



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, January 20, 2011**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonah Katz, City of Rockford CD; Patrick Zuroske, City of Rockford CIP; Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford Traffic; Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development; Ben Ackert, Village of Winnebago; Kathy Miller, Boone-Belvidere Planning; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway; Dan Long, IDOT District 2; Curtis Jones, IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning; Wayne Vlk, Winnebago Co. Highway; David Townsend, Winnebago Co. Highway; John Donovan, FHWA; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works; Jim Johnson, RMTD; Bunny Anderson, Illinois State Toll Highway Authority.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Chicago/Rockford Airport, Village of Roscoe, Village of Machesney Park, Village of Cherry Valley, RAEDC, RRWRD.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Ernst, Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Maddox, Michael Hren RMAP Staff; Bob Soltau, SLATS; Steve Frerichs, Chastain & Assoc.; David Almy, Hanson; Gary Camling, Chris Baer, McClure Engineering; Brian Leaf, Rockford Register Star.

With a quorum present Mr. Ernst called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 9, 2010 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve the December 9, 2010 Technical Committee minutes. Motion to approve by Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway, seconded by the Jonah Katz, City of Rockford CD. Motion carried.

2. AGENCY REPORTS:

2.1 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2: Mr. Long reported that IL-173 final plans have been submitted to Springfield for the section from IL251 to Alpine. Phase II is underway and the consultant is evaluating alternates in the Rock Cut Park area.

IL 2 South Main Project 50% of plans for the Beltline to Clifton segment is completed. We are expecting 50% of the plans for the Clifton to Cedar segment in February.

IL 2 from Auburn to Riverside, IDOT will be holding a Public Meeting at Spectrum School from 1:00-6:00p on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 to show the results from the last couple of CAG meetings. The last few CAG meetings focused on determining the cross section and alignment for the different segments. Invitations will be sent to the property owners and an ad will be placed in the paper regarding this public meeting

West State Project to Sunset to Kent Creek, we have 50% plans in the office are and are currently being reviewed.

IL 2 Elmwood to Latham we are anticipating the final plans will be submitted to Springfield next week.

2.2 Winnebago County Highway Department: Mr. Vlk reported that they received good bids for their energy project for Perryville Road LED change out and they hope to go to awards in early February.

IDOT letting for January the Kishwaukee Road Bridge over Kishwaukke River bridge replacement project and also large Meridian Road project from Cunningham up to Knapp and hope to get good bids on those.

We are continuing our planning process on all Welworth/Wentworth road projects that we received some economic funds from IDOT which is a TARP funded project.

We will be finishing up the Hononegah project which is 90% complete.

2.3 City of Rockford, Public Works Department: Mr. Zuroske reported that the Riverwalk Project goes to bid this Friday. State letting is scheduled for January 21, 2011.

Capital program has been introduced to the City of Rockford Elected Officials and have their first initial meeting this Saturday, January 22, 2011.

2.4 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department: No report.

2.5 Village of Machesney Park: Not present.

2.6 Chicago/Rockford International Airport: Not present.

2.7 Rockford Mass Transit District: Mr. Johnson reported that RMTD's bid package has been put together for a Route Study and it has been submitted to IDOT and RMTD is waiting for their concurrence.

2.8 City of Loves Park, Community Development Department: No report.

2.9 Village of Cherry Valley: Not present.

2.10 City of Rockford, Community Development Department: Mr. Katz reported that the 1st community wide meeting for the South Main Street (IL2) Revitalization project will be held on Thursday, January 27, 2011 at 6:00p and held at CCS/Youthbuild (917 South Main Street).

Mr. Katz reported that the City of Rockford are moving their web content to a new web page and Mr. Katz will be part of the team that updates the City of Rockford's website.

2.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department: Not present.

2.12 Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning Department: No report.

Mr. Ernst stated that Ms. Miller was named Director of the Belvidere/Boone County Planning Commission at their recent board meeting. Congratulations!

2.13 Boone County Highway Department: No report. Mr. Lundin reported resurfacing projects and engineering are complete. They are just waiting for townships to put their project together so they can have a better letting.

The bridge on Hunter Road over Beaver Creek preliminary engineering is at 100% and the design work is just beginning.

Mr. Lundin stated that in the paper today, they are having meetings regarding Wind Farm negotiations again.

2.14 City of Belvidere, Public Works Department: No report.

2.15 Village of Roscoe: Not present.

2.16 Village of Winnebago: No report.

2.17 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency: Not present.

2.18 Illinois State Toll Highway Authority: Ms. Anderson reported that during sub zero weather the Tollway activates their Zero Weather Road Patrol which allows more Help trucks on the road (24/7) in order to assist any drivers that might need assistance.

Tollway has signed a 3 year partnership with Fox Chicago that monitors traffic flows and will be able to provide TV/Radio coverage regarding the Tollway system.

The Illinois Tollway announced plans for its 2011 Congestion-Relief Program (CRP). By the end of 2010, the Illinois Tollway has completed nearly \$5 billion in improvements on the Tollway's roads on time and on budget, resulting in more efficient travel and a smoother ride for motorists. The CRP is nearly 85% complete. Congestion-Relief Program projects will continue through 2016. In 2011, work will include resurfacing I-90 from Barrington Road to the Elgin Toll Plaza and from U.S. 20 to Genoa Road, as well as design for resurfacing on I-90 from the Kennedy Expressway to Barrington Road. That is a huge investment for 2011 just in one corridor. Work will begin in April and will be one construction season and will be completed by the end of this year.

2.19 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation: Not present.

2.20 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning: No report.

2.21 Ogle County Highway Department: Not present.

2.22 Boone County Council of Aging: Not present.

2.23 State Line Area Transportation Study: Mr. Soltau reported that SLATS Long Range Plan is scheduled this year. We are just doing reaffirmation of the old plan and adding the new bike plan. Russ Petrotte has been assisting with the SLATS Long Range Plan.

2.24 Federal Highway Administration, IL Division: Mr. Donovan reported that noble activity from the new House of Representatives that adopted a new house rule which essentially drops the Guaranteed Funding Rule which was enacted in T21. Mr. Donovan stated that there are a lot of folks in the transportation community that is not pleased with this new rule. Mr. Donovan stated that essential we are subject to budget appropriations. This new rule will essentially limit the use of Highways Trust Funds monies for funding that explicitly identifies with SAFETEA-LU or significance of that such as TIGER and other programs that use joint funding can be called into question whether those projects can be advanced. Mr. Donovan stated that folks are still trying to figure out what this means and the affects they have.

Mr. Ernst and Mr. Zuroske asked Mr. Donovan if he had heard anything about Secretary LaHood's recent statement about a bill being ready by August 2011. Mr. Donovan stated he has not heard any confirmation.

2.25 Rockford Area Economic Development Council: Not present.

2.26 Rock River Water Reclamation District: Not present.

2.27 Growth Dimensions: Not present.

2.28 Stateline Mass Transit District: Not present.

2.29 Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning: Mr. Ernst reported that he just has some calendar of events announcements.

Thursday, January 27, 2011, RMAP Policy is held at 1:15p at the City of Belvidere City Hall Council Chambers. Directly after the meeting a NICTI Executive Committee meeting will be held at the same location.

Friday, January 28, 2011, RMAP/Just In Time Travel will be hosting the Blue Toad Travel Seminar at 9:30a and held at RMAP's Planning Conference Room. Members are invited to attend. Email notification will be sent out.

Tuesday, February 1, 2011, CMAP is hosting the MPC Roundtable from Noon-1:30p and held at MPC, 140 South Dearborn, Chicago, IL. The cost is \$30.00. Mr. Ernst will be participating in the panel discussion. Email notification will be sent out for more details.

Tuesday, February 15, 2011, RMAP is hosting the NEPA Workshop, the time is still TBD and will be held in RMAP's Planning Conference Room. Mr. John Donovan and Consultant will be leading the workshop. The workshop is free and members are invited to attend. Email invite will be sent out by Chris who will be looking for confirmation from folks who wants to attend.

Saturday, February 26, 2011, Sustainability Summit is scheduled from 9:00-1:00p and held at NIU/Rockford's Main Auditorium. Elected Officials in the region will be invited. This is the kickoff for the entire Sustainability Process. There will be 2 keynote speakers. More details to follow in the upcoming weeks.

2011 IDOT Fall Planning Conference is scheduled to be held on September 22-23, 2011 in Champaign, Urbana.

3. FY 2011-2014 TIP: AMENDMENT TO THE RMAP FY2011-2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – RMAP Resolution 2011-1:

Mr. Maddox stated that this TIP amendment is for the City of Rockford and the Rockford Park District. The City of Rockford's amendment is for a bridge project on Stonebridge Road. The Rockford Park District was awarded a four wheel drive tractor for snow removal.

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve recommendation of Resolution 2011-1. First motion by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford CIP, Second motion by Ms. Miller, Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning Department. Motion carries.

4. RMAP FY12 UWP DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Ernst stated that Mr. Gary McIntyre asked that this item be put on the agenda. RMAP is currently reviewing July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012 UWP to identify what projects should be included in the UWP. RMAP is asking its members to take a look at what's important to them and what they would like to see in the UWP. Please email Gary McIntyre (gary.mcintyre@rockfordil.gov) and cc Steve Ernst on your list of projects. Scope/Budget is always helpful in putting together the UWP, please make sure to include when you submit your projects. A draft of UWP needs to be done by March 2011. RMAP has not received funding marks for next year and are under the assumption that funding will be the same as last year.

5. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT UPDATE:

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP was asked to look at capacity issues during peak hours. A massive amount of traffic counting has been completed but some re-counting will need to be re-done in March that will include data while school is in session. Mr. Ernst stated that the results were a little different than what he expected and that only a few hot spots were determined. The consultant has developed web based maps which will be available on RMAP's website once the study is completed.

6. SECTION 5310 CONSOLIDATED VEHICLE PROCUREMENT (CVP) APPLICATIONS:

Mr. Dippla stated that two (2) applications were received by RMAP, one from RMTD and one from Barbara Olson. Applications were reviewed by RMAP and submitted to IDOT. Mr. Diipla wanted to inform Technical Committee that this process has taken place. Mobility is also aware of the current process.

7. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

7.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis: Covered in Agency Reports.

7.02 Amtrak Service to Rockford Metro Area: No report.

7.03 RMTD East Side Transfer Center: Mr. Johnson reported that construction is progressing along well. Lyford is complete. Foundations are in. Main building construction steel is 90% complete. Some small areas will be enclosed to get some masonry work completed.

7.04 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband: No report.

7.05 RMAP Regional Freight Study: No report.

7.06 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee: Mr. Diipla stated that the next RMAP Mobility Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 10:00a and held at the YWCA.

Mr. Diipla stated that JARC/New Freedom funding will be discussed at the next meeting.

7.07 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs): Mr. Ernst reported that the CEDs Strategy Committee has met and are entertaining new project for the CED Document. Draft document should be available in late February or early March.

Mr. Lundin stated that he did received CED notice indicating projects were due within 24 hours. Not given enough time to complete response and would like more time to complete list of projects CEDs is requesting.

7.08 Housing, Human Services & Workforce Development Subcommittee: No report.

7.09 Stormwater / Drainage Subcommittee: No report.

7.10 State Route IL-173 (IL-251 to I-90): See Agency Report 2.01.

7.11 South Main Street / IL-2 (SM2): See Agency Report 2.10.

7.12 Greater RMAP Environmental-Education Network (GREEN): No report.

7.13 IEPA CCDD Regulation: Mr. Zuroske stated he received an email yesterday that has some revised language but has not had time to research further. Mr. Zuroske will try and find the email and forward to Technical members for their FYI.

7.14 HUD Sustainability Grant: See Agency Report 2.29.

8. COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Carter stated that he is participating in an IDOT Engineering Academy: RFD 2011. The IDOT Engineering Academy is a program organized by IDOT Office Recruitment and Outreach to expose Illinois High School Students to careers in Transportation and Civil Engineering. The goal of the program is to provide realistic engineering experience through projects that encourage teamwork, problem solving, and practical application of engineering means and methods. The Engineering Academy – Rockford 2011 will be conducted at the computer lab of Auburn High School over 5 Saturday Sessions in February and March of 2011. The session will generally run from 9:30 to noon. A six session will consist of a field trip to the IDOT facilities in Dixon.

Mr. Soltau asked Mr. Ernst when Mr. Gary McIntyre's Freight Study will be done. Mr. Ernst stated that there are some final details that need to be worked out but that he will try to have a draft of the study at next month's (February) meeting.

Mr. Hren stated that he received and reviewed Harlem District's EECBG application it has been submitted to for final approval.

Mr. Zuroske stated that the City of Rockford is moving forward with their Sales Tax extension being put back on the ballot this spring.

Mr. Lundin stated that Boone County has hired a new GIS person and will be starting by February 1, 2011.

Mr. Ernst stated that he is still trying to figure out a way to come up with the \$26,000 that Burnie at WINGIS needs to do aerial photography for Boone County in the spring.

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP is sponsoring the Earth Day Environmental Event that is tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 22, 2011 at 6:00p and held at the Rockford Park District. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Lundin, Boone County Highway and seconded by Mr. Vlk, Winnebago County Highway. Meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.