



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kris Tobin, IDOT District #2; Wayne Vlk, Dave Townsend, Winnebago County Highway; Patrick Zuroske, City of Rockford Public Works; Jim Johnson, RMTD; Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development; Sue Mroz, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development; Kathy Miller, Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works; Mark Painter, Village of Winnebago; Dana Carroll, RRWRD; Tom Hartley, Winnebago County Forest Preserve District; Dan Kane, Dave Sliktas, Mick Johnston, Boone County Conservation District; Tim Bragg, Rockford Park District.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: City of Loves Park Public Works, Village of Machesney Park, Chicago/Rockford International Airport, Village of Cherry Valley, City of Rockford Community Development, Village of Roscoe.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Ernst, Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Hren, Colleen Hoesly, Colin Belle, Christina Washington, RMAP Staff; Josh McClusky, IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning; Bob Soltau, SLATS; Brian Leaf, Rockford Register Star.

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

1. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Vlk requested a correction for Agency Report 2.02 delete Elevator Road project paragraph – currently there is no project for Elevator Road.

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve the September 20, 2012 Technical Committee minutes as amended. First motion made to approve Sue Mroz, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development, second motion made by Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway. Motion carried.

2. AGENCY REPORTS:

2.01 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:

Ms. Tobin reported that IL-251 at Spring Creek Road bridge replacement project is open to traffic. Springfield Road bituminous shoulders work has been completed.

IL-2 from Elmwood to Latham will have the west leg opened and the east leg of Latham will close on November 19th. Both legs will be open mid-December which will wrap the project up for the winter.

IL-251 at IL-173 is now open to traffic.

I-90 will wrap for the winter on November 26th and start on the southbound lanes next spring.

US-20 at Pecatonica Road there is some signal improvements that are completed.

IL-2 South Main from Beltline to Harrison will wrap up for the winter by Thanksgiving.

Repairs at I-39 at Kishwaukee River should be completed by next week.

Rockton Road at IL-251 resurfacing is completed.

Harrison Road Oliver Road to Wishop Road resurfacing is completed.

US BUS 20 Alpine to Mulford patching is completed

IL-75 in Rockton resurfacing is completed

IL-251 at North Kinnikinnick Creek Deck repairs is completed.

US BUS 20 at Anderson Drive turn lanes are completed.

2.02 Winnebago County Highway Department:

Mr. Vlk reported that the Perryville, Broadcast and Nimtz signal project continues.

Paving continues on Condone and Baxter Road projects.

2.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:

Mr. Zuroske reported that all local projects are 95% completed.

Mr. Zuroske is hoping that work will continue on the Morgan Street Bridge projected throughout the winter weather permitting.

The CIP is developed in its first draft and it will be going to City Council in the next couple of weeks.

West State Street will be open December 1, 2012.

2.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:

Mr. Bruck reported that the Garden Plain Bridge project is complete.

2.05 Village of Machesney Park:

Not present.

2.06 Chicago/Rockford International Airport:

Not present.

2.07 Rockford Mass Transit District:

Mr. Johnson reported that the Route Study is still in process.

RMTD is evaluating bids on a roofing project for their main building.

RMTD is starting an RFP for some minor changes on their building entrance.

2.08 City of Loves Park, Community Development Department:

Mr. Bruck reported that they are still working on the Forest Hills TIF District. The eligibility study for the Forest Hills TIF District is complete and they are working with ARC Design regarding a redevelopment plan. They are on schedule to have fully approved by late March.

2.09 Village of Cherry Valley:

Not present.

2.10 City of Rockford, Community Development Department:

Not present.

2.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department:

Ms. Mroz reported that they are working on the airport and another meeting is coming up. Ms. Mroz stated that she assisted the Airport for a cargo show in Atlanta recently.

Ms. Mroz stated that this morning she was on the phone with the EDC, State and other and spoke to a potential client by phone over in Europe and it sounded positive.

Ms. Mroz stated they have been working on expansions.

2.12 Belvidere/Boone County Planning and Economic Development Department:

Ms. Miller reported that they recently held their Citizen Planner Workshop last month and it was very successful and will be looking at future workshops.

2.13 Boone County Highway Department:

Mr. Lundin reported that they wrapped up HMA overlay maintenance project.

Boone County has a tentative intergovernmental agreement with the Tollway to add an eastbound on-ramp from Irene Road on to I-90. The Tollway passed it through their committee last night last night the City and the County coordinating committee approved it unanimously. Final approval is scheduled to go before the Boone County Board and City of Belvidere City Council next week. The agreement also includes replacing the bridge on Irene Road over the Tollway.

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 all of the big projects are joint projects with the City of Rockford and IDOT and reports have already been provided by those agencies.

2.18 Winnebago County Forest Preserve District:

No report.

2.19 Boone County Conservation District:

Mr. Kane reported that they have initiated an update to their master plan process.

2.20 Rockford Park District:

Mr. Bragg reported that they are still waiting for word on their ITEP application to do a small section for the Pecatonica Prairie Trail.

In the coming weeks they will be starting some planning exercises such as exploring additional path routes for the north side of the street for highway 251 corridor specifically between National Avenue all the way up north to Anderson Gardens. Mr. Bragg stated they are looking at opportunities to connect those neighborhoods to the riverfront.

On Tuesday night the Board recently approved the preliminary agreement for Claiming First project between the City of Rockford and the Rockford Park District. Mr. Ernst stated that they are currently in the process of reviewing the submittals for the requests for the qualifications for this project.

2.21 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:

Not present.

2.22 Illinois Tollway:

Not present.

2.23 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:

Not present.

2.24 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:

Mr. McClusky reported that the statewide bike plan RFP did come back a few weeks ago and the selection committee is looking through those and should have something in the next couple of months.

The Long Range Plan is scheduled to be complete by the end of this month but it probably will not be out until sometime in December.

The Multi-Year Program Outreach sessions were a great success and something will be released shortly.

Itep is coming – it is done but they are still navigating through some issues.

Mr. McClusky reports that the statewide bike plan did come back a few weeks ago and they are currently looking through now and anticipates having a consultant picked by first of the year.

Long range plan is scheduled to be complete by end of this month but probably won't be out till December.

Performance measures are being led by Deputy Director Bola Delano. The most important thing to note that this is performance measurement not performance based funding. MAP-21 is requiring the MPOs in the state identify performance measures so they can start having metrics for showing better projects. Deputy Director will be meeting with the MPOs as discussions proceed.

2.25 Ogle County Highway Department:

Not present.

2.26 Boone County Council of Aging:

Not present.

2.27 State Line Area Transportation Study:

Mr. Soltau reported that he is anticipating having a Technical working group on the Urban Area maps.

The UWP and TIP is completed.

There will probably a Technical Committee meeting late January or early February and the next Technical/Policy Committee meeting will be mid-February.

2.28 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.

2.29 Rockford Area Economic Development Council:

Not present.

2.30 Growth Dimensions:

Not present.

2.31 Stateline Mass Transit District:

Not present.

2.32 Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning:

On behalf of Ms. Patricia Diduch, Mr. Ernst provided a copy of the RREDD Third Quarter 2012 Administrative Summary and Agelou Economics Executive Summary regarding the Rockford Region Strategic Diversification Plan.

Mr. Ernst also handed out a copy of the guest editorial from Sunday, November 11, 2012 from Ken Ramsay, President of the Farmland Protection Project for Boone County. Mr. Ernst indicated that it is RMAP's desire to see something like that farmland protection start to happen in Winnebago County or potential for both forces to join.

Mr. Ernst provided a copy of timeline for the grant deliverables for the HUD Sustainability Project. We are meeting the targets for the grant deliverables. There are some recommendations for the planning relationship that RMAP has with all the land use authorities in both of the counties. It is a diagram approach the way we currently see our planning relationship and potentially what a modified regional sustainable plan for development (which is the last deliverable in the HUD Grant) would mean once we have that document in place. Similar to Chicago's Go To 2040 for our region.

The planning relationship might change a little bit so that RMAP is part the discussion when it comes to projects of regional significance or projects that would affect the Sustainability plan. RMAP would not have authority but would be in a position to issue a comprehensive review and would be submitted at the time zoning board of appeals and planning commissions are looking at the issues involving land use changes and zoning. Mr. Ernst stated that this is a modified organizational structure/operational chart for RMAP that outlines how we see this new Regional Planning Board being created, how it would operate and how the responsibilities would flow. This chart is still being reviewed and will be a discussion item at the December 2012 Policy Committee meeting. Mr. Ernst stated that the elected officials on the Policy Board he has conversed with are very interested in moving this forward and starting to see some action in 2013.

Mr. Ernst reported that on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 that the Rockford School District #205 approved a resolution which allows the Chair of their Board to sign an intergovernmental agreement with RMAP to become a funding partner of RMAP. Part of their regional planning process is somewhat unique. They see this as an opportunity to marry their Capital Programming that they will be going through now that their referendum has passed. RMAP would be looking at the infrastructure planning for the School District to have a cohesive regional planning system. Much of what the School District does certainly affects what we'd like to plan for in long range planning. The School District will be given a seat at the Policy Committee but not for anything to do with MPO operations. RMAP Policy Committee will have to vote on this at their November 29, 2012.

Mr. Ernst reported that RMAP has received a request from the Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District to be a voting member of the RMAP Technical Committee. We were not in a position to act on at this meeting but it will be scheduled for future consideration.

Mr. Ernst reported that RMAP received a letter from IDOT on November 8, 2012 for submission from local agencies for Federal-aid Program – STU, STR & HBP funds. Members can contact RMAP or IDOT District #2 for more information.

Mr. Diipla reported that CH2MHill recently emailed out an update regarding the Highway Safety Workshop held in September-2012. CH2MHill emailed out a preliminary summary and we are waiting to hear back on final summaries. Mr. Diipla indicated that it is possible a future meeting be scheduled between Winnebago County and Boone County to discuss further.

Mr. Hren reported that RMAP has received our TIP approval letter and thanked Mr. McClusky on the quick turnaround.

3. RMAP FY2013 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT – RESOLUTION 2012-12:

Mr. Hren stated that this amendment is driven by the passage of the Winnebago County Highway Department's Capital Improvement Program and an update to correct an exclusion from Table 9 (Previously Approved Projects). Mr. Hren provided a brief summary of the projects listed in the Winnebago County's CIP. Mr. Ernst asked members if there were going to be anymore TIP amendments for 2012.

Ms. Tobin indicated there might be a possible amendment the first of the year for West State Street.

Mr. Lundin indicated he will have the Centerville Bridge project for January 2013.

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve the recommendation of Resolution 2012-12. The first motion was made by Mr. Vlk, Winnebago County Highway; second motion was made by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford Public Works. Motion carries.

4. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR COOPERATIVE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (RMAP/RMTD/RRTC) – RESOLUTION 2012-13:

Mr. Diipla stated that a few months ago JARC and New Freedom projects were selected and as part of that round the Rock River Training Corporation was awarded JARC money to provide a ride share program. This is the first time that a sub-recipient has been awarded JARC funding. The three agencies thought it would be best to have a memorandum of understanding that outlines the planning responsibility and coordination between the three agencies. Mr. Diipla indicated that the Mobility Subcommittee has discussed and unanimously endorsed. Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP is looking for recommendation from the Technical Committee to the Policy Committee for adoption of this document and resolution.

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve the recommendation of Resolution 2012-13. The first motion was made by Mr. Johnson, RMTD; second motion was made by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford Public Works. Motion carries.

5. URBANIZED AREA BOUNDARIES:

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP has been in contact with SLATS regarding the boundaries between SLATS/RMAP. Mr. Diipla provided a brief summary on the boundaries being reviewed and discussed between SLATS/RMAP.

Mr. Diipla indicated that he will be looking to schedule a meeting the first of the year to discuss boundaries and is anticipating taking action in the spring 2013.

6. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

6.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis:

Mr. Ernst reported that METRA is going through a strategic planning process and has had a series of outreach meetings and are currently reviewing the comments they have received from those sessions. METRA is not anticipating any expansion for the next five years and anticipates their funding to be directed towards the state of good repair.

6.02 Amtrak Service to Rockford Metro Area:

Mr. Ernst reported that RMTD, City of Rockford and RMAP are currently reviewing the proposals for design of the RRMTD.

6.03 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:

No report.

6.04 RMAP Regional Freight Study:

No report.

6.05 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee:

See agenda item #4.

6.06 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):

Mr. Ernst stated he provided the update from Patricia in agenda item #2.32.

6.07 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters:

Mr. Ernst reported that Belvidere Township passed electrical aggregation.

6.08 HUD Sustainability Grant:

See agenda item #2.32.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Lundin, Boone County Highway and seconded by Ms. Mroz, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development. Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.