



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, April 21, 2016**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dan Long, IDOT District #2; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway Department; Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford Public Works; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; 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 and Economic Development Department; Greg Tilly, Winn. Co. Planning and Economic Development Department; Zachary Gill, Village of Roscoe; Tom Hartley, Forest Preserves of Winnebago County; Tim Bragg, Rockford Park District; Carrie Houston, Village of Machesney Park; Tim Hanson, Rock River Water Reclamation District.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning Department; Boone County Highway Department; City of Belvidere Public Works; Boone County Conservation District; Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District; Village of Poplar Grove.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Beverly Moore, Citizen; Ralph Hoekstra, Black Hawk Bicycle and Ski Club; Michael Dunn, Jr., Colin Belle, Michael Hren, Christina Washington, Terrance Hall, and Sydney Turner, RMAP Staff.

*With a quorum present Mr. Dunn, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:14am*

**1. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 17, 2016 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**  
Mr. Dunn Jr. entertains a motion to approve the March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Technical Committee minutes. First motion made to approve the minutes by Mr. Dan Long, IDOT District #2, and seconded by Mr. Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway Department. The Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

**2. COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:**  
Michal Hren – The FTA has announced the availability of \$20.49 Million of funding under their pilot program Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning. The program supports comprehensive planning associated with new fixed guideway and core capacity improvement projects. Anyone interested in more information or a copy of the Notice of Funding please contact Michael Hren.

Terrance Hall – Two Administrative Modifications: First, project. 27151- Milford Rd. between Linden Rd and the Winnebago County Line, resurfacing near complete and is leaving advanced construction. Second, project. 1152, US BUS. 20 near Meridian Rd., project is also leaving advanced construction.

our future, our goals, our map

313 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101

direct 779.348.RMAP fax 815.967.6913 web rmapil.org

Mayor Mike Chamberlain  
City of Belvidere, RMAP Chair

Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg  
City of Loves Park

Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
City of Rockford

Gary L. Marzorati, Board Chair  
Rockford Mass Transit District

Mayor Jerry Bolin  
Village of Machesney Park, RMAP Vice-Chair

Chairman Scott Christiansen,  
Winnebago County

Chairman Bob Walberg  
Boone County

Deputy Director Paul Loete  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
Region 2



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**3. AGENCY REPORTS:**

**3.01 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:**

U.S. BUS. 20 over Rock River bridge reconstruction project, there is going to be temporary lane closures going on to finish punch list items. IL-173 to Rock Cut State Park is underway including the reconstruction and addition of lanes. They are finishing up the final landscaping and finalizing the punch list items. IL-2 at Roscoe Road as of last week had not started up yet; still waiting to continue landscaping. U.S. BUS 20 near Meridian Road, there are a couple culvert replacements that are currently ongoing. Project is underway and there are lane closures, however one lane still open in each direction. IL-2 South Main St. from Beltline to Meridian Rd., project is underway. There will be a public meeting for this event on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Zeke Giorgi Center from 3:30-6:30pm. IL-2 Riverside to Auburn, currently utility work is underway for about another 1-2 months. Should be smoother on S. Main because there is not as much bedrock and other obstacles. There is a public meeting for this project scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-6:30pm at the Spectrum School. I-39 Structures over Linden Road will have some work. This will start on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The N. Bound I-39 Ramp will be closed for a month. The detour will be to Route 20, then IL-251, do a couple loops and come back down the way. After this structure is complete the other side will also be worked on, traffic will be detoured to Harrison Ave. and around. There will then be a 3<sup>rd</sup> structure that will then be worked on. Try to avoid this area if possible, especially on Friday and Sundays when traffic is already at peak demand.

**3.02 Winnebago County Highway Department:**

Bell School and State St. project has started back up for the spring construction season. Perryville over the UP Railroad, just south of Harrison, is scheduled to start May 1<sup>st</sup>. Cunningham bridge over Kent Creek, just east of Meridian Rd, is starting today, but the closures will not be in effect until next Monday. Also, the CN Railroad will be replacing the railroad crossing at Mulford Rd, just north of Sandy Hallow Rd. Anticipated start is next week Tuesday the 26<sup>th</sup>, and is scheduled to be open that Thursday afternoon sometime. Forest Hills safety project is on the IDOT letting for this Friday.

**3.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:**

Harrison Ave. project some of the preliminary work as begun. The next couple weeks they will start seasonal lane closures on Harrison between 11<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Expect Jefferson St. Bridge to open next Thursday. Airport Drive, COR is still waiting for the Railroad to finish their portion. The COR will then finish the sections they have left to do. RR should have work done by mid-June according to their funding schedule. Monday night, April 25<sup>th</sup>, looking to award the 3<sup>rd</sup> street bridge removal, part of the Whitman St. interchange. It has been closed for about a year. It will be totally removed due to repair costs and the small amt. of traffic it carries. Finally, expecting to start the first pour on the rails-to-trail bridge this week.

**3.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:**

Alpine Rd. the South bound pavement removal and sanitary removal complete. Now working on Storm Sewer. The project is on schedule. Going to be closing Maple Rd. on the west side of Alpine Rd. Monday-

our future, our goals, our map

313 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101

direct 779.348.RMAP fax 815.967.6913 web rmapil.org

Mayor Mike Chamberlain  
City of Belvidere, RMAP Chair

Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg  
City of Loves Park

Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
City of Rockford

Gary L. Marzorati, Board Chair  
Rockford Mass Transit District

Mayor Jerry Bolin  
Village of Machesney Park, RMAP Vice-Chair

Chairman Scott Christiansen,  
Winnebago County

Chairman Bob Walberg  
Boone County

Deputy Director Paul Loete  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
Region 2



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

Wednesday of next week for a variety of underground work that needs to be completed. A media notice will be sent out. ITEP Willow Creek project is on the Friday IDOT letting. Just about done with the 2016 maintenance plan ready for the City Council review and comments. That should be out for a letting by Memorial Day. Council just approved the local agency agreement with IDOT for the Riverside Bridge at Wantz Park, wrapping up design on that project to get it on the IDOT letting coming up soon.

**3.05 Village of Machesney Park:**

No Report

**3.06 Chicago/Rockford International Airport:**

MRO project is on time and on budget. They will hand over the facility to AAR about the middle of June. The second phase is underway for the Terminal 2 expansion, it will be about a 2yr program. The detours are signed and easy to follow, should not cause any confusion. Due to the size of airport and proximity to Chicago they have signed up a few more companies to use the airport for air diversion issues, also having customs available has helped. Getting closer to 50 total airlines now.

**3.07 Rockford Mass Transit District:**

Awarding work for the path extension from the east side transfer center, ESTC, to north showplace drive. The work will begin shortly with pre-construction starting this week. They are also working with IDOT to select an architect to design the renovation of the downtown transfer center

**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:**

Not Present.

**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:**

Not Present.

**3.14 City of Belvidere, Public Works Department:**

Not present.

**3.15 Village of Roscoe:**

Looking at doing some work on Frontage Rd. on the east side of IL-251 between Swanson and McDonald. Core samples have come back and they are going to pursue doing a full depth reclamation including a widening and shoulders. Should be done this fall or next spring.

**3.16 Village of Winnebago:**

our future, our goals, our map

313 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101

direct 779.348.RMAP fax 815.967.6913 web rmapil.org

Mayor Mike Chamberlain  
City of Belvidere, RMAP Chair

Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg  
City of Loves Park

Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
City of Rockford

Gary L. Marzorati, Board Chair  
Rockford Mass Transit District

Mayor Jerry Bolin  
Village of Machesney Park, RMAP Vice-Chair

Chairman Scott Christiansen,  
Winnebago County

Chairman Bob Walberg  
Boone County

Deputy Director Paul Loete  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
Region 2



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

Not Present.

**3.17 Rock River Water Reclamation District:**

Open House May 10<sup>th</sup> Spring Creek Trunk Sewer, going to be at the Congressional Church at 4500 Spring Creek from 5-7pm.

**3.18 Winnebago County Forest Preserve District:**

Canadian National RR is replacing the bridge over the Kishwaukee, old portion, named the “blue hole”, within the Forest Preserve. This area contains endangered species such as blandings turtles, this therefore required an incidental takings.

**3.19 Boone County Conservation District:**

No Report

**3.20 Rockford Park District:**

Last month’s meeting there was mention of the IDOT sign inventory application form. Loves Park and City of Rockford both submitted the proper material to the Rockford Park District. Comments are already back after submitting information to IDOT. The process is moving along smoothly. Dan Jacobson thanked Tim Bragg for taking care of this so quickly.

**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:**

No report.

**3.27 Ogle County Highway Department:**

Not present.

**3.28 Boone County Council of Aging:**

Not present.

**3.29 State Line Area Transportation Study:**

Not Present.

**3.30 Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division:**

Not Present.



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**3.31 Economic Development District of Northern Illinois (EDDNI):**

Mike Hren commenting on behalf of the EDDNI. EDDNI is working on a number of grant opportunities, criminal justice and some others. We are also working on some workforce development plans with both McHenry County and Winnebago County as well. Also working on a site selector website for the most available industrial and commercial sites in Boone and Winnebago County. Will expand the scope as time permit

**3.32 Growth Dimensions:**

Not Present.

**3.33 Stateline Mass Transit District:**

Not Present.

**3.34 Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning:**

We have been involved in the COR Bike Share Feasibility Study, and asked for help with some projects in the City of Belvidere. Namely to help with some of the planning work that has been going on around the Boone County Courthouse and Belvidere City Police Department, Michael Dunn, Jr. wanted to thank Sydney Turner and Colin Belle for their hard work on this project. Michael Dunn, Jr. stated that he has been involved in a lot of the Great Lakes Basin RR meetings. Most notably in regards to how we have been involved as an MPO. We have been invited to an MPO meeting in Janesville with the STB for any MPO that is engaged in an area where the proposed route is located. There was mostly negative feedback from the MPOs in the room. Michael Dunn, Jr. wants everyone to know there are varying levels of concerns and topics as well (environmental, NIMBY, safety equipment, etc.) The STB is taking comments from anyone within a 30mile radius of the route. The process as outlined states a party must have an impact and the consultant will have a minimum of 3.5 years of due diligence before the EIS is complete. So far that has really been the only role that we as an MPO have had. The STB is going to determine the route due to the mitigating circumstances and the eventual route could be completely different from where it is proposed now. All of these concerns shall be looked at. The MPO will continue to play a supporting role in the process as we are asked to. We have no jurisdiction over this process. The STB is inclined to approve large projects of regional significance with lesser concerns to smaller land issues. The STB final assessment will look at all factors. It will be an environmentally sensitive plan that may not coincide with what is currently planned. The Policy Committee, next meeting, will decide on what they would like their tentative preliminary position to be on the GLBRR. So far the feedback has been more predisposed to the negative. Route could continue to change and be adjusted in the future. No one truly knows what the most likely scenario is.

Mr. Hartley inquired if a utility corridor was also being planned along the entire route and is that a different regulatory committee that would look at or approve that. Mr. Dunn responded yes to both

our future, our goals, our map

313 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101

direct 779.348.RMAP fax 815.967.6913 web rmapil.org

Mayor Mike Chamberlain  
City of Belvidere, RMAP Chair

Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg  
City of Loves Park

Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
City of Rockford

Gary L. Marzorati, Board Chair  
Rockford Mass Transit District

Mayor Jerry Bolin  
Village of Machesney Park, RMAP Vice-Chair

Chairman Scott Christiansen,  
Winnebago County

Chairman Bob Walberg  
Boone County

Deputy Director Paul Loete  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
Region 2





Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

questions as he understands it. This is new to the Surface Transportation Board and it will take them some time to go over all the facts and final decisions. The two projects are not linked nor looked at in concurrence. Mr. Hartley also wants to know about this project possibly being fast-tracked. Mr. Dunn wants to dispel that rumor. It is being estimated that the process, EIS and findings, may take as long as 3 years, so the project will not be fast-tracked. Mr. Hartley would also like to know what type of freight is being handled on this line, will it be hazardous cargo. Mr. Dunn replied that he is not certain but that yes at times it may carry hazardous materials as all freight line do, and yes it would make more sense to circumnavigate Chicago with hazardous cargo because it would be removing it from a much more densely populated region. This is the current type of cargo being transported through the region. Mr. Hartley inquired if eminent domain can even be used as a taking of property. Mr. Dunn replied that yes, it is constitutional and they will be given a license as a Railroad, part of that being they have eminent domain authority.

**4. RMAP FY 2016 – FY 2019 TIP Amendment Resolution 2016-5:**

Amendment to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program at the request of the IDOT, Winn. County Highway Dept., and the Rockford Mass Transit District for the modification of existing projects and addition of projects. Up for action at 10:45am. First Motion made by Mr. Wayne Vlk, Seconded by Mr. Dan Jacobson.

**5. RMAP FY 2017 Unified Work Program (UWP):**

Discussion of transportation planning activities for next year’s (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017) UWP draft.

**6. Progress Reports**

None

**7. Other Business**

None

**8. Adjournment**

Mr. Dunn entertains a motion to adjourn. First Motion made by Mr. Dave Lindberg, Seconded by Mr. Tom Hartley. Meeting adjourned at 10:50am.