

NOTICE OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING for ROCKFORD URBAN AND METROPOLITAN AREA

Notice is hereby given that the Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning (RMAP), the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Rockford Urban and Metropolitan area, is seeking public comment on the transportation planning process and the development of the following documents. RMAP coordinates publicly funded transportation planning and improvements among the various jurisdictions in Winnebago and Boone Counties.

1. RMAP FY2012 - FY2015 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP): This document will identify and prioritize all major transportation and public transit improvements scheduled for implementation in the RMAP Metropolitan Area in the next four fiscal years (actual dates - July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2015). The document is now under development and a draft will be available for comment June 23, 2011. The target adoption is on or about July 28, 2011. Public comments will be accepted anytime, but should be submitted prior to July 21, 2011. Pending recommendation by the Technical Committee at their July 21, 2011 meeting in Loves Park City Hall, the final TIP will be on the Policy Committee agenda for possible approval at their July 28, 2011 meeting at 1:15pm at Belvidere City Hall. This document can either be viewed at the RMAP offices located at 313 N Main St or electronically at http://www.rmapil.org/assets/documents/tip_2012_draft.pdf as soon as it is posted.

2. 2040 RMAP LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP). The LRTP discusses, plans, and assigns priority for all major transportation system improvements for the Metropolitan Area over the next 20 to 30 years. Federal transportation regulations mandate an update of this document be done once every 5 years. Accordingly, in FY2010 RMAP developed and revised the content of the document to reflect the current status of transportation planning in the region along with future goals and expectations that cover the 30 year planning horizon of this organization. (The RMAP Policy Committee adopted the 2040 RMAP Long Range Transportation Plan at their July 29, 2010 meeting.) RMAP will continue to accept questions and comments about this plan. A digital version of this plan can be found at http://www.rmapil.org/assets/documents/2040_lrtp.pdf.

3. RMAP COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN (HSTP): The HSTP is a locally developed plan that identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes. The purpose of the Human Services Transportation Plan is to assess the needs and concerns of public transit users in the Metropolitan Planning Area and to develop strategies that will address and remedy these concerns. The overall goal of the plan is to increase the efficiency of services provided to public transit dependent populations (individuals with disabilities, persons with low income and elderly individuals). The Human Services Transportation Plan is also a prerequisite, as stipulated by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), to receiving any Federal Transit Administration funding under the 5310 (Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Program- CVP), 5316 (Job Access and Reverse Commute), 5317 (New Freedom) programs. This document can be viewed at any time on RMAP's website at http://www.rmapil.org/assets/documents/rmap_hstp_2008.pdf and or by stopping by our office.

4. RMAP UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP): The UWP document specifies the transportation planning work and budget over the RMAP fiscal year (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012). A Draft version of the FY2012 UWP will be presented to the RMAP Technical Committee at its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 24, 2011 at the Loves Park City Hall. This document will be brought up on the RMAP Policy Committee agenda for possible adoption at its May 26, 2011 meeting at the Boone County Administration Building. This document is available for public review at RMAP's website at http://www.rmapil.org/assets/documents/uwp_2012.pdf and at RMAP's office at 313 North Main Street, Rockford, IL. Comments are accepted at any time and at all RMAP Technical Committee meetings and Policy Committee meetings on the current FY 2011 UWP or the draft FY 2012 (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012) UWP.

5. RMAP PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN (PPP): The RMAP PPP defines the process that seeks public participation, gives public notice, and holds for review any documentation or actions taken in the RMAP transportation planning process. In accordance with this plan, RMAP is notifying the general public that the PPP and the previously mentioned work items may be updated within this fiscal year (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012) to comply with federal regulation and to update this document based upon public comments received. A digital version of this document can be found on the RMAP website at http://www.rmapil.org/assets/documents/final_ppp.pdf.

6. FHWA / FTA CERTIFICATION REVIEW OF RMAP

One of the requirements of U.S. Department of Transportation is that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), like RMAP, must undergo a certification review by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) every four years. Based upon the most recent review that was conducted in 2007 by FHWA and FTA, the RMAP transportation planning process is **FULLY CERTIFIED**. RMAP will again be undergoing a certification review of its planning process and documents by FHWA and FTA in 2011. If any citizen, community organization or civic groups / businesses want to make comments on the overall transportation planning process of RMAP, please contact RMAP and submit your ideas. Future notices will provide specific dates on when the FHWA and FTA will be conducting the certification review of this organization.

Public comments are welcomed on all the above work at all RMAP meetings or by contacting RMAP by telephoning, e-mailing or writing. RMAP Technical Committee meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of each month and the Policy Committee meetings on the following Thursday. The exact meeting dates, times, and locations are finalized and announced at least a week in advance. Persons seeking more information on these meetings, the above mentioned studies or any other information related to RMAP should view the material on our web site at <http://www.rmapil.org> or contact RMAP Staff:

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