



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 21, 2013**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Long, IDOT District #2; Joe Vanderwerff, David Townsend, Winnebago County Highway Dept; Patrick Zuroske, Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford Public Works; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; David Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport; 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 Dept.; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway Department; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works; Mark Painter, Village of Winnebago; Dana Carroll, RRWRD; Tom Hartley, Winnebago County Forest Preserve District; Dan Kane, Mick Johnston, Boone County Conservation District; Dennis Anthony, Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Village of Machesney Park, Village of Cherry Valley, City of Rockford Community Development, Village of Roscoe, Rockford Park District.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Hren, Colleen Hoesly, Colin Belle, Christina Washington, Steve Ernst, RMAP Staff; Bunny Anderson, Illinois Tollway; Josh McClusky, IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning; Bob Soltau, SLTAS; Mark Rice, McClure Engineering; Brian Leaf, Rockford Register Star; Matt Cerutti, Citizen.

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

1. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 17, 2013 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the January 17, 2013 Technical Committee minutes. First motion made to approve by Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway Department, second motion made by Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works. Motion carried.

2. AGENCY REPORTS:

2.01 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:

No report.

2.02 Winnebago County Highway Department:

Mr. Townsend reported that the Baxter Road/I-39 water tower has been erected. Some underground piping still needs to be completed to connect the existing well. We anticipate having water in the well and towering by mid-June.

March 31, 2013 the tolls come off of Bauer Parkway Bridge. There is a project that bids are currently being accepted to potentially remove the arch, if funding becomes available.

There is a project on Rockton Road from Willow Brook to Highway 251 to replace a culvert under Rockton Road and some intersection improvements at the north point entrance on Rockton Road and resurfacing from IL-251 up to the end of Willow Brook.

There will be some paving on Allworth Road from along Elevator Road to Cunningham Road and anticipate the work to begin in April.

Baxter Road/Harrisville Road improvements and Baxter Road/Lindenwood Road improvements, the potential start date is June 2013.

Winnebago County Highway Department has a federal grant for the continuation of their sign upgrade program and is anticipated to start in June 2013. It will take most of the summer to complete.

There will be some right of way acquirement for the Pecatonica Prairie Path trailhead located at the southeast corner of US-20 and Hoisington Road. Mr. Townsend stated that they are under the gun to get the southeast connection bike path from Argus in Rockford to Swanson in Cherry Valley completed this summer or they could lose funding.

There is a potential August 2013 project for Tipple Road Bridge over Rock Creek.

There is an IDOT project for the Perryville Bike Path extension from IL-173 to Anjali Way which is being coordinated by Winnebago County Highway Department.

Next year Winnebago County Highway Department has scheduled the replacement of bridge at Telegraph Road over Coolidge Creek and the replacement of a bridge over the UP Railroad.

2.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:

Mr. Carter reported that they are preparing their yearly neighborhood plan and that the City of Rockford's Budget and CIP Budget has passed City Council.

Morgan Street Bridge project is progressing.

The City of Rockford has hired a consultant to start work on their Ingersoll Project for the redevelopment of the Ingersoll building for the Reclaiming First Initiative.

2.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:

Mr. Jacobson reported that a ribbon cutting was held on January 30, 2013 for the Perryville, Nimtz & Broadcast traffic signal project. Signal project was a joint project with Winnebago County and the signals are functioning. Project is complete.

2.05 Village of Machesney Park:

Not present.

2.06 Chicago/Rockford International Airport:

No report.

2.07 Rockford Mass Transit District:

Mr. Johnson reported that the RMTD Route study continues.

2.08 City of Loves Park, Community Development Department:

No report.

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 she recently attended a meeting with Rebecca Olson, Jerry Paulson and other attendees from the Rockford Park District. The group is requesting new ordinances that specify a green initiative for future builders.

Mr. Hartley stated that the group is funded by a grant from the Boeing Corporation which is looking at environmental planning for the area. There is an interest in seeing that industrial parks start planning for water quality and environmental/green initiatives.

2.12 Belvidere/Boone County Planning and Economic Development Department:

Ms. Miller reported that they are waiting to hear from Vanderwalle regarding the latest updates for the Flora Neighborhood Plan.

Currently working on the Farmland Preservation Conference that is scheduled for June 21-22, 2013 in Belvidere.

2.13 Boone County Highway Department:

No report.

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:

No report.

2.18 Winnebago County Forest Preserve District:

Mr. Hartley reported that currently the Greenway Map is being drafted and is sponsored by RMAP. The new version is anticipated to be completed by Fall 2013.

In the process of gaining a permit for a path under I-90 at the Kishwaukee River while construction is taking place.

Prairie planting along Perryville Road will have another section done this year on the south side of IL-173.

Mr. Hartley asked members if anyone had information on any grants for a bridge repair on a bridge that was constructed in the 1930's. The District is hoping to save the bridge and is looking for funds to make the repairs.

2.19 Boone County Conservation District:

No report.

2.20 Rockford Park District:

Not present.

2.21 Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District:

No report.

2.22 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:

Not present.

2.23 Illinois Tollway:

Ms. Anderson reported that the Tollway will be doing the maintenance of traffic for the major main line construction. This construction will be affecting 8 bridges through this particular corridor. The maintenance will begin in two weeks and the westbound traffic will be shifted over to the shoulders that were prepared in 2012. The westbound traffic will be shifted to the shoulders in lane one and the eastbound traffic will be shifted over to the westbound shoulder in lane one. This work should be completed mid to late-October 2013. Affecting part of this construction are two bridges of particular interest in this area, Irene Road and Genoa Road. There will be detours in place.

Ms. Anderson stated that two Tollway Committees have recommended approval of a four million dollar contract be given to the Schaumburg based TranSystems to begin planning for the proposed extension of IL-53 and Route-120 in Lake County. It will be an 18 month feasibility study done to determine a detailed engineering concept to evaluate the cost estimates of the project and to refine the tracking of revenue analysis associated with it. Ms. Anderson stated that this is a major step forward on this proposed project. The recommendation of these two committees will go to the Tollway Board for its final approval.

Ms. Anderson handed out new Illinois Tollway maps. Copies are available for any municipality/organization interested in Tollway maps can contact Ms. Anderson.

2.24 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:

Not present.

2.25 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:

Mr. McClusky reported that the IDOT Annual report has been released and handed out cards that list a link to view the annual report.

The Long Range Transportation Plan has been released to the Feds and is anticipated to be approved by the Federal Government then the State Legislature and Governor. The plan is available for viewing online. RMAP will be receiving copies of the Long Range Transportation Plan Executive Summary.

Mr. McClusky stated that the Performance Measurement Plan is moving forward and IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning has met with most of the MPO's in the State, Rockford is scheduled next week. A list of Performance Measures is being drafted for statewide MPO's and the State itself focusing on project delivery, maintenance and safety. They are anticipating on scheduling a Technical Advisory Committee meeting made up of memberships from IDOT staff and MPO staff. More details are forthcoming. Tentative date that is being looked at is the third week of April.

A proposal is being drafted for the Congestion Plan and expecting this to be a statewide congestion plan.

The MYP is progressing and more details are forthcoming.

2.26 Ogle County Highway Department:

Not present.

2.27 Boone County Council of Aging:

Not present.

2.28 State Line Area Transportation Study:

Mr. Soltau reported that the SLATS Technical/Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 25, 2013 and will be voting on the final maps, TIP amendment (South Beloit Bike Path) and a UWP amendment.

2.29 Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division:

Not present.

2.30 Rockford Area Economic Development Council:

Not present.

2.31 Growth Dimensions:

Not present.

2.32 Stateline Mass Transit District:

Not present.

2.33 Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning:

Mr. Diipla reported that Winnebago County, Boone County and RMAP were invited by IDOT to a meeting with USRAP (United States Road Assessment Program) for the Highway Safety Fact Finding initial kick off meeting. IDOT will be contacting the two counties and RMAP to proceed forward. This program is looking at County owned facilities and is examining accident data. Data will be put into software that will produce maps and lists of potential cost saving measures that could be implemented to reduce accidents. The next step is for USRAP to contact the two counties and RMAP with a follow-up conference call. The question was brought up on having the individual local municipal units be involved in this process as well and it is something that IDOT/USRAP are willing to discuss. This will be explored once a conference call is scheduled by IDOT and USRAP. Mr. Diipla will update members as more information becomes available.

Mr. Diipla reported that a Call for Projects has gone out from RMAP for JARC and New Freedom funds (JARC/\$143,942 and New Freedom/\$96,522). The application period started February 20 and is open until April 5, 2013. The next Mobility Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2013 and applicants are welcome to attend the meeting to ask questions regarding the application process. At the April meeting a recommendation will be made for projects and that will be taken to Tech/Policy depending on meeting schedule. Call for Projects was distributed to the RMAP mailing list and also published in the Rock River Times.

Mr. Ernst reported that the 2013 Tri-State Alliance Summit is scheduled for Friday, May 10, 2013 and held at the Eclipse Center in Beloit, WI. The agenda is currently being drafted and registration is forthcoming. Mr. Soltau stated that newly elected Wisconsin Senator Tammy Baldwin is tentatively scheduled to be the key note speaker.

Mr. Ernst stated that as the Chair of the IL MPO Advisory Council they have been meeting with IDOT Central Office to discuss the new Transportation Alternatives Program which is the replacement for ITEP. There is no consensus yet on how the program will be implemented but there is a good chance that we will be receiving a small allocation of funds to use for local projects. A Call for Projects will need to be developed for Transportation Alternative related local projects. A scoring system will need to be created as well as a Technical Committee that reviews the applications and scores the projects.

This process needs to be turned around quickly. The next meeting with IDOT is not scheduled until March, hopefully an agreement will be in place by then and we can move forward. Mr. Ernst stated that his hope is that because MAP-21 is only a two year bill that we will be allowed to put both allocations in one pot and only have one Call for Projects instead of two separate ones. The amount being looked at is around \$500-600 thousand in projects.

3. TIP AMENDMENT – RESOLUTION 2013-3:

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP was contacted by Winnebago County Highway Department and IDOT for projects that need to be amended into the FY2013-FY2016 TIP. Mr. Diipla stated that at this meeting RMAP will be looking for a recommendation to the Policy Committee for adoption.

Mr. Hren stated that the IDOT project is an area wide resurfacing project. The Winnebago County Highway Department is a reconstruction, widening, right of way and intersection improvement for Lucky Lane to Argus Drive.

Mr. Ernst stated that the Winnebago County Highway Department project is scheduled to be on a letting in the next several months and the reason for needing the TIP amendment. Mr. Ernst stated that some wording changes need to be made to the second paragraph of page two with an additional sentence to read; All STP drawdown will be coordinated so that Bell School Road or any other additional projects will not affect the Harrison Avenue Project with limitation or other related funding.

A brief discussion took place among members regarding the STP funding for these projects.

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the recommendation of Resolution 2013-3. First motion was made by Mr. Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; second motion was made by Mr. Joe Vanderwerff, Winnebago County Highway Department. Motion carries.

4. RMAP FY2014 DRAFT UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP):

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP is looking for planning projects from members for inclusion in the annual Unified Work Program. Any members needing assistance in planning projects should contact Gary McIntyre at RMAP.

5. URBANIZED AREA BOUNDARIES:

Mr. Diipla provided a brief summary of the UA, Adjusted UA and MPA Maps. While developing the Adjusted UA, RMAP will also be looking at functional classifications. Mr. Belle is currently working on updating the functional Classification and should have the final data available next week.

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP is looking to schedule a meeting on March 6, 7 or 8 to discuss Functional Classification and Adjusted UA. RMAP is requesting members to notify Mr. Diipla their availability for this meeting.

6. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

6.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis:

No report.

6.02 Amtrak Service to Rockford Metro Area:

No report.

6.03 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:

No report.

6.04 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee:

Mr. Diipla reported that the next Mobility Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 10:00a and held at the RMTD East Side Transfer Center. Call for projects for JARC/New Freedom funds will be discussed.

6.05 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs):

Mr. Ernst reported that Ms. Janyce Fadden is stepping down as Executive Director of the RAEDC.

6.06 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters:

No report.

6.07 HUD Sustainability Grant:

Mr. Ernst stated that HUD is requiring RMAP to conduct an analysis of Fair Housing. As part of that work, RMAP is looking to do public engagement sessions. Currently March 12, 13 & 14 are being looked at to schedule the public engagement meetings which will be discussing and identifying issues that impose barriers to fair housing choices.

6.08 Chicago/Rockford International Airport Part 150 Noise Study:

No report.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Vanderwerff stated that when MAP-21 was passed Winnebago County became the owner some additional miles of National Highway System roads. He was informed that there would be some National Highway System funding for National Highway System roads and inquired to see if these funds would be made available to the locals and was told no. Mr. Vanderwerff stated that he does not understand why a local cannot use National Highway System funds for roads that are identified under the National Highway System and asked RMAP to research further.

Mr. Ernst stated that he currently does have a five page frequently asked questions from the Federal Highway website and explains directly why that type of funding is not available. Mr. Ernst will provide Mr. Vanderwerff a copy.

A brief discussion took place among members on National Highway System funding.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Lundin, Boone County Highway and seconded by Ms. Sue Mroz, Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department. Meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.