



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, December 20, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bob Walberg, Boone County; Mayor Lawrence Morrissey, City of Rockford; Mayor Darryl Lindberg, City of Loves Park; Mr. Steve Chapman, Winnebago County; Mr. Tim Savage, Village of Machesney Park.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: City of Belvidere; IDOT District 2.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Ernst, Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Hren, Colleen Hoesly, Colin Belle, RMAP Staff; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago County Highway; Bob Soltau; SLATS; Joshua McClusky, IDOT Transit & Metro Planning.

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND REPRESENTATION:** Meeting was called to order by Chairman Walberg with a quorum present at 1:19 PM.

2. **COMMUNICATIONS:** Mr. Ernst provided members a copy of the letter from a coalition of Mayor's along Interstate I-90 to Governor Quinn and the Illinois Tollway concerning passenger rail planning. Also included is the response letter the coalition received. Mayor Morrissey stated that he recently had a call with Illinois Tollway Director Lafleur and IDOT Secretary Schneider regarding rail along Interstate I-90. Mayor Morrissey indicated that the Canadian National provided a cost estimate for track upgrades for the Amtrak service that was significantly greater than the IDOT estimate. Secretary Schneider is open to coming to Rockford in January or February 2013 to discuss; RMAP staff to coordinate.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 29, 2012 RMAP POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:** Motion to approve the November 29, 2012 minutes was made by the Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Winnebago County. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

4. **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205 – RESOLUTION 2012-14:** Mr. Ernst stated that at last month's meeting there was some confusion regarding Resolution 2012-14. Mr. Ernst provided a brief summary of the agreement between RMAP and School District #205.

Mr. Ernst stated that one of the clauses in the agreement that was somewhat confusing was that the agreement would allow the school board president to be on the Policy Committee. Mr. Ernst stated that School District #205 would not be considered part of the quorum and would serve as an ex-officio member.

Mayor Morrissey provided comments on the importance that RMAP Resolution 2012-14 be approved, with the agreement being the first step towards comprehensive regional planning. Mayor Lindberg asked if RMAP would be adding staff because of the agreement. Mr. Ernst replied that the current RMAP staff would be sufficient to comply with the terms of the agreement. Mayor Lindberg directed staff to make outreach to the other school districts in the region to see if they might be interested in similar agreements. Mr. Ernst stated that he will be scheduling time for discussion on the proposed concept of a Regional Planning Board, which is the logical body to include school district representation. Mr. Ernst would like to involve consultant assistance as this discussion moves forward. A motion to approve Resolution 2012-14 was made by the City of Rockford, seconded by the City of Loves Park and approved unanimously (5-0).

5. URBANIZED AREA BOUNDARIES:

Mr. Ernst stated that our Urbanized Area boundaries are being reviewed due to the release of the 2010 Census. RMAP has been working with Ogle County and SLATS to finalize the boundary. Mr. Ernst stated he'll continue to update members as RMAP works through process.

6. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

6.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis & Amtrak Service: See agenda item #2.

6.02 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband: No report.

6.03 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee: No report.

6.04 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters: No report.

6.05 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy: No report.

6.06 HUD Sustainability Grant: No report.

6.07 Chicago/Rockford International Airport Part 150 Noise Study: No report.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairman Walberg stated that Boone County is working hard to complete land acquisition for the portion of the Irene Road project that involves the Illinois Tollway. The agreement now includes complete bridge replacement as part of the 2014 – 2014 construction on the Jane Addams. Chairman Walberg sees the Irene Road corridor as a regional project beneficial to both counties, and see the potential for it to be used for regional transit.

Mayor Lindberg stated that the Wantz Bridge project is moving forward and major bridge funding will be needed in the near future. He asked for support from the RMAP Policy members.

Mr. Ernst stated that were hopeful that the Governor will make the announcement on the final round of enhancements before the end of the year.

Mayor Lindberg stated that the Harlem Community Center received a \$4 million dollar grant to build a new daycare facility.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business, City of Rockford made a motion to adjourn, seconded by the Village of Machesney Park. Approved unanimously (5-0). The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 P.M.