



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**RMAP Mobility Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 12, 2011
YWCA
4990 East State Street
Rockford, IL 61108**

ATTENDEES: Co-Chairman John Slattengren, Boone County Council on Aging.; Fred Franck, Barbara Olson; Linda Sheridan, Illinois Growth Enterprises; Curtis Jones, IDOT; Carol Green, Lifescape Community Services; Rhonda Barrigas, RAMP; Jon Paul Diipla, Christina Washington, RMAP; Lisa Brown, Dennis Hendricks, Paula Hughes, RMTD; John Strandin, WIB.

OTHERS PRESENT: None

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Co-Chairman Slattengren called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS:** Attendees introduced themselves.
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Co-Chairman Slattengren entertains a motion to approve the agenda. 1st Motion moved by Mr. John Strandin, WIB; seconded by Ms. Carol Green, Lifescape Community Services. Motion carried.
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE 03/08/11 MOBILITY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**
Co-Chairman Slattengren entertained a motion to approve the March 8, 2011 minutes.
Motion was made by Ms. Lisa Brown, RMTD; seconded by Ms. Rhonda Barrigas, RAMP. Motion carried.
- 5. HSTP CALL FOR PROJECTS:**
Mr. Diipla stated there are two projects that have been proposed from RMTD. The first application is for New Freedom funds for 100% expense for full funding amount of \$191,641.00 to build bus shelters. The second application is for the Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) project for RMTD bus services to Belvidere, the amount applied for is \$199,208.00 which is using FY09 funds (full amount) as well as *partial* amount of the FY10 funds. Mr. Diipla provided a summary of the projects submitted and opened it up for discussion. A brief discussion took place regarding RMTD's project to build bus shelters and the JARC project for services to Belvidere.

Ms. Hughes stated that the commute to Belvidere would be a one (1) year project.

Mr. Hendricks stated he met with Mayor Brereton last Friday (April 8, 2011) regarding the JARC project for RMTD services to Belvidere. Currently with the economy the way it is Belvidere can only look at this as a one (1) year project and they will re-assess within the next year regarding continuing the project. Mr. Hendricks stated there is a possibility of the Public Aid Office in Belvidere closing and if that happens RMTD will have to re-look at the service route so that transportation can be provided for the people needing to get to the Public Aid office in Rockford from Belvidere. The need for transportation to Belvidere will be even greater if the Public Aid office in Belvidere closes.

Mr. Strandin stated that Rockford/Belvidere Route was the #1 recommendation from WIB's committee 4 years ago. Mr. Strandin stated they just completed a labor study which would assist in looking at the transportation needs for employees to get to their jobs.

Co-Chairman Slattengren entertains a motion to approve both projects from RMTD forward to use the JARC and New Freedom funds. Motion to approve by Carol Green, Lifescape Community Services, seconded by John Strandin, WIB. Motion carried.

6 RURAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE:

Co-Chairman Slattengren stated that there has been talk with Lifescape to look at the non-urbanized section of Winnebago County for service in rural transit and opens up the topic for discussion.

Mr. Diipla stated that about a month ago he was approached about rural transportation service. Mr. Diipla asked if there is any interest in providing transportation to rural areas of Winnebago County which would be outside of RMAP's planning area. Mr. Diipla stated the funding source for such a project would be through 5311 which is Rural Transit funding and Winnebago County has three (3) years of funding stored and equals roughly to about \$185,000.00. In talking with Ed Heflin from RTAC there is a three (3) step process in utilizing this money for potential transit service. There is a transit improvement stage, a survey of the needs of the area is initiated, and then System Development is looked at. Mr. Diipla stated he wanted to make Mobility Subcommittee aware of this project and to see if there are any ideas from them regarding this potential project.

Ms. Green stated that she was part of the initial meetings regarding Rural Transportation Service and there are a lot of issues that need to be addressed and it would be very difficult with funding from their standpoint. Ms. Green stated she would like to see the process move forward because there is a need out there for rural transportation service but Winnebago County would really need to push the project forward which is the primarily the first step.

Mr. Diipla provided some materials from Mr. Ed Heflin regarding the needs for rural transportation service. Mr. Diipla stated he thinks it would be a good idea to schedule a meeting with the interested parties and then after that meeting a meeting with Winnebago County would be next step. Mr. Diipla asked members to follow-up with him if there is any interest on Rural Transit service.

7. DISCUSSION:

Ms. Barrigas asked RMTD about the Circuit Breaker eligibility for free rides and if that has affected RMTD's ridership?

Ms. Brown stated that currently it has not affected RMTD's ridership count.

8. COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Slattengren stated that April 27-28, 2011 is the Annual Spring Conference for RTAC and held in Springfield, Illinois. The conference is free of charge to interested parties.

Ms. Hughes stated that the RMTD East Side transfer building is going up. RMTD will provide invites to Mobility Subcommittee members for the East Side Transfer grand opening closer to date of completion.

9. PROGRESS REPORTS:

9.01 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) status and issues that might affect the TIP:

Mr. Diipla stated there is nothing new to report.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Haight entertained a motion to adjourn the April 12, 2011 meeting. Motion by Ms. Rhonda Barrigas, RAMP and second motion by Mr. John Strandin, WIB, meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.