



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 18, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne Vik, Winnebago County Highway Department; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford Public Works; Carrie Houston, Village of Machesney Park; David Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport; Jim Johnson, Rockford Mass Transit District; Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development; Scott Capovilla, City of Rockford Community Development; Greg Tilly, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development Dept; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway Dept.; Mick Gronewold, Village of Winnebago; Dana Carroll, Chris Baer, RRWRD; Tim Bragg, Rockford Park District; Dennis Anthony, Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: IDOT District #2, Village of Cherry Valley; City of Belvidere Public Works, Village of Roscoe, Forest Preserves of Winnebago County, Boone County Conservation District, Village of Poplar Grove.

OTHERS PRESENT: Doug DeLille, IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning; T.J. Nee, SLATS; Thomas Bona, Michael Dunn, Jr., Jon Paul Diipla, Colin Belle, Christina Washington, Sydney Turner, Anna Ma, Michael Hren RMAP Staff; David Almy, Hanson Professional Services; Bev Moore, Citizen.

With a quorum present Mr. Diipla called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 19, 2016 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve the May 19, 2016 Technical Committee minutes. First motion made to approve Mr. David Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport and seconded by Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway Dept. The Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

2. COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

No communications, petitions, or public comments presented.

3. AGENCY REPORTS:

3.01 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:

Not present.

3.02 Winnebago County Highway Department:

Mr. Vlk reported that the Forest Hills safety project intersection of River Lane is on hold because the materials had failed inspection and is anticipated to start back up in another month.

Bell School Road project is progressing and is anticipated to be completed by the end of this week. The final traffic patterns are scheduled to be in place next week.

Perryville Road Bridge over the UP Railroad south of Harrison will have the deck poured next week and is anticipated to be completed by mid-October.

Cunningham Road is anticipated to be open next Monday

WCHD was successful in receiving major bridge funds for Alpine Road bridge over Forest Hills Rd. for 2021

3.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:

Mr. Carter reported that the HSIP road diet project on Sandy Hollow Road, from 20th Street to Alpine Road will finish on schedule.

Two HSIP projects on Rockton Ave are completed: finished before school started; modernized signals at those intersections; Rockton and Halstead and Rockton at Custard

Harrison Ave project is moving well

3.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:

Mr. Jacobson reported that the Alpine Road: approaching completion, curb and sidewalk restoration to finish; final resurfacing, Labor Day completion if not sooner

City-wide resurfacing is in progress

Engineering on the Riverside Bridge by Wantz Park is wrapping up: anticipating winter bidding

Willow Creek Path: Box culverts will be set on Monday and project completion is anticipated by the end of September

3.05 Village of Machesney Park:

Ms. Houston reported that the Reconstruction of Kinglsey and Drexel, curb work will start next week.

Prairie and Dorthea reconstruction will start first week of September

Water Reclamation is putting sewer under IL-251 to connect with nearby neighborhood

Alpine Path, Kingston track work at Harlem High School is complete, this was done before school started. The

Village is working on the path on the west side of Alpine Rd, working from north to south

3.06 Chicago/Rockford International Airport:

Mr. Lindberg reported that the MRO construction is completed.

FAA certification inspection is currently underway: facility will hopefully be operational by this Fall

Terminal expansion project on schedule. The terminal should be fully enclosed by winter

ABX Cargo will operate out of RFD with 1 flight a day and 15 flights a week by December with 50 to 100 jobs

3.07 Rockford Mass Transit District:

Mr. Johnson reported that Pathway project at Eastside Transfer Center is at substantial completion.

3.08 City of Loves Park, Community Development Department:

No report.

3.09 Village of Cherry Valley:

Not present.

3.10 City of Rockford, Community Development Department:

No report.

3.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department:

No report.

3.12 Belvidere/Boone County Planning and Economic Development Department:

Not Present.

3.13 Boone County Highway Department:

Mr. Lundin reported that all construction is complete except for one township seal coat.

3.14 City of Belvidere, Public Works Department:

Not present.

3.15 Village of Roscoe:

Not present.

3.16 Village of Winnebago:

No report.

3.17 Rock River Water Reclamation District:

Spring Creek Trunk Project; final notice of award issued; notice to proceed will be out shortly. Finalizing bonds, insurance, etc., Contractor may start next month at IL- 251 and Spring Creek Road.

Original MOT calls for a detour for an open cut to get out of the middle of the road, scheme to tunnel so that a reroute is not needed.

Fohler's Creek trunk to get to Winnebago; waiting on final condemnation and easement, property owner appealed to supreme court; expected to hear from them in early September; expected contractor to kick off in late October;

Oak Crest project is done.

Chris Baer will be taking over for Mr. Carroll once he retires at the first of the year. Mr. Diipla welcomed Mr. Baer to the Technical Committee.

3.18 Winnebago County Forest Preserve District:

Not present.

3.19 Boone County Conservation District:

Not present.

3.20 Rockford Park District:

No report.

3.21 Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District:

No Report.

3.22 Village of Poplar Grove:

Not present.

3.23 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:

Not present.

3.24 Illinois Tollway:

Not present.

3.25 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:

Not present.

3.26 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:

Mr. DeLille reported that the 2016 IDOT Fall Planning Conference is scheduled for October 6-7, 2016 and will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Moline, IL.

3.27 Ogle County Highway Department:

Not present.

3.28 Boone County Council of Aging:

Not present.

3.29 State Line Area Transportation Study:

Mr. Nee reported that they are wrapping up their LRTP process SLATS is beginning the processes for their TIP and Unified Work Plan for this calendar year. SLATS will review these documents Monday at 10a.m Rotary Center in Beloit

3.30 Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division:

Not Present.

3.31 Economic Development District of Northern Illinois (EDDNI):

Mr. Bona reported that they are working on many projects with partners in this room

City of Rockford: Economic Development Performance tracking on a city-wide and sub zone area.

Loves Park Comprehensive Plan: update and incorporate CEDS update, good opportunity to give back and do research.

EDDNI is also working on other grants

3.32 Growth Dimensions:

Not Present.

3.33 Stateline Mass Transit District:

Not Present.

3.34 Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning:

Mr. Diipla reported that two ITEP Project applications were submitted to IDOT. Those projects are the WCHD Perryville Path and Rockford Park District Jefferson Street Bridge pedestrian path. RMAP provided input with regard to project consistency with RMAP planning documents such as the LRTP, Greenways Plan and Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan. Project applications were submitted to IDOT on June 17th. Award determination will be in the late summer or early fall.

Mr. Diipla also noted that IDOT is beginning the update to their Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) There is a link is on RMAP's website and IDOT is looking for comment from the public on goals for the State transportation system.

Mr. Diipla also included the following updates: Bureau of Local Roads and Streets Manual has been updated (chapters 19 and 22) regarding revisions to categorical exclusions. IDOT released the Truck Access Route Program (TARP) Fund for 2018, completed applications must be submitted to IDOT-District 2 by September 15, 2016.

Mr. Diipla introduced Ms. Anna Ma, Metropolitan Planner with RMAP. Ms. Ma will be working on the TIP and M&O plans. Ms. Ma noted the following advance construction (AC) notices:

These projects have changed from advanced construction to current status.

- City of Loves Park: Willow Creek Trail Extension/ TIP #4-15-1
- City of Rockford: Sandy Hollow Road Diet/ TIP #3-12-107
- Winnebago County Highway Department: Forest Hills Road/ TIP #2-15-3
- Ogle County Highway Department: Macklin Road/ TIP #21-16-1

Updates on current REMI projects and data updates.

Mr. Belle provided the RMAP Technical Committee with a presentation regarding the status of the REMI / TDM integration. RMAP hosted a presentation from REMI consultants at our last Policy Committee meeting.

Mr. Belle discussed that the modeling framework including 3 programs VISUM TDM (travel demand model traffic analysis, integrated model of region transit networks), TranSight and MetroPI

TranSight: macroeconomic model

MetroPI: local economic model

Benefit cost analysis opportunities can also be examined with REMI.

Mr. Belle also provided an overview of the development ratings map from the TAZ work session

RMAP coordinated with municipal partner organizations to determine development ratings (from a scale of 1-5) on parcels of land. Map is updated and SLATs boundary is added. Such criteria examined included:

Total Employment Dot Density Map

Recently updated and introduced to the Transit Demand Model as well. One dot represents 100 employees.

Employment by Developable Rating in Winnebago, Ogle and Boone County

Shows number of employed individuals in those five development categories.

Dwelling Units by Developable Rating Dot Density Map

Shows number of dwelling units per TAZ and used for Metro PI.

Updates to RMTD Route

Updated RMTD fixed transit routes in GIS which will go into the TDM.

Truck Routes Map

Truck Routes all digitized by classification type and maintenance: digitized using Getting Around Illinois data and talking to partner agencies.

Useful to compare this data with the functional classification updates.

Capacity Expansion Projects Map

Illustration of planned and committed transportation projects that add capacity to the transportation network. Projects listed in LRTP and the TIP.

RMAP Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP)

Mr. Hren provided information regarding the update of the plan. RMAP is working with Mobility Subcommittee to update the document and goals. . Three goals have been completed since the plan was originally adopted and

the last goal is to extend hours of night and weekend service for East State Street. RMTD wishes to extend the weekend and night service system wide and not just on East State Street. RMAP is in the process of developing a survey for transit users and providers to determine priorities. Survey will be released in late September. Plan draft will be available in 2017.

4. RMAP FY2017-FY2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) RESOLUTION 2016-8:

Mr. Diipla stated a draft of FY2017-FY2020 TIP which includes projects using state or federal dollars was posted to the RMAP website on July 16, 2016 and the comment period ended on Wednesday, August 16, 2016.

Mr. Diipla stated that staff has reevaluated the TIP document for reader ease of transition and understanding. From the comment period, one major change was that Boone County updated projects in the out years table of the plan. Additional updates were also made to the partner agencies contact list within the TIP document.

Mr. Diipla entertains a motion to approve Resolution 2016-8. The first motion was made by Mr. Capovilla, City of Rockford Community Development Dept.; second motion was made by Mr. Carter, City of Rockford Community Development Dept. The motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

5. FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM UPDATE:

Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP has received letters from IDOT District 2 with changes based on their 5 year Functional Classification County map updates. Mr. Belle stated RMAP is still reviewing the IDOT proposed Winnebago, Boone and Ogle Counties functional classification system changes. Discussion on how FHWA / IDOT further defined a minor collector and major collector. This is based on a specific metric and characteristics. Information can be forwarded to anyone interested in reviewing the changes.

RMAP has been in contact with IDOT District 2 and will bring a resolution to the RMAP Technical Committee at their next meeting.

6. RMAP BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN PLAN UPDATE:

Mr. Belle and Ms. Turner provided the RMAP Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan update.

Data Collection Update:

- Partial or Missing Sidewalks along major corridors in GIS format in Winnebago and Boone County
- Attractors: Includes parks, commercial and employment centers, civic centers, anything that would be an attractor for a pedestrian or bicyclist; used data from WinGIS points of interest file

Ms. Turner stated that the next Step is the creation of map including intersections, bus stops and cost estimates for specified facilities etc.

Ms. Turner provided an overview of the public survey: Comment period of 60 days, 120 surveys completed. RMAP is compiling the data and will release info to the public. Highlights of the survey included:

- Four main reasons for pedestrian facilities that respondents identified were to improve safety, provide safe routes, increase health and provide independent transportation to underserved populations
- What factors make it unpleasant to cycle or walk in your city? 81% said there were too many gaps in their system or not enough sidewalks.
- What types of programs/facilities do you prefer to promote? Top four include more paths and trails, fill in gaps, improve sidewalk conditions, and provide sidewalk maintenance. 81% said provide more walking paths would promote walking in the community.
- Bicycle facilities, what do you prefer to ride on? (Side paths. On-street facilities, sidewalks). All evenly distributed based on the survey

Ms. Turner also provided an update on the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) process. RMAP will be inviting members (8-12) from many fields. The BPAC will meet 5-7 times during the development of the plan to discuss priorities, vision goals and strategies.

Ms. Turner briefly discussed the Demand Analysis/ Suitability Index for the region. Data that will be needed are attractors, generators and detractors of pedestrian activity, block level or TAZ level. The RMAP Technical Committee will be updated as more information becomes available.

As a reminder, RMAP requested that each partner organizations please complete the municipal staff survey regarding bike and pedestrian facilities. This information is essential to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan update.

7. NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING (NPRM): METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION COORDINATION AND PLANNING REFORM:

Proposed Consolidation of MPOs with Contiguous MPAs

Mr. Diipla stated that this NPRM was published in the June 27, 2016 Federal Register: The two MPO's that could potentially be impacted by this NPRM within Illinois are CMAP and RMAP. RMAP shares a planning boundary with SLATS, the Beloit, WI MPO. Essentially, the NPRM states the distinction between what an MPO boundary and a MPA boundary is intended to be; Per the NPRM, its intent is to further regional coordination and collaboration. Methodology as explained in the NPRM provided examples of instances where if there are two continuous MPAs, then the 2 MPOS could merge and have one unified MPA area with two MPOs. If so then there would be a unified LRTP, TIP and other plans. There are concerns nationwide and US DOTs has only provided a 60 day public comment period. There are many unanswered questions on how would this could affect formula funding on the highway and transit side.

IDOT has taken a lead to draft a letter discussing potential complications of the NPRM. Mr. Dunn stated that IDOT has been in contact with RMAP and CMAP to discuss concerns and feedback to be placed in the formal response to the NRPM. This topic was also discussed at Policy committee meeting two weeks ago. RMAP has given our support to CMAP in their letter to Secretary Foxx as well as IDOT's letter formally responding to the NPRM.

There is well meaning intention with the NPRM because other communities (i.e. one metropolitan area) do have more than one MPO (ex. Tampa/St. Petes has four MPOS). But universally, the proposed MPO consolidation may not apply. There is a need for more time to discuss the issues and action to extend the period of time for review of this new proposal is needed. This concern has also been brought up by many congressional leaders. RMAP currently has a phenomenal relationship with SLATS and this potential ruling may make that relationship harder.

Discussion regarding WisDOT comments on the NPRM were discussed between Mr. Nee, RMAP staff and the RMAP Technical Committee.

8. PROGRESS REPORTS:

Mr. Dunn congratulated Mr. Hren for his attaining his AICP certification. Mr. Dunn stated that RMAP wants to assist with any other projects partner organization are currently working on. RMAP has recently assisted the City of Belvidere with the Menomonie Street parking analysis. RMAP is currently assisting the City of Loves Park with their Comprehensive Plan update, the City of Rockford's framework planning for Madison Street Corridor as well as helping the City of Rockford define 5 sub areas of the city to show what are the dynamics on crime, demographics and economic development projects. RMAP is always willing to help out to add subject matter assistance and grant writing. Mr. Dunn also welcomed two new employees; Anna Ma and Marlana Dokken. RMAP currently has a grant writer and land use planner position open as well.

Mr. Dunn stated that while we do not yet have the brand, for all intents and purposes we do function as an RPC. RMAP wants to represent all the additional functionality.

TAP and STP-U (STBG) updates: Mr. Dunn stated that RMAP wants to build consensus from our partner agencies on this process. RMAP has been receiving STP-U (STBG) updates form partner organizations already. RMAP intends to develop a MYP for STP-U / STBG funding. With regard to TAP, Mr. Dunn stated that RMAP is awaiting the results of the statewide ITEP applications. Once the STP-U (STBG) advisory committee feels we have made progress, we are looking to bring in more advisory committees. Furthermore RMAP would like to develop a data commons as well as a TIGER grant committee.

Mr. Diipla added that RMAP received projects that are eligible for funding from partner organizations.. RMAP may need more project data for certain projects and will be in contact with sponsor agencies for the information.

We will be looking at those particular projects and comparing them to the LRTP for consistency and the TDM for overall transportation system impact.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

No other business presented.

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 11:19 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.