

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Thursday, February 19, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Long, IDOT District #2; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway; Tyler Nelson, City of Rockford Public Works; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; David Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works; Emily Roen, Village of Roscoe; Ben Bushman, Village of Winnebago; Dana Carroll, RRWRD; Tom Hartley, Winnebago County Forest Preserve District; Mick Johnston, Boone County Conservation District; Dennis Anthony, Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Village of Machesney Park, Rockford Mass Transit District, City of Loves Park Community Development, Village of Cherry Valley, City of Rockford Community Development, Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department, Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning Department, Rockford Park District, Village of Poplar Grove.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Hren, Colleen Hoesly, Colin Belle, Christina Washington, RMAP Staff; Bill Hoyt, Chastain & Assoc.; Ralph Hoesktra, Blackhawk Bicycle Club.

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

1. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 22, 2015 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the January 22, 2015 Technical Committee minutes.

First motion made to approve Mr. Dave Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport, second motion made by Mr. 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. Vlk reported that Phase I process for Bell School and State Street project is scheduled for a June letting.

The sewer projects down at Baxter Road that includes a recycling project is anticipated to go out to bid in late spring.

2.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:

Mr. Nelson reported that the City of Rockford has started some of the bidding process for their resurfacing contract.

The Harrison project is on target for a June letting.

There are three (3) items on the IDOT April letting; (1) box culvert on South Alpine Road (2) ITEP project Rails to Trails conversion of the Bell Road River Bridge near Davis Park (3) HSIP project at Rockton/Custer.

2.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:

Mr. Jacobson reported that they had bid openings on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 for the 1st Phase of Alpine Road. They anticipate awarding the contract on Monday, February 23, 2015. The funding for this project is all local funding through the Road Referendum proceeds and the project will cost approximately 5.1 million dollars. Part of that includes the County participation on a bridge rehabilitation work.

2.05 Village of Machesney Park:

Not present.

2.06 Chicago/Rockford International Airport:

No report.

2.07 Rockford Mass Transit District:

Not present.

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:

Not present.

2.12 Belvidere/Boone County Planning and Economic Development Department:

Not present.

2.13 Boone County Highway Department:

Mr. Lundin reported that the Illinois Tollway indicated that they are anticipating on closing three (3) remaining bridges over the local road systems starting in May-2015. They are anticipating the bridge to re-open in November-2015.

Mr. Lundin stated that he has not heard any new news on US-20 over the Tollway which would be the major project. The idea is to relocate Wheeler Road and Ipsen Road but they will have to raise the bridges due to the spanning of the Tollway. The question is who is paying for it?

2.14 City of Belvidere, Public Works Department:

No report.

2.15 Village of Roscoe:

No report.

2.16 Village of Winnebago:

Mr. Bushman reported that they are gearing up for a resurfacing project under MFT funds and they anticipate on going out to bid in March-2015.

2.17 Rock River Water Reclamation District:

Mr. Carroll reported that their work at the intersection of 11th Street and Harrison is out to bid. This is pre-stage work for the Harrison Street project. This intersection will be closed down for a week.

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:

No report.

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:

Mr. DeLille reported the Multi Year Plan meeting in Springfield which is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2015 from 9:00a-Noon.

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:

Not present.

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 RMAP Policy Committee has selected Mr. Michael P. Dunn, Jr. as the new Executive Director for RMAP. Mr. Dunn, Jr. will start on Monday, February 23, 2015.

Mr. Hren provided Administrative Modification on the following projects:

- Project 3-13-40, Intersection Improvements at the intersection of Rockton Avenue and Halsted Road, has a cost update from \$395,000 to \$410,000. The Federal monies are unchanged, meaning that the Sales Tax funding rises from \$125,000 to \$140,000.
- Project 3-11-4, Signal Modernization and Geometric Improvement of the intersection of 15th Avenue and 9th Street is to be removed from Table 11 at the request of the lead agency.
- Project 3-11-5, Pedestrian Countdown Signals at the intersection of East State Street and Fairview Avenue is to be removed from Table 11 at the request of the lead agency.

Mr. Diipla stated that US Transportation Secretary Anthony Fox has unveiled a Long Range Study looking at the transportation network throughout the nation and it is titled Beyond Traffic 2045. RMAP is currently going through the document to look at some of the information compiled.

3. RMAP 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) UPDATE:

Mr. Diipla stated that the five year update of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is due July-2015. For the last several months the RMAP has discussed with the RMAP Technical Committee and RMAP Mobility Subcommittee the topics that will be updated. The first draft of what RMAP is titling “Transportation 2040 Tomorrow” is of the updated 2040 LRTP and is available on RMAP’s website for viewing. RMAP will be holding a series of open houses which are scheduled as follows:

- Tuesday, February 24, 2015 from 10:00a-1:00p and held at the City of Loves Park City Hall (Council Chambers).
- Tuesday, February 24, 2015 from 3:00p-6:00p and held at the Village of Roscoe Village Hall.
- Wednesday, February 25, 2015 from 2:00-6:00p and held at the Regional Design Center, Rockford.

Mr. Diipla thanked members for their time an effort in providing RMAP the information needed to update the LRTP document. Mr. Diipla stated that a brief overview has been crafted of what is contained within the document and RMAP staff has provided in-depth detail over the previous months. The plan itself is broken down into thirteen (13) sections. There has been some data adjustments in terms of the demographics and socioeconomic charts and projects have added and modified to the thirty (30) year table for roadway improvements. The following is brief summary of the presentation the RMAP staff provided to the Technical members regarding the updates to the LRTP:

ROADWAY

- Explains existing roadway network and future improvements
- Details future improvement projects put forward by local jurisdictions within the 30 year time frame of the LRTP
- Discusses new technologies and their potential impact on transportation
- Current Functional Classification System.
- Future Improvements Table

TRANSIT

- Details cooperative efforts between transit providers and other resource agencies
- Provides financial information on expenditures and revenues for the time horizon of the plan
- Explores expansion of public transit services within the planning area
- Explores the link between land use, the location of new job centers, and transit service

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN

- Details the Implementation of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
 - Beginning in late 2015 RMAP staff will begin the update to the Current Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
 - Integrate Healthy Communities and Active Transportation
- Walkability Study

ENVIRONMENTAL AND GREEN PLANNING

- Focuses on Climate Change and Green Planning Initiatives
 - The Relationship between Transportation and Environmental Planning
 - Past & Current Projects Linking Transportation and Environmental Planning
 - Climate Change and Extreme Weather Resiliency
- The History of Greenways Planning in the Rockford Region

LAND USE AND URBAN FORM

- Links Transportation, Public Utilities, and Land Use
- Land Use Coordination
- Recommends a “Smart Growth” Approach to Development

SOCIOECONOMIC PROFILE

- Reviews current and historical economic trends
- Information on Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
- Integration of Regional Economic Models Inc. (REMI) / TranSight and Metro-PI software with the regional travel demand model (TDM)

RAIL

- Passenger
 - Intercity service from Chicago-Rockford and Dubuque
 - Commuter Rail
 - Urban Circulators / Streetcars
- Freight
 - Targets intermodal locations that effectively utilize the current and projected transportation network and freight commodities
 - Identifies regional employment sectors that have a direct relationship to freight flow supply-chains
 - Recommends capital investment to improve freight transportation logistics

AIRPORT

- Describes existing conditions at the Chicago-Rockford International Airport
- Foreign Trade Zone #176
- Details investment and expansion plans for RFD

Shows cargo weight landed and enplanements from 2005-2013

NEXT STEPS

- Public comment period for the draft will be from February 24 - April 3, 2015
- Revisions to the draft plan integrated by May 2015
- Public Open houses will be held for the final draft LRTP in May-June 2015
- Adoption by the RMAP Policy Committee in July 2015
- Submittal of the adopted LRTP to IDOT and USDOT (FHWA & FTA)

4. FY2016 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP):

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP has received the planning marks from IDOT. The FHWA/FTA dollars are at the 8/12 level. Once the actual the amounts have been authorized by congress a new table will be printed. Mr. Diipla stated that we are at a smaller rate than last year but RMAP anticipates receiving the full amount within the next few months.

Mr. Diipla stated to members that if there were any projects they felt would be beneficial to add to the UWP, please contact Gary McIntyre at RMAP. The draft will brought forward to the Technical Committee in March, with the final document being brought forward to the Technical and Policy Committee in May-2015.

5. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

5.01 Amtrak and Passenger Rail Service:

Mr. Diipla reported that there is a tentatively Senate Transportation Hearing scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 11:00a and held at the State of Illinois building in Rockford, IL (200 S. Wyman Street).

5.02 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:

No report.

5.03 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee:

Mr. Diipla reported that the next RMAP Mobility meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 10:00a and held at the RMTD Eastside Transfer Center. The discussion will be regarding the 5310 funding that is allocated to the region.

5.04 Boone & Winnebago Greenways Plan:

No report

5.05 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs):

No report.

5.06 Regional School Planning:

No report.

5.07 Strategic Highway Safety Plan:

No report.

6. COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Diipla reminded members that the RMAP Office and individual staff phone numbers will be changing to a 779 area code and 348 prefix number. The list of the new phone numbers is available on RMAP's website.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Diipla announced that Ms. Colleen Hoesly has accepted a position as a Senior Planner with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Mr. Diipla thanked Ms. Hoesly for all her hard work and efforts with RMAP and wished her the best in her future endeavors.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Lundin, Boone County Highway Department and seconded by Mr. Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport. Meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.