:**

Ms. Mroz reported that Chairman Christiansen is speaking at the Woodward event this morning and is very excited about the expansion plans.

At tonight's Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development meeting an abatement is on the agenda for Cinetic Landis Grinding Company about staying in the area. Cinetic Landis Grinding Company is making a 4 ½ million investment into the region by not moving their plant.

**2.12 Belvidere/Boone County Planning and Economic Development Department:**

Ms. Miller reported that they will be holding another Citizen Planner Workshop on Saturday, October 27, 2012 from 8:00a-Noon and held at the Community Building in Belvidere.

**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 Rock River Water Reclamation District: (move up in agenda format)**

Mr. Carroll reported that the contract at Rockton/Halstead is supposed to mobilize and setting up on Monday, August 27, 2012.

**2.18 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:**

Not present.

**2.19 Illinois Tollway:**

No report.

**2.20 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:**

No report.

**2.21 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:**

The IDOT Fall Planning Conference is scheduled for October 25-26, 2012 in Peoria, Illinois. The agenda is published and available on IDOT's website.

**2.22 Ogle County Highway Department:**

Not present.

**2.23 Boone County Council of Aging:**

Not present.

**2.24 State Line Area Transportation Study:**

Mr. Soltau reported that the SLATS TIP & UWP will be discussed at the October 24, 2012 and November 5, 2012 meeting. An Open House is scheduled to be held on October 26, 2012.

SLATS has been working a lot on maps and have met with South Beloit, Rockton Township and WISDOT.

SLATS will be setting up a meeting with RMAP to discuss some of the questionable boundaries.

**2.25 Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division:**

Mr. Donovan reported that FHWA Administrator, Mr. Nick Mendez has announced the second round Everyday Counts Initiative. Essentially is administrates technology and innovation initiative.

**2.26 Rockford Area Economic Development Council:**

Not present.

**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 he attending the Illinois Tollway meeting on Monday, August 20, 2012 discussing the construction staging and their implementation with the rebuilding of Jane Adams. They seem to be on schedule to have the first phase of the project ready to go by March/April 2013 for award to contractor and will be shifting the traffic to the north side of the road and they will be reconstructing the east side first.

The RMAP Sustainability Project's next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10, 2012 from 5:30-7:30p and held at the Regional Planning & Design Center. Discussions will be held regarding the announcement and discussion about the Regional Governance Model, the release of the first of three (3) major reports (the first report/social report, second is the economic report and third the environmental report). We are also hoping to discuss our MPA boundaries and looking at regional growth topics. We would like to showcase the indicators platform using the tool called WEAVE (this allows you to use visualization of all of the data tables being built). We currently are up to 650 indicators.

As part of the Sustainability Project, HUD is requiring us to do a formal analysis of Housing and our Regional Context and we are seeking consultant assistance for this housing study. The RFP documents are on the street right now.

**3. URBANIZED AREA BOUNDARIES:**

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP has met with Ogle County regarding their including in the MPA. On Tuesday the Ogle County Board met and passed a resolution to include certain parts of Davis Junction and Byron into the MPA. RMAP will be talking with Ogle County to discuss what the MPA boundaries will look like.

RMAP and SLATS have met and worked together to determine what the MPA boundaries would be for the two MPO. Essentially we would be following the census defined urbanized area and use that as the adjusted urbanized area as well as the MPA.

Mr. Diipla provided a brief explanation regarding the boundaries being looked at and stated that this will be an ongoing discussion until the boundaries are defined.

Mr. Ernst stated this question in Ogle County now lays the foundation for RMAP to look at the functional classifications systems. What roads are going to be classified as urban and what roads would be classified as rural.

Mr. Ernst stated that he is invoking executive order to have all members on the Technical Committee to serve on a small subcommittee that will hash out the boundaries sometime in October/November 2012.

**4. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE VOTING MEMBERSHIP REQUEST:**

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP has received three (3) requests from the environmental and recreation side (Rockford Park District, Boone County Conservation District and Winnebago County Forest Preserve) to be included as a voting member on the Technical Committee. RMAP supports their inclusion.

A brief discussion was held among members regarding the inclusion of the Rockford Park District, Boone County Conservation District and Winnebago County Forest Preserve as voting members on the Technical Committee.

It was suggested that each agency provide a brief presentation at next month's Technical Committee meeting that would provide members a quick overview of their agencies.

Mr. Ernst stated we will be calling for a vote from Technical members at the September 20, 2012.

**5. BOONE & WINNEBAGO COUNTY REGIONAL SAFETY WORKSHOP:**

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP has confirmed the date for the Boone & Winnebago County Regional Safety Workshop and is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12, 2012 from 10:00a-3:00p and held at the Regional Planning & Design Center. The Elected Officials Safety Workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, September 5, 2012 from 1:00-3:00p and also held at the Regional Planning & Design Center.

IDOT Safety Engineer, Priscilla Tobias, P.E., will be providing a comprehensive presentation at both workshops.

**6. IDOT 2013-2018 MULTI-YEAR PLAN:**

Mr. Ernst stated that the 2013-2018 IDOT MYP will be done two (2) different ways. IDOT District 2 will be doing an Outreach Session on Monday, September 10, 2012 from 4:00-6:00p and held in Dixon.

RMAP will be hosting a Public Outreach Session scheduled for Tuesday, September 18, 2012 from 10:00a-Noon and held at the Regional Planning & Design Center. IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider has asked the MPO to provide the topics for this meeting. RMAP will be focusing on Mobility from a perspective of Transit, perspective of commuting and freight.

Mr. McClusky stated that for the larger public outreach session drafts of the IDOT LRTP will be available for review. The layout of the session will have half covering the IDOT MYP and the other half covering the IDOT LRTP.

Mr. McClusky stated that new IDOT Planning & Programming Bureau Chief, Karen Shoup will be attending the RMAP Public Outreach Session.

**7. MAP-21:**

A brief discussion was held among members regarding MAP-21 and the current information that has been released.

There was a consensus among members regarding staffing issues which holds up the process of projects being completed.

Mr. Ernst stated that there will be dashboards and indicators on land use and environment as well as the handling of projects. Data collection will be a key component. There is a need to prioritize data collection in the future.

It was suggested that an executive summary be provided to members to assist in understanding MAP-21. Mr. Ernst stated RMAP will provided an MAP-21 executive summary will be provided at the September 28, 2012 Technical Committee meeting.

**8. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:**

**8.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis:**

Mr. Ernst combined agenda item 8.01 & 8.02. A bulletin item for the state to hire a consultant to replace staff within DIPIT to look at Chicago/Dubuque Amtrak project. The firm that was hired is Patrick Engineering.

**8.02 Amtrak Service to Rockford Metro Area:**

Combine with agenda item 8.01.

**8.03 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:**

No report.

**8.04 RMAP Regional Freight Study:**

No report.

**8.05 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee:**

Mr. Ernst stated that the RMAP Mobility Subcommittee will be invited to the MYP that RMAP is hosting.

**8.06 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):**

No report.

**8.07 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters:**

No report.

**8.08 HUD Sustainability Grant:**

See agenda item 2.29.

**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Zuroske stated there is a DBE Workshop on August 28, 2012 from 1:00-3:30p and held at RMTD's East Side Transfer Center. This is focusing on MBE and WBE firms to get their DBE certification.

Mr. Johnson stated this workshop is focused on assisting small businesses that are not certified.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Simpson stated he and Mr. Carroll are getting a lot permit request from small fiber companies that want to put fiber in the ground. Issues are starting to arise. It may be wise for technical specification to be put in place on where fiber can or cannot be put in place. Mr. Simpson indicated he would like to discuss further in upcoming meetings.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford Public Works and seconded by Ms. Mroz, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.