



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 19, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development; Jonah Katz, City of Rockford CD; Patrick Zuroske, City of Rockford CIP; Jeremy Carter, City of Rockford Traffic; Kathy Miller, Boone-Belvidere Planning; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway; John Donovan, FHWA; Dan Long, IDOT District 2; Curtis Jones, IDOT Division of Urban Program Planning; Dana Carroll, RRWRD; Jim Johnson, RMTD; Ben Ackert, Village of Winnebago; David Townsend, Winnebago Co. Highway; Sue Mroz, Winnebago County Economic Development Dept.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Ernst, Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Maddox, Michael Hren RMAP Staff; Bob Soltau, SLATS; Bunny Anderson, Illinois Tollway; Chris Baer, McClure Engineering; Brian Leaf, Rockford Register Star.

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

1. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 21, 2011 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve the April 21, 2011 Technical Committee minutes. Motion to approve by Kathy Miller, Boone/Belvidere Planning, seconded by Jonah Katz, City of Rockford Community Development Dept. Motion carried.

2. AGENCY REPORTS:

2.01 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2: Mr. Long reported that US20 at Weldon Road bridge replacement project has the existing beams are now being removed and they'll start work on the piers and abutments next week.

IL-251 at Spring Creek Road bridge replacement project has a piling issue and utilities that need to be moved that has caused delays, but the contractor is back to work now.

US-20 at Alpine Road ramp repairs has the pavement patching scheduled to begin next week followed by milling and paving a week later. Mid June is the target completion timeframe.

US-20 at Montague Road ramp repairs has the pavement patching scheduled to begin next week followed by milling and paving a week later. Mid June is the target completion timeframe.

our future, our goals, our map 313 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101 **815.964.RMAP** direct **815.967.6913** fax rmapil.org

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Region 2

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IL-76 at Orth Road turn lane construction has a temporary run around in use. They are getting the sub-base down in the Southbound direction.

US-20 from Harrison Avenue to Farmington Way resurfacing project has the work is underway patching the I-39 ramps during the day. Milling, patching and paving will be done night and day from I-90 west with afternoon restrictions. East of I-90 will be done during the day.

No major milestone on IL-173.

Route 2 will have another in house meeting on North Main and no milestone for South Main.

2.02 Winnebago County Highway Department: Mr. Townsend reported Kishwaukee Road bridge is under construction and started 2 ½ weeks ago.

The fiber-optic interconnect project for traffic signals on Perryville Road from Fincham to Nimtz started a week ago.

Meridian Road Cunningham to Knapp resurfacing project is going along well and appears to be on schedule.

There are plans for in-house work on Allworth Road along Elevator railroad tracks to Cunningham in the Village of Winnebago and work will start shortly for resurfacing project.

Cunningham Road Bridge is a June letting.

Harrison Ave Perryville Road intersection pavement patching project; we haven't taken bids yet but it should start sometime in June.

Resurfacing project on Condone Road from Kishwaukee to Beltline and anticipate that work starts in FY12.

Along with the City of Loves Park we will be moving forward with Perryville traffic signal improvement project at the intersection of Broadcast Parkway and Nimtz.

2.03 City of Rockford, Public Works Department: Mr. Zuroske reported that their major residential resurfacing project went out to bid and was awarded and work to start next week and has 55 different locations throughout the city.

The City of Rockford has two major arterial packages this year and the first one went out to bid Monday night. The first package includes Avon, Newburg, 20th Street, Fulton and a host of other smaller streets.

Springbrook Road between Mulford Road and Imperial Oaks is under construction.

Riverwalk project is finally under construction.

Central Avenue Bridge is under construction.

We have not gotten to our 2nd arterial package yet, which includes streets like Garret and Lyford Road. If you want specifics road list, please contact Mr. Zuroske and he would be happy to provide the list.

A piece of Kishwaukee between Brook Road and Sandy Hallow is about 2 weeks away from going to bid and going to construction.

There is another Springbrook Road piece that is east of Perryville just passed Woodman's that the City worked with RRWRD on a joint project last year and we will be resurfacing and widening that street and should go out to bid sometime in June.

The Fairview Avenue bridge project immediately East of E. State Street has gone to bid and construction will be underway shortly. This will be a major traffic impact since the bridge will be out for a couple of months.

The Kilburn Avenue project which is an IDOT resurfacing is on the June 17th letting. This is from Jefferson Street all the way to Glenwood.

The Morgan Street Bridge project has gone to bid. There were some funding issues that came back a little higher than we anticipated and we are working on those funding issues and hope to have that project awarded sometime in the next few weeks.

The North Main Auburn Roundabout project continues to move forward. We have 40% of the property acquired and working through land acquisition issues. The phase II engineering is done and 50%. We expect to take this project out to bid later this year and build it next year. This time next year the roundabout should be under construction.

West State Street corridor project expect to have this under construction this time next year. We are heavily into the land acquisition and 50-60% complete. IDOT plans are 90% complete. After 10 years in planning this project will be going to construction in 2012.

Mr. Zuroske stated Mr. Carter has been instrumental in the Whitman Interchange project RFP will be issued for engineering services for feasibility analysis sometime in the next 30-45 days and will move this project along.

Mr. Carter is also working on the bicycle routes for 2011. Before the summer Mr. Carter plans to have 10 miles of designated bike lanes assigned.

Mr. Zuroske reported that they are putting up new signs and new paint on the pavement on the Springbrook Road project.

The downtown one-way pair project will be moved to the second phase to formal phase 1 completion of IDS's. We should see significant progress of that project this year.

2.04 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department: Mr. Jacobson reported that the traffic signal update project on Perryville Road at the intersection of Broadcast Parkway/Nimtz Road should receive enough votes as a special service area project. The City of Loves Park is looking for a variance from IDOT for pedestrian crossing and hopes to only install one instead of two. We should know something within the next 30 days but probably will not see construction this year but hopefully next year.

There is some new signage that you may see installed on Riverside Boulevard in front of Road Ranger by Bell School Road honoring the Rockford Peaches.

Mr. Jacobson reported that he attended a Rockford Park District Board meeting where it was announced that later this summer there will be an onsite unveiling of an honorary street sign honoring the Rockford Iceman and it will be placed on Auto Park Drive by Carlson Ice Arena.

2.05 Village of Machesney Park: Not present.

2.06 Chicago/Rockford International Airport: Not present.

2.07 Rockford Mass Transit District: Mr. Johnson reported that RMTD's Comprehensive Route Study Analysis was awarded yesterday and they will be getting started on evaluation RMTD routes. They are anticipating to have completed early next year and in place.

The Eastside Transfer Center construction is moving along and on currently on schedule.

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

2.09 Village of Cherry Valley: Not present.

2.10 City of Rockford, Community Development Department: Mr. Katz reported that the South Main Planning workshop held last month was a success. Mr. Katz provided Tech members some renderings for South Main project to review, these renderings are not finalized. This project is moving forward and will probably have the final planning workshop sometime in June. The City sent out a request for proposals for Streetscape design for the South Main Corridor which is a separate project and should receive those proposals Friday, May 20, 2011.

2.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department: Ms. Mroz reported that she has been very busy with the Chinese. She has scheduled a meeting with a gentlemen coming in from Chicago who is interested in possibly expanding a pharmaceutical company in the Winnebago County area. Chris Manheim from the Roscoe area called her about extending sewer service up in the north second area and she told him to possibly go after CDAP grant. Mr. Manheim indicated they needed funding for this extension.

Burpee Museum unveiled a new project called GIANTS.

Ms. Mroz met with Linnea from Lidkoping, Sweden who is interested in Green energy and Ms. Mroz suggested that Linnea meet with Freedom Field to see how they could be of assistance and possibly work together.

John Ekberg has 40 acres of land out by Lindenwood and he is looking to open a Northern Illinois Gun and Pistol Club and hopes to add to the tourist attraction for the Winnebago County area. Any interested parties in this project should contact Mr. Ekberg directly.

2.12 Belvidere/Boone County Regional Planning Department: Ms. Miller reported that Boone County has finished the draft of the Zoning Ordinance for Poplar Grove and they can now move on the Boone County's Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Miller stated they have been waiting for the June release of Census Data so they could get a study for Joel Cowen, so hopefully that will start soon.

Boone County received CDAP grant for downtown revitalization and should start this project in June.

2.13 Boone County Highway Department: Mr. Lundin reported that at last night's Boone County Board meeting, they awarded their resurfacing project, Belvidere Township, Caledonia Township, Leroy Township and also our bridge on Hunter Road. We are in the process of getting started but have no idea when work will begin.

2.14 City of Belvidere, Public Works Department: Not present.

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 provided Technical members an Illinois Tollway fact sheet for their review.

The I-90 Corridor Rehabilitation Project will repair and resurface 27 miles of 52-year-old mainline pavement and rehabilitate 25 bridge structures between Genoa Road and U.S. Route 20 and between the Elgin Toll Plaza and Barrington Road. The project also includes repairs to five culvert structures between Salt Creek in Rolling Meadows and Willow Creek, just east of the Tri-State Tollway (I-294). Repairs are scheduled to be complete by the end of the year. This work is part of the Tollway's \$5.8 billion Congestion-Relief Program.

Ms. Anderson provided an Illinois Tollway press release announcing a first-of-its-kind intergovernmental agreement with the Tollway, the Village of Rosemont agreed to provide funding of up to \$26.5 million for the Balmoral exit ramp. Rosemont will issue construction bonds and the Tollway will reimburse the village for up to half of the cost of the project through tolls collected at the new ramp over the next 25 years.

Ms. Anderson provided new Illinois Tollway maps to Technical members. Technical members wanting more Illinois Tollway maps, please contact Ms. Anderson directly and she would be happy to provide the maps you need.

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 has its Technical & Policy meeting scheduled for Monday, May 23, 2011 at 10:00a and held at Rotary River Center in Beloit, Wisconsin. Mr. Soltau stated they will start programming funds for 39/90 project in Wisconsin – for planning up to the middle of Janesville. SLATS is putting into their TIP funds for project management for the entire length of the road from the Stateline all the way to Madison. Mr. Soltau stated he hopes to have the LRTP draft approved in August and final approval in September. Mr. Soltau stated they are doing an update on the LRTP not a completely new plan. The Bike/Pedestrian plan will also be adopted into the LRTP.

2.24 Federal Highway Administration, IL Division: No report.

Mr. Ernst reported that RMAP Certification review is scheduled for November 15-17, 2011.

2.25 Rockford Area Economic Development Council: Not present.

2.26 Rock River Water Reclamation District: Mr. Carroll reported that RRWRD's project that will impact major streets are Springcreek and North Second sewer project and this project is currently on track.

Roosevelt Road project in Machesney Park has the sewer extension coordinated is marked for connection.

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 the Four Rivers Environmental Coalition is holding a river gathering on June 16-19, 2011. This is essentially built around the four rivers in our region and it will include a four-day festival to celebrate the ecological, recreational, cultural and aesthetic value of the rivers in our region and to offer ways in which people can work to preserve them as resources and places of inspiration. Interested parties please contact Tina Dawson Scott at 815-547-7935 or at tdawson@boonecountyconservationdistrict.org.

May 16-20, 2011 is National Transportation Week. The Tri-State Alliance was held during National Transportation Week where transportation was the focus of the summit. Next years' Tri-State Alliance Summit will be held in Dubuque, Iowa.

Mr. Ernst provided Technical members a summary on a recent early draft of the Federal administrations transportation bill that was leaked out to the press and the considerable planning changes proposed. These changes have not been approved by upper management but Mr. Ernst wanted to make Technical members aware of these proposed changes that would ultimately affect all MPO's.

Mr. Ernst reported that the statewide organization, the Illinois MPO Advisory Council had a nominating committee put together last week and that committee voted for new officers that will start on July 1, 2011 and Mr. Ernst has been nominated Chairman for this particular organization. Mr. Ernst doesn't for see a lot of changes other then the meeting location will be moved to Bloomington, Normal. Mr. Ernst stated he feels that as a region this will help our region plug in on a national level. Mr. Ernst stated that Marta Perales staff member for IL MPO Advisory Council provided a State Legislative Update and Mr. Ernst provided Technical members the recent update from May 17, 2011. Mr. Ernst asked Technical members that if they have specific needs to please contact him to discuss further.

Mr. Hren reported that he has spoken with the Harlem School District and they have decided they will take a stab at the next round of EECBG funds.

Mr. Diipla reported that he has begun the phase on collecting census data and reviewing RMAP & RMTD documents in order to update Title VI.

Mr. Ernst reported that the Boone & Winnebago County Labor Force Analysis has been released and he would be happy to provide a CD copy of the document to any interested parties.

3. RMAP FY 2012 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP) – RESOLUTION 2011-3:

Mr. Ernst stated that a link was provided by email to Technical members who wish to review the current UWP document. Mr. Ernst entertained any questions or concerns regarding current UWP – there were no questions or concerns from Technical members. Mr. Ernst entertained a motion to move Resolution 2011-3 forward.

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve recommendation of Resolution 2011-3. First motion by Mr. Lundin, Boone County Highway, Second motion by Ms. Mroz, Winnebago County Economic Development Department. Motion carries.

4. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:

4.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis: Mr. Ernst stated there was nothing new to report and that he is working through comments he received at his last meeting with the FTA.

4.02 Amtrak Service to Rockford Metro Area: Mr. Ernst reported that Joe Schacter, IDOT Director of Public and Intermodal Transportation attended the Tri-State Alliance Summit on May 9, 2011 and gave a comprehensive update.

4.03 RMTD East Side Transfer Center: See agency report 2.07

4.04 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband: No report.

4.05 RMAP Regional Freight Study: No report.

4.06 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee: No report. Next Mobility Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 10:00a and held at YWCA located on E. State Street in Rockford.

4.07 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs): No report.

4.08 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters: Mr. Ernst reported that he attended the Rockford Area Chamber of Commerce's GAC meeting that Doug Scott, Illinois Commerce Commission Chairman spoke at regarding the Commission's review of ComEd's Smart Grid/Smart Meter rate project.

4.09 Stormwater / Drainage Subcommittee: Mr. Ernst stated Mr. Maddox has been working with Winnebago folks on their 319 Grant.

4.10 State Route IL-173 (IL-251 to I-90): See agency report 2.01.

4.11 South Main Street / IL-2 (SM2): See agency report 2.08.

4.12 Greater RMAP Environmental-Education Network (GREEN): Mr. Ernst reported that Mr. Gary McIntyre is still moving the next phase of the GREEN project along. Mr. McIntyre is working with educational institutions to provided programming to students.

4.13 IEPA CCDD Regulation: Comments from Technical members stated they are looking to discuss the possibility of establishing a regional site to take debris to.

RRWRD stated that this regulation has really affected them are looking to establish their own site and would like to discuss further with other members.

Mr. Jacobson suggested that a regional site be established but he is not sure if the law will allow a regional site. It was suggested that maybe with strong intergovernmental agreements a regional site might work.

4.14 HUD Sustainability Grant: Mr. Ernst gave a brief summary on the steering committee process that has been established regarding the HUD Sustainability Grant process. We've taken the idea of a steering committee and broken them down as a tiered structure. Anyone can join the consortium but core members are the municipalities. The governing team is where most of the work will get done. A draft list has been established and the governing team has been broken down into caucuses. The caucus will provide weekly or bi-weekly direction to the staff that is actually working on the grant.

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Lundin, Boone County Highway and seconded by Ms. Mroz, Winnebago County Economic Development Department. Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.