



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Fred Brereton, City of Belvidere; Mr. Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park; Mr. Rich Lundin, Boone County; Mr. Jim Ryan, City of Rockford; Mr. Steve Chapman, Winnebago County; Ms. Kris Tobin, Illinois Department of Transportation- District 2.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Village of Machesney Park.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Ernst, Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Hren, Christina Washington, Colin Belle, RMAP Staff; Susan Stitt, IDOT Transit & Metro Planning; Patrick Zuroske, City of Rockford Public Works; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway; Steve Frerichs, Chastain & Associates; Brian Leaf, Rockford Register Star.

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND REPRESENTATION:** Meeting was called to order by Mayor Brereton with a quorum present at 1:17 PM.

2. **COMMUNICATIONS:** Mr. Ernst provided members with the following information:

- Illinois Tollway information regarding the I-90 Shoulder Widening and Bridge Reconstruction and I-90/Illinois Route 47 Interchange projects.
- A Chicago Tribune article regarding a joint purchase of bi-level passenger rail cars. The State of California will be the lead agency with the State of Illinois participating. Illinois will participate on behalf of the Midwest region of the United States.
- A copy of a letter from IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider discussing the impact of pension and Medicaid reform on the multi-year transportation plans of IDOT.
- RMTD will hold a grand opening for their East Side Transfer Center on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at 10:00 at the Lyford Road Site. Mayor Morrissey and IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider will be in attendance.
- Congressman Manzullo will host a regional transportation forum on Wednesday, May 2, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. to be held at the Chicago Rockford International Airport's Administration building (auditorium), with Congressman Bobby Schilling in attendance. More information will be forwarded as it becomes available.

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Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
City of Rockford, Chairman
Chairman Bob Walberg
Boone County, Vice-Chairman

Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg
City of Loves Park
Mayor Frederic C. Brereton
City of Belvidere

Chairman Scott H. Christiansen
Winnebago County
Mayor Tom Strickland
Village of Machesney Park

Acting Deputy Director Eric Therkildsen
Illinois Department of Transportation,
Region 2

3. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 29, 2012 RMAP POLICY MEETING MINUTES: Motion to approve minutes by the City of Rockford, seconded by Winnebago County. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

4. RMAP TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT:

The City of Rockford has projects that are federally funded that need to be amended into the highway portion of the current TIP. Two (2) bridge replacement projects (Reed Avenue and Pierce Avenue) and a Safe Routes to School Program award for infrastructure improvements at Froberg and Nashold schools. Mr. Ernst stated that there was a unanimous approval at the April 19, 2012 Technical Committee meeting to recommend approval of Resolution 2012-6.

Mayor Brereton entertained a motion to approve RMAP Resolution 2012-6. Motion by Winnebago County, seconded by Boone County. RMAP Resolution 2012-6 was unanimously approved (6-0).

5. RMAP FY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT:

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP Resolution 2012-7 is a comparable TIP amendment for the transit portion of the current TIP which programs dollars from JARC, New Freedom and 5307 funds for RMTD and Rock River Training Corporation. The projects include the following:

- New Freedom funding for the full amount of \$95,413 to provided same day Paratransit Service for RMTD.
- JARC funding in the amount of \$232,276 to continue RMTD Fixed Route Service to Belvidere, with partial FY10 and partial FY11 used to implement this project.
- JARC funding for the amount of \$2,900 to develop a web based commuter management system called the Commuter Connection. Partial FY11 funds will be used to implement this project.

All projects were reviewed and recommended by the Mobility Subcommittee at their April 10, 2012 meeting, and subsequently recommended by the Technical Committee at the April 19, 2012 meeting. Mayor Brereton entertained a motion to approve RMAP Resolution 2012-7. Motion by the City of Rockford, seconded by Boone County. RMAP Resolution 2012-7 was unanimously approved (6-0).

6. Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan:

Mr. Ernst stated that the LEP is a document that brings RMAP into compliance with executive order 13166 titled "Improving Access to Services for Person With Limited English Proficiency". RMAP has released a draft of the LEP to the public for comment and analysis, including the creation of a public notice and allotment of a forty-five day comment period from February 22, 2012 – April 7, 2012. The LEP plan was developed, announced and distributed in accordance with RMAP's Public Participation Plan and federal guidelines.

The LEP Plan was unanimously recommended at the April 19, 2012 Technical Committee meeting. Mayor Brereton entertained a motion to approve RMAP Resolution 2012-8. Motion by the City of Loves Park, seconded by the City of Rockford. RMAP Resolution 2012-8 was unanimously approved (6-0).

7. RMAP FY13 DRAFT UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP):

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP has transmitted a draft of the work program for the next fiscal year to the Technical Committee members and IDOT for their review. RMAP received a slight funding cut from IDOT from the FHWA PL funding category. No comments have been received to date. The new 2010 census data for the Urbanized Area will impact the local amounts as the shares are based on population (see item #8 below). No action is required at this time. RMAP will be looking to approve the final UWP document at the May 24, 2012 RMAP Policy Committee meeting.

8. URBANIZED AREA (UA) BOUNDARIES:

On March 26, 2012 the Census Bureau released the new urbanized boundaries nationwide. Mr. Ernst provided a brief summary of the changes for the urbanized area (UA). The new UA has expanded to the east to include Poplar Grove and parts of Timberlane, as well as to include Roscoe and a small portion of South Beloit. Davis Junction and northern Ogle County is now contiguous to the RMAP UA.

Mr. Ernst stated that the UA population rose from 270,000 to 297,000 and much of that growth was in Boone County. Mr. Ernst stated he would be providing members with detailed charts of the new UA population data. There are some minor issues to resolve between RMAP and SLATS near the state line. In addition, the new UA population figures will impact the agency pro-rate share of RMAP local contributions.

Mayor Brereton asked if Roscoe would become a Policy member. Mr. Ernst stated that Roscoe would have to meet a percentage threshold in order to become a Policy member and currently they do not meet that percentage.

9. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

9.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis & Amtrak Service: Mr. Ernst reported that the Chicago Tribune article he provided earlier is positive news for modern day train sets and might be available for the Chicago-Dubuque run once it's up and running. RMAP will be meeting with IDOT-DPIT to finalize the language for design assistance for the downtown Rockford multi-modal station. In addition, the Tri-State Alliance Summit will be held on Friday, May 18, 2012 in Dubuque. IDOT will give an Amtrak update at the event.

9.02 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband: No report.

9.03 RMAP Regional Freight Study: No report.

9.04 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee: RMAP Resolution 2012-7 concluded much of the work of the Mobility Subcommittee, so no meetings are scheduled at the current time.

9.05 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters: Paul Callighan would like RMAP to post data on Electrical Aggregation and RMAP to the RMAP's website.

9.06 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy: Mr. Ryan reported that the City of Rockford received a pre-final award letter from the EDA for a \$2.7 million dollar project to improve access to the airport.

9.07 HUD Sustainability Grant: Mr. Ernst introduced Colin Belle who has been hired as a RMAP Metropolitan Planner. Mr. Belle previously worked as a Research Associate with the Vital Signs project. FEMA has requested that RMAP included analyses of disaster-prone areas (mostly flooding) that will lead to strategies to mitigate some of those problems as part of the sustainability efforts. Winnebago County is about ready to update their multi-hazard mitigation plan and FEMA the region to consider a consolidated hazard mitigation plan for the entire region.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ernst stated that enhance grant applications (ITEP) are due May 29, 2012. Any questions or assistance should be directed to Gary McIntyre at RMAP. It is possible that this may be the final round of enhancements grants.

Mr. Diipla stated that three agencies (RMTD, Rock River Training Corporation and Lifescape Community Services) applied for Vehicle Procurement Program funds and those applications have been received by RMAP and have been forwarded to IDOT-DPIT for review and approval. No action is required.

11. ADJOURNMENT: As there was no further business. Mayor Brereton entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Boone County, and seconded by the City of Rockford. Approved unanimously (6-0). The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 P.M.