

CONSIDERATIONS AND PROCEDURES IN THE PLANNING PROCESS*

Recognize the rights of citizens to participate in planning decisions

Strive to give citizens (including those who lack formal organization or influence) full, clear and accurate information on planning issues and the opportunity to have a meaningful role in the development of plans and programs

Strive to expand choice and opportunity for all persons, recognizing a special responsibility to plan for the needs of disadvantaged groups and persons

Assist in the clarification of community goals, objectives and policies in plan-making

Ensure that reports, records and any other non-confidential information which is, or will be, available to decision makers is made available to the public in a convenient format and sufficiently in advance of any decision

Strive to protect the integrity of the natural environment and the heritage of the built environment

Pay special attention to the coordination of decisions and the long range consequences of present actions

*Excerpts for Ethical Principles in Planning- American Planning Association.
www.planning.org

RATS

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RATS

**Rockford Area Transportation Study
Metropolitan Planning Organization**
City of Rockford, Public Works Department
425 East State Street, Rockford, IL 61104

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

(PPP)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN (PPP)

The Public Participation Plan is a document that identifies the methods taken to engage the public in transportation planning decisions. The document also provides information regarding the transportation planning process, organizations involved in the transportation planning process and information regarding other RATS Planning documents.

The PPP is required by the federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). As stipulated in SAFETEA-LU, a 45 day public comment period is afforded. The purpose of this comment period is to solicit feedback from the public as to how they perceive the transportation planning process as well as to solicit suggestions from the public as to how to better the process.

Public comments will be accepted regarding the PPP from May 19, 2008 until July 2, 2008. Comments can be submitted to RATS through e-mail, telephone or sending written comments. RATS staff contact information is listed on the back of this brochure.

HOW CAN THE PUBLIC PROVIDE INPUT FOR THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN?

The public can provide input for the Public Participation Plan by attending open houses regarding the plan, attending any of the RATS Policy Committee, Technical Committee or Mobility Subcommittee meetings. Members of the public may also provide input for the plan by contacting RATS staff (contact information is provided on the back of this brochure). Meeting dates for the various RATS committees can be found on the RATS webpage:

<http://www.rockfordil.gov/government/works/index.cfm?section=planning&id=977>

WHAT IS THE RATS MOBILITY SUBCOMMITTEE?

The RATS Mobility Subcommittee was created to address various transportation issues in the Metropolitan Planning Area. Among its duties are to assist in the development of the RATS PPP, assist in exploring other possible mode choices and transportation services to adjacent areas to RATS and to act upon associated issues as identified by the RATS Policy and Technical Committees. Further information regarding the RATS Mobility Subcommittee can be obtained by contacting RATS Staff.



THE RELATIONSHIP AND IMPORTANCE BETWEEN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND TRANSPORTATION

Transportation systems are used by the public on a daily basis

Accessible transportation is important to get people to and from work, activities, etc.

Transportation options are a vital component of citizens livelihoods

Your opinions are valuable and essential in improving transportation for all citizens



HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

If you would like to be added to the RATS mailing list to receive meeting notices, etc. please fill out, detach and return this page with your contact information to:

The Rockford Area Transportation Study
425 East State Street
Rockford, IL 61104

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Your input is always welcome

Thank you for your interest.