



**Rockford Area Transportation Study
Metropolitan Planning Organization**

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mayor Charles E. Box, City of Rockford
Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg, City of Loves Park
Board Chairman Kristine Cohn, Winnebago County
President Stephen Kuhn, Village of Machesney Park
District Engineer Roger E. Rocke, Illinois Department
of Transportation, District 2

Meeting Minutes – RATS Technical Committee

Meeting Date: February 17, 2000 – Loves Park City Hall

Members Present: Carlos Molina, Winnebago County Highway Dept.; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway Dept.; Mary Allen Verdun, IDOT District 2; Steve Ernst, Rockford Public Works Department; David Nord, Cherry Valley; Eric Anderson, Winnebago County Planning.

Others Present: Bob Soltau, Illinois Department of Transportation (Springfield); Gary McIntyre, RATS staff; Russ Petrotte, RATS staff; Jim Ryan, Rockford Public Works; Vance Hultgren, Illinois State Toll Highway Authority; Anna Gray, Boone County Council on Ageing; Janet Anderson, State Line Area Transportation Study.

1. CALL TO ORDER / APPROVAL OF MINUTES: At 10:06 A.M. and with a quorum present, Steve Ernst called the meeting to order and directed attention to the minutes of the January 20, 2000, Technical Committee meeting. Rich Lundin moved to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Dan Jacobson and approved unanimously.

2. AGENCY REPORTS: Agencies present reported on the progress of their ongoing highway projects. An updated TIP Status Report listing highway improvement projects is attached to these minutes reflecting the updated information. Gary McIntyre noted a letter from IDOT regarding Easy Street.

3. FY 2000 UWP: Russ Petrotte stated that the proposed Unified Work Program needs to be developed and submitted to IDOT by March 15th. Bob Soltau asked if the draft program could be submitted earlier. Mr. Petrotte cited the funding marks issued by IDOT and noted the increase from last year's marks – \$71,068 in transit planning funds, up \$8,229 from last year; and \$277,774 in highway planning funds, up \$2,211 from last year – a total increase of \$10,440.

Mr. Petrotte explained that the only major project currently proposed, outside of the normal UWP/TIP/LRP work, is the continuation of the Pavement Management data gathering project initiated by the City of Rockford. That project was started last year. It will take three years to complete the initial comprehensive inventory of street characteristics and conditions. Last year RATS programmed roughly \$50,000 for this work. Similar amounts will be needed for the next two years after which the project will go into a less intensive data-maintenance mode. The information will be used to assess the magnitude to the City's street maintenance needs and aid in prioritizing when and how the streets should be maintained.

Mr. Petrotte asked the Committee to authorize him to prepare a draft UWP that included the above and reflected the continuation of all other normal RATS planning activities. He said he would identify the funding needs of the Lead Agency, now the City of Rockford Public Works Department, and then distribute the remaining funds to the other RATS participants in proportions similar to what they have received and/or used in previous years.

The Committee suggested that Mr. Petrotte proceed to develop a draft work program and submit it to IDOT at the earliest possible time. He said he would inform the Policy Committee of this at their next meeting and seek their endorsement.

4. FY-2000 TIP AMENDMENT: Gary McIntyre explained that the FY 2000 Transportation Improvement Program is in need of amendment to advance a number of projects that IDOT feels are worthy of more timely action and for which funding has been identified. He said the last mailing included a draft of proposed Resolution 2000-3 listing three of these projects. Two others have come to light since the Resolution was drafted. The projects and requested actions are listed in the table below.

After a brief discussion, Dan Jacobson moved to recommend Policy Committee approval of Resolution 2000-3 (including all five projects discussed). The motion was seconded by Rich Lundin and approved unanimously.

Proposed FY 2000 TIP Amendment					
Project #	Project	Extent	Improvement	Cost	Change
1-00-23	IL-2 Northbound	State St to Harlem Blvd	Resurface	STP-S \$860K; State \$215K	Add to TIP, Yr 2000
1-00-24	IL-2 Southbound	Jefferson St to Morgan St	Resurface	STP-S \$580K; State \$145K	Add to TIP, Yr 2000
1-00-25	US 20 (ByPass)	@ Rock River	Surface, abutment & expansion joint work	State \$500K	Add to TIP, Yr 2000
3-00-63	Easy St	Samuelson Rd to Development Dr; Improve access to DB Metal Finishing & the Greater Rockford Industrial Park	Modify / construct	IDOT Ec Dev \$267K; Truck Access \$31K; Local \$319K	Add to TIP, Yr 2000
1-00-8	IL 70 / Kilburn Av	Taylor St to Jefferson St	Reconstruct	STP-S \$560K; State \$140K	Move from 2001 to 2000

5. STP-U PROJECT SELECTION: Steve Ernst and Russ Petrotte reiterated many of the conclusions reached at last month's Technical Committee meeting. At that time, it was the consensus of the Committee that the proposed additions to the STP-U selection criteria and the project/funding application format were satisfactory to all. It was also the consensus that the Harrison Avenue Improvement Project, as proposed by the City, was an eligible and worthy candidate project. Mr. Petrotte said he formalized these conclusions as part of proposed Resolution 2000-4 which was mailed to all on the mailing list, last week. The Committee reviewed the resolution and its addendums. Members of the Committee noted that, in the past, actual construction design and engineering was usually considered eligible for Federal funding; only the project preliminary engineering was typically required to be a 100 percent local expense.

After a brief discussion, Dan Jacobson moved to recommend Policy Committee approval of Resolution 2000-4 with a change that allows construction engineering costs to be funded with Federal funds. The motion was seconded by Mary Allen Verdun and approved unanimously. Mr. Petrotte was instructed to change the wording in the resolution and addendums, with regard to the engineering costs and submit the documents to the Policy Committee. It was also suggested that the Policy Committee be asked to approve the resolution at their February meeting rather than lay it over until March. If acted on in February, this could eliminate the need for a March meeting.

6.1. SPRINGFIELD / HARRISON EXTENSION PROJECT: Carlos Molina reported that property acquisition is continuing on both the north and south sections of this project. The project is on schedule and a June letting is possible.

6.2. WinGIS: Russ Petrotte reported that all jurisdictions, except for the Rockford Park District and the City of Rockford, have adopted a resolution of intent to adopt the

WinGIS Cooperative Agreement. Members of the WinGIS Technical Committee have been meeting with Park District staff and officials to address the District's concerns. He said, if the project is to move forward without significant delay, the contract for ground control needs to be let by June 1, 2000 and the contract for new orthophotography should be let no later than December 1, 2000.

Mr. Soltau said the remaining funds in the IDOT grant related to WinGIS cannot be used for travel but could be used for additional GIS software training or for a pilot study. Future possible meetings of the WinGIS Committees were announced.

6.3. RAT/SLAT MODELING STUDY: Gary McIntyre said the first draft of a traffic analysis zone (TAZ) map for Boone and Winnebago Counties has been completed. The zones for the Beloit area are being added. He said he is now working extensively with the new employment data and the tedious process of assigning the data to the correct TAZs. He discussed some of the changes in employment since 1991 and some of the problems he is experiencing with the data.

7. COMMUNICATIONS: None.

8. OTHER BUSINESS: The need for a March meeting was discussed and it was concluded that the meeting may not be needed. Dan Jacobson gave a brief update on the status of the Loves Park Flood Control Project.

9. ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to conduct, Mary Allen Verdun moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Rich Lundin and approved unanimously at 11:14 AM.