



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 20, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Long, IDOT District #2; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway; Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford Public Works; Jim Johnson, RMTD; Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development; Scott Capovilla, City of Rockford Community Development; Kathy Miller, Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning Department; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works; Ben Bushman, Village of Winnebago; Tom Hartley, Winnebago County Forest Preserve District; Mick Johnston, Boone County Conservation District.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: City of Loves Park Public Works, Village of Machesney Park, Chicago/Rockford International Airport, Village of Cherry Valley, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development Department, Village of Roscoe, RRWRD, Rockford Park District, Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District, Village of Poplar Grove.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jon Paul Diipla, Gary McIntyre, Michael Hren, Colleen Hoesly, Colin Belle, Christina Washington, RMAP Staff; T.J. Nee, SLATS; Doug DeLille, IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning; Thomas Bona, RAEDC; Brad Lange, McClure Engineering.

With a quorum present Mr. Diipla called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

- APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 23, 2014 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**
Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP did receive a correction request from the City of Rockford Community Development Department and the Winnebago County Highway Department. Let the record reflect that the City of Rockford Community Development Department was in attendance for the October 23, 2014 meeting and the Winnebago County Highway Department correction in the second sentence “which is a four way stop” be deleted. The corrections have been made and the changes are reflected on the printed copies which are provided at today’s meeting.
Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the October 23, 2014 Technical Committee minutes as amended. First motion made to approve Mr. Scott Capovilla, City of Rockford Community Development, second motion made by Mr. Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway Department. Motion carried.

2. AGENCY REPORTS:

2.01 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:

Mr. Long reported that US-20 Bridge over the Rock River work will continue as weather permits and it is anticipated to open in December.

IL-173 from Alpine to Rock Cut they are placing temporary aggregate in the median and some temporary pavement at Forest Hills to get ready to shut down for the winter.

IL-2 at Roscoe Road will only be able to get tree removal done this winter and probably not much else.

IL-2 South Main Beltline to Harrison is tying up some temporary work done so they can get as much opened up for the winter as possible.

BUS-20 from Fairview to American Drive resurfacing is complete.

I-39 Southbound Ramp over US-20 had the lone patch poured and is complete.

IL-251 Harrison Avenue to Kishwaukee Street east/west legs are complete and will start up again in the spring on the other legs.

BUS-20 Springfield to Day Avenue is complete.

IL-251/Harlem Road Forest Hills to IL-173 Perryville to McFarland is complete.

Mr. Long stated that IDOT did receive 90% plans for the North Main/Auburn to Riverside Project.

2.02 Winnebago County Highway Department:

Mr. Vlk reported that construction is done for this year. For next year they are progressing through the phase one process for Bell School/State Street project. They are still anticipating an April letting.

Multiple design projects on Baxter Road continue.

Perryville Road Bridge over the UP Railroad depends on funding availability.

Design continues for the HSIP funded project of Forest Hills/Pepper Drive intersection.

2.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:

Mr. Carter reported they are finishing up their construction season but was cut short due to the weather. A couple projects did not get finished; Railroad Avenue Bridge and about 1500 feet on Falcon Road.

They are looking in the next few weeks to put a contract out to start repairs on the Concourse Parking Deck. They hope to have the deck open to full speed by late spring.

2.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:

Not present.

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 yesterday they issued an RFP for some design build services to finish the unfinished space at the East Side Transfer Center which will be used for RMTD's current and future office needs.

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:

No report.

2.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department:

Not present.

2.12 Belvidere/Boone County Planning and Economic Development Department:

No report.

2.13 Boone County Highway Department:

Mr. Lundin reported that their federally funded Garden Prairie Bridge is on the IDOT letting for tomorrow.

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:

Not present.

2.18 Winnebago County Forest Preserve District:

No report.

2.19 Boone County Conservation District:

No report.

2.20 Rockford Park District:

Not present.

2.21 Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District:

Not present.

2.22 Village of Poplar Grove:

Not present.

2.23 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:

Not present.

2.24 Illinois Tollway:

Not present.

2.25 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:

Not present.

2.26 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:

No report.

2.27 Ogle County Highway Department:

Not present.

2.28 Boone County Council of Aging:

Not present.

2.29 State Line Area Transportation Study:

No report.

2.30 Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division:

Not present.

2.31 Rockford Area Economic Development Council:

No report.

2.32 Growth Dimensions:

Not present.

2.33 Stateline Mass Transit District:

Not present.

2.34 Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning:

Mr. Diipla reported that the City of Rockford is holding a Community Input Session #2 regarding the design of the new multimodal station. The meeting starts at 5:30-6:30p and held at the Rockford Park District-Webbs Norman Center.

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP has received some feedback regarding the Regional Transportation Map that was presented last month. The map will be sent to the printer in the next couple of weeks and there will be folded and flat maps made available to members.

Mr. Diipla stated that there are no administrative modifications. Mr. Hren concurred.

Mr. Diipla stated that the 2015 RMAP Committee meeting schedule will be released in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Diipla reminded members that there is a retirement reception scheduled from 2:00-4:00p and held at the Regional Design Center for Mr. Steve Ernst, RMAP Executive Director who is retiring after 35 years of dedicated and outstanding service.

Mr. Hren reported that the RMAP staff has met with several agencies over the last several weeks regarding the future improvement maps and tables for the Long Range Transportation Plan. Emails have been sent out to get any further clarifications. Mr. Hren asked members to contact him with any updated information that needs to be placed in the Long Range Transportation Plan.

3. RMAP 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) UPDATE: Mr. Diipla stated that after some review and discussion the RMAP staff has decided to merge the Technology, Economic Development chapter presentation with the Land Use Environmental Green Planning chapter presentation of the plan due to timing of the December meeting. Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP will be presenting some of the information that RMAP has compiled and would also like to receive feedback and comments members may have. Mr. Diipla stated to take special note on the new logo (branding) for the Long Range Transportation Plan “Transportation 2040 Tomorrow” A Long Range Transportation Plan for the Rockford Region.

Ms. Hoesly referenced a handout that has been put together for the public that briefly goes over the transportation planning process, who RMAP is, what the Long Range Transportation Plan is and what goes into it and how the public can get involved in the transportation planning process. Ms. Hoesly stated that this handout can be given to the member’s boards, citizens or anyone that is looking for more information regarding transportation planning in the region.

Ms. Hoesly stated that the Land Use section will explore the dynamics of how the transportation system interacts with the built environment and looks at how land develops. Ms. Hoesly provided a brief presentation regarding land use and transportation and how they relate to each other.

LAND USE

Sections will include

- The Transportation/Land Use Connection
- Socio-Economic Profile
 - Population Trends
 - Housing Trends
 - Income Characteristics
- Current and Future Land Uses
- Population Projections
- Land Use Strategies and Recommendations

LAND USE STRATEGIES/RECOMMENDATIONS

- Growth Management
 - Infill Development
 - Urban Growth Boundary
 - Farmland Preservation
 - Concurrency
- Transit Oriented Development
- LEED-ND (Neighborhood Development)

Mr. McIntyre stated that over the years he has been able to compile data, share data and request data that has been input into RMAP's modeling software. Mr. McIntyre provided a brief presentation regarding Economic Development in the region and how RMAP is using this data in the REMI software which will be able to assist in making economic projections for the region.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sections will include:

- Economic Base of the Region
- Workforce and Employment Trends
- New and Expanding Employment Opportunities
- Considerations from the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) Document
- Travel Demand Model Integration with REMI

Mr. Hren covered the air quality section of the Environment/Green Planning chapters. Mr. Hren stated that RMAP previously released an Air Quality memorandum which included the analysis of air quality and the pollutants that are released by vehicles and other sources. Mr. Hren stated that it does not appear that region will have to deal with non-attainment status in the immediate future but there will be discussions on how we can maintain our air quality at current acceptable levels and how we can continue from that status.

Mr. Belle stated the RMAP staff has been updating the Greenways Plan for some time now. The purpose of the plan is to allow local and regional organizations the opportunity to participate in the discussions in the relationship between the environmental resources and our regions management growth practices which is the main purposes of the document and plan. The Greenways Plan will continue to be used as a tool to plan open space. Mr. Belle provided a brief summary of the Greenways Plan.

THE ENVIRONMENT/GREEN PLANNING

This section will include

- Air Quality
- Greenways
- Connecting the LRTP and NEPA
 - Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL)
 - Screening Table
- Environmental Mitigation
- Climate Change Resiliency

Mr. Hren provided a brief presentation regarding the Technology section of the LRTP.

This section will include

- Electric and Hybrid Vehicles
- “Smart” Vehicles
- Dynamic Messaging Signs / ITS
- VMT Monitoring

After the presentations, a brief discussion took place among members.

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP is anticipating to have a draft of the updated LRTP by late January early February.

4. RMAP FY 2015-2018 TIP AMENDMENT – RESOLUTION 2014-13:

Mr. Diipla stated that if there are no objections, he would like to move agenda item #4 ahead of agenda item #3.

No objections received.

Mr. Johnson stated that the project that RMTD is starting now at the RMTD Eastside Transfer Center will use up most of what they have in federal capital. They are also looking for a spring award for a small bus storage building for three (3) buses plus an extension of their path from the current property line over to end of north Showplace Drive. This project is what RMTD is requesting the TIP amendment for.

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP Resolution 2014-13 has been prepared and provides some updated numbers as well as additional projects to the FTA 5307 table that is found within the TIP. Mr. Diipla provided a brief summary of the details for the TIP amendment.

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the recommendation of RMAP Resolution 2014-13. The first motion was made by Mr. Johnson, RMTD; second motion was made by Mr. Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works. Motion carries.

5. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

5.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis:

Covered under agenda item #2.34.

5.02 Amtrak Service to Rockford Metro Area:

Covered under agenda item #2.34.

5.03 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:

No report.

5.04 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee:

Mr. Diipla reported that the next RMAP Mobility meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 10:00a and held at the RMTD Eastside Transfer Center. Mr. Diipla stated that the Mobility Subcommittee has been discussing the Public Transportation section of the LRTP. Additionally the CY2014 IDOT Consolidated Procurement awards should be released within the next few weeks.

5.05 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs):

Mr. Bona reported that currently they are working on updating their Strategy Committee for the CEDs update. Mr. Bona stated that if any members are willing to serve on the committee to please contact him.

5.06 Regional School Planning:

No report.

5.07 Strategic Highway Safety Plan:

Mr. Diipla reported that he received an email yesterday from IDOT allowing access to the Safety portal that has been discussed at previous Technical Committee meetings. RMAP is reviewing that information currently. The county engineers for Boone County, Winnebago and Ogle will be getting email notifications asking permission to allow RMAP access to that data.

5.08 Boone & Winnebago Greenways Plan:

Mr. Belle reported that RMAP has met with all the interested parties and they will be reviewing comments that have been received.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

RMAP NEW PHONE NUMBER

Mr. Diipla stated that the RMAP telephone numbers will be changing. RMAP will have a 779 area code. The change is anticipated to happen mid-December. From mid-December through mid-January if you dial the 815 number or the new number the call will be forwarded to the new number. Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP currently has a draft list of the new phone numbers and will verify with the City of Rockford when the numbers will go live.

Mr. Carter stated the City of Rockford Public Works department will also be changing telephone numbers.

CONGRATULATIONS MS. COLLEEN HOESLY, AICP

Mr. Diipla congratulated Ms. Colleen Hoesly on passing her planning certification exam and receiving the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) credential.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Lundin, Boone County Highway and seconded by Mr. Carter, City of Rockford Public Works. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.