



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport; Brent Anderson, City of Belvidere Public Works; Nathan Bruck, City of Loves Park Community Development; Dan Jacobson, City of Loves Park Public Works; Patrick Zuroske, City of Rockford Public Works; Kathy Miller, Boone County Planning; Rich Lundin, Boone County Highway; Dan Long, IDOT District #2; Curtis Jones, IDOT Transit & Metro Planning; Jim Johnson, RMTD; Colin Simpson, Village of Machesney Park Public Works; David Townsend, Winnebago County Highway; Sue Mroz, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Village of Cherry Valley, City of Rockford Community Development, Village of Roscoe, Village of Winnebago.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steve Ernst, Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Hren, Colin Belle, RMAP Staff; Mike Weber, RRWRD; John Slattengren, Boone County Council on Aging; Bunny Anderson, Illinois Tollway; Steve Frerichs, Chastain & Associates; David Almy, Hanson Professional Services; Mark Rice, McClure Engineering; Brian Leaf, Rockford Register Star.

With a quorum present Mr. Ernst called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 19, 2012 RMAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:** Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve the April 19, 2012 Technical Committee minutes. First motion to approve by Sue Mroz, Winnebago County Planning & Economic Development Department, second motion made by David Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport. Motion carried.

## **2. AGENCY REPORTS:**

**2.1 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2:** Mr. Long reported that IL-251 from Samuelson Road to Blackhawk Road is complete.

IL-251 at Springcreek Road continue to expect lane and ramp closures, will probably go on until the end of August.

Springfield Road is a safety project and is nearly complete.

IL-2 from Elmwood to Latham the West lane of Latham is shut down for approximately three months. Utility conflicts are causing delays.

IL-251 at IL-173 they started pavement pours a week in advance and ahead of schedule.

**our future, our goals, our map** 313 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61101 **815.964.RMAP** direct **815.967.6913** fax [rmapil.org](http://rmapil.org)

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Winnebago County  
Mayor Tom Strickland  
Village of Machesney Park

Acting Deputy Director Eric Therkildsen  
Illinois Department of Transportation,  
Region 2

US-20 at Montague Road is complete and it was just the ramps getting resurfaced.

I-90 reconstruction will switch traffic onto the temporary pavement in two weeks to begin working in the median. Should switch traffic head-to-head after the 4th of July.

I-39 Northbound to US-20 Eastbound ramps being resurfaced and looking at a 4 day closure of that ramp. Anticipate starting the detour on June 4, 2012.

US-20 at IL-251 ramps should be done this week.

IL-173 from Alpine Road to Rock Cut still working on plats and still on track for March letting next year.

IL-2 South Main Beltline to Clifton land acquisition wasn't completely cleared so it had to be pushed to the June letting.

Clifton to Cedar is on track for a November letting.

IL-2 from Auburn to Riverside a date has not been set yet, but the Public Meeting will be held in July which will begin to wrap up Phase I engineering. Phase II will be done in house and will begin after the meeting.

West State Sunset to Kent Creek we anticipate a November letting.

**2.2 Winnebago County Highway Department:** Mr. Townsend reported that their two downtown parking lot projects at Elm and Winnebago and Church and State should have contracts signed soon and work will begin shortly after that.

Montague Road Bridge Sjostrom Construction Co. started a couple of weeks ago and they are making good progress. The road is closed with detour signs in place and should be done sometime early fall.

Working with the City of Loves Park for traffic signals and intersection improvements at Broadcast and Perryville and Nimtz.

Alworth Road from Elevator to Cunningham will be widening and resurfaced and should begin in June.

Baxter Road/I-90 area improvements are working with a consultant out of Chicago for water tower and well design / water main extension. Expect work to start this summer.

Condone Road from Kishwaukee Road to the beltline is a resurfacing project and should start in July. Project should be completed by the end of the summer.

Culbertson Road Bridge over Otter Creek is a township bridge on the northwest part of the county and we will be accepting bids sometime in June with construction in July. Should only take a couple of months to do.

Pecatonica Prairie Path from Meridian to Stevenson County Line has been bid. IDOT let the project in March but still do not have signed contracts.

Mr. Townsend stated that Winnebago County is required to update their hazard mitigation plan that was approved by FEMA in July 2008 (has a five (5) year life) and needs to be renewed in 2013. All of the incorporated municipalities within Winnebago County need to participate in this approval process. They currently have all municipalities signed off except for one and should have the last municipality sign off by the end of the week. Mr. Townsend just wanted to alert members of the planning process of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**2.3 City of Rockford, Public Works Department:** Mr. Zuroske reported that the Morgan Street bridge project has the piers installed on either side of the river. The structural steel will go in in July and they are currently working on the College/Seminary intersection.

Riverwalk Museum Campus project is 92% complete and wrapping up in July.

Three (3) area residential package out of five (5) are out. Arterial that includes Colorado Avenue and Harlem Blvd.

Roundabout project at North Main/Auburn is 95% complete and hoping for a late Fall letting.

West State Street corridor project is essentially complete. Land acquisition is 90% complete and hoping for a November letting.

Two (2) Local Bridge (Pierce Ave and Reed Avenue) will be done and is on the June letting and under construction this year.

Mr. Zuroske thanked Mr. Johnson, RMTD for assistance with the Train Station RFP design. This document is being reviewed and should be out in the next three (3) weeks.

**2.4 City of Loves Park, Public Works Department:** Mr. Jacobson reported that they have submitted the notice of concurrence to award a contract for the Garden Plain Bridge. There should be a pre-con right after Memorial Day. Construction should start early June.

The City of Loves Park is currently in the 60 day period for objections for the SSA process and no objections have been received. There was a Public Hearing a week ago. This project will go forward as we anticipated. We have Signals at Broadcast, Nimtz and Perryville.

Mr. Jacobson stated that their consortium will be going out for bid for Electrical Aggregation.

Mr. Hren asked Mr. Jacobson if there were any TIP projects the City of Loves Park needed to add to FY13-FY16 or are they just moving current project forward. Mr. Jacobson stated there is no additional projects and to just move the current projects forward.

**2.5 Village of Machesney Park:** Mr. Simpson reported that their residential program is going to bid soon on Phase III for Roosevelt Road.

Machesney Park Mall will have some redevelopment construction starting on IL-251 creating a new signalized intersection in front of the mall and should last about a month.

Mr. Hren asked Mr. Simpson if there were any TIP project that the Village of Machesney Park needed to add to FY13-FY16 or are they just moving current project forward. Mr. Simpson stated to move the current projects forward.

**2.6 Chicago/Rockford International Airport:** Mr. Lindberg reported that there is no change from the construction projects he reported on from last month (April 2012).

The Chicago/Rockford International Airport Airshow is scheduled for June 2-June 3, 2012. Mr. Lindberg thanked the City of Rockford, IDOT and Winnebago County for traffic control assistance for the upcoming Airshow.

**2.7 Rockford Mass Transit District:** Mr. Johnson reported that a Grand Opening is scheduled for the RMTD Eastside Transfer Center on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at 10:00a and IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider and Mayor Larry Morrissey are scheduled to attend and speak.

Progress continues on the RMTD Route Study.

Mr. Johnson stated that the Belvidere Route Service ridership continues to increase monthly.

**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:** Not present.

**2.11 Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department:** Ms. Mroz reported that they are quite busy with the I-39 corridor.

Ms. Mroz stated she's been working with the Airport and attending the Airport Growth Meetings that Chairman Christiansen and Ms. Janyce Fadden convenes.

Ms. Mroz stated she is working with a client for IL-173 who has a manufacturing company and is looking at the industrial site.

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

**2.13 Boone County Highway Department:** Mr. Lundin reported the Boone County Board did approve the negotiating for the top pic for the Irene Road RFQ.

**2.14 City of Belvidere, Public Works Department:** Mr. Anderson indicated there was no report.

Mr. Hren asked Mr. Anderson if there were any TIP project that the City of Belvidere needed to add to FY13-FY16 or are they just moving current project forward. Mr. Anderson stated to move the current projects forward.

**2.15 Village of Roscoe:** Not present.

**2.16 Village of Winnebago:** Not present.

**2.17 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:** Not present.

**2.18 Illinois State Toll Highway Authority:** Ms. Anderson reported upcoming work on I-90 corridor have three (3) contracts for the widening, two (2) have been accepted and presented to the board for final approval next week. Once approved work will begin immediately.

The Illinois Tollway had their MLT meeting ten (10) days ago and that work should begin in two (2) weeks and will be completed in 2013.

Work has begun on I88 corridor for resurfacing and widening in sections.

Illinois Tollway has published a media release regarding the financing of improvements where they instituted a new tollway increase effective January 2012. They had anticipated a decrease in transactions initially but the decrease was much less than they anticipated. The decrease is only 2.4% which means their revenues are much better than last year and they are funneling that money right back into the system for road improvements. Commercial vehicle transactions are up 6.3% showing that more trucks are using the tollway.

**2.19 IDOT, Division of Public Transportation:** Not present.

**2.20 IDOT, Division of Urban Program Planning:** Mr. Jones reported that they are starting to wrap up the fiscal year.

Mr. Jones stated that IDOT Fall Planning Conference is scheduled for October 25-October 26, 2012 and will be held in Peoria. If any members have any ideas or agenda items for the conference please let him know.

**2.21 Ogle County Highway Department:** Not present.

**2.22 Boone County Council of Aging:** Mr. Slattengren reported that RMTD and BCCA are in the 7th month of providing fixed route transportation to Belvidere and back to RMTD East Side Transfer Center.

**2.23 State Line Area Transportation Study:** Not present.

**2.24 Federal Highway Administration, IL Division:** Not present.

**2.25 Rockford Area Economic Development Council:** Not present.

**2.26 Rock River Water Reclamation District:** Mr. Weber reported that their consultants have started preliminary analysis of the trunks for sewer service for Winnebago.

**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 Tri-State Alliance Summit is scheduled for tomorrow (Friday, May 18, 2012) and will be held in Dubuque, IA. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood is attending as the keynote speaker. Secretary LaHood is also attending the ribbon cutting for Dubuque's TIGER I project in their Millwork District. Illinois IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider is also attending and speaking. HUD Region 7 Administrator and USDA Region 7 Administrator are also attending the Tri-State Alliance Summit.

Mr. Ernst stated he attended the IL MPO Advisory Council meeting on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 and currently IDOT is authorized for bond legislation to bond for 2.2 billion in highway and almost 1.8 billion in transit for rough total of 4 billion dollars in order to fill the back log of projects they have. IDOT is asking the general assembly for an additional amount in each bond series, roughly 2.5 billion more so they can finish up the projects. Mr. Ernst gave a brief summary on the details of IDOT's bond legislation.

Mr. Ernst reported that as part of the State's LRSTP there is a Human Service Organizations Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 22, 2012 from 1:00-3:00p and held at the Rockford Public Main Library located at 215 North Wyman Street. RMAP staff will be attending. There is also a Regional Planning Agencies meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 23, 2012 from 10:00-Noon and held at the Bloomington Public Library in Bloomington, IL. RMAP staff will also try to attend this meeting.

### **3. RMAP FY13 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM (UWP) – RMAP Resolution 2012-3:**

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP has had the document out for comments and no comments have been received. Mr. Ernst stated we are asking today for approval to recommend RMAP Resolution 2012-3 which will then be recommended to Policy for this program to be adopted

Two issues have come up regarding the UWP.

1. IDOT would like RMAP to be the signatory on the UWP moving forward to bring us in line with the other Metropolitan Planning Organization statewide. This requires us to obtain our own Federal Tax ID number.
2. We have now finalized the analysis of the 2010 Census data for our defined Urbanized Area. The calculations for the percentages for the local match will be changing slightly. We will need a recommendation from this group as to whether to recommend that the UWP be approved by the Policy Committee with the previous match amounts or the new match amounts. It would make logical sense with the finalized census population figures to recommend that the new match amounts be incorporated into the UWP which takes effect July 1, 2012. (Mr. Ernst provided members the Census 2010 Population Comparison, Census 2010 Population Comparison & Match, Census 2010 Population Growth, and the Census 2010 Population Breakdown handout). Mr. Ernst indicated that Boone County had the most growth and the rest of municipalities had a slight reduction.

Mr. Ernst asked if there were any questions or concerns. None given.

Mr. Zuroske stated that he has reviewed last year's UWP as well as this year's UWP and he commends RMAP and staff for providing a great document for the region.

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to approve recommendation of Resolution 2012-3. First motion made by Mr. Zuroske, City of Rockford CIP, Second motion made by Mr. Lindberg, Chicago/Rockford International Airport. Motion carries.

#### **4. RMAP FY 2013-2016 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP):**

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP has put together an internal timeline. RMAP would like to have all projects that need to be included into the FY 2013-2016 TIP by Monday, June 11, 2012 so that we can have a draft to present at the June 21, 2012 Technical meeting. We just need confirmation that we can move projects forward from last year. Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP understands Winnebago County is tentative in providing their projects since their board does not approve their projects until after the TIP has already been approved.

Mr. Townsend stated that currently they are not able to provide a list of projects but he will have a discussion with Mr. Joe Vanderwerff and see what projects they can give RMAP.

Mr. Ernst stated that RMAP is looking for final TIP approval at the Technical July 19, 2012 and Policy Committee approval on July 26, 2012. A DRAFT TIP document will be released in June 2012.

#### **5. URBANIZED AREA BOUNDARIES:**

Mr. Ernst stated that he provided a snap shot of what is going on in the tables he provided members earlier in the meeting. There are some issues to resolve at the state line with our relationship with SLATS but probably only concerns Roscoe and South Beloit. Mr. Ernst asked Mr. Diipla to provide a brief summary on how RMAP will moving this process forward.

Mr. Diipla stated that a meeting will be scheduled with SLATS, Roscoe and South Beloit to review and discuss the new Urbanized Area boundaries. The possibility of the MPA going down into Ogle County and looking at Davis Junction / Byron is an option. Mr. Diipla stated they would like to open up discussion with members of Ogle County to see what their interest is in being included in the MPA. Mr. Diipla is hoping both of these meeting will take place in the next few weeks. Mr. Diipla stated that in the near future he would like to activate the subcommittee of the Technical Committee to look at the planning area boundary as previously mentioned at last month's meeting. The thought process behind this is to get information from the state line and Ogle County and bring it back to the Technical Committee and then form a subcommittee so that there is a little bit of substance for the subcommittee to work off of. We then would partner with the local agencies on what future land use plans are, expansions and working with the water reclamation district to see what some of their boundaries might be. This is a baseline summary of where RMAP is right now. Mr. Diipla provided members a map of the new Urbanized Area boundaries and can also provide this information electronically by request.

Mr. Ernst stated that IDOT OP&P would like RMAP to resolve the boundary issue sooner than later so it is clear how we can spend our federal dollars.

Mr. Ernst stated that he would like to activate this Subcommittee and start these meetings at a fairly rapid pace even though the Feds have given us until the next update of the LRTP for this process. Mr. Ernst indicated to Mr. Long that RMAP would like a representative from IDOT District 2 as we start to look at the boundaries so that IDOT is comfortable to what RMAP is agreeing to.

## **6. PROGRESS REPORTS ON:**

**6.01 NICTI Alternative Analysis:** Mr. Ernst stated that the grant is now terminated and in the final close out process. The paperwork will be finalized by the end of June 2012.

Mr. Hren stated that RMAP will be maintaining the NICTI website on RMAP's website. The data should be transferred over in the next month or so.

**6.02 Amtrak Service to Rockford Metro Area:** No report. Mr. Ernst stated that Mr. George Weber from IDOT DPIT will be attending the Tri-State Alliance Summit and presenting a report.

**6.03 Regional Fiber Optic and Broadband:** No report.

Mr. Simpson stated that he is having a problem running into construction issues with I-Fiber lines because they were not located and Mr. Simpson wanted to know if any members has had this issue as well.

Mr. Ernst stated that he was not aware of this issue but he would bring it to the attention of the Board Chair, Mr. John Lewis and ask that he contact Mr. Simpson.

**6.04 RMAP Regional Freight Study:** No report.

**6.05 RMAP Mobility Subcommittee:** Mr. Diipla stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12, 2012 and will be held at RMTD's Eastside Transfer Center located on Lyford Road.

**6.06 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs):** No report.

**6.07 ComEd Smart Grid/Smart Meters:** Mr. Ernst congratulated the Village of Machesney Park on the success of their Electrical Aggregation project.

Mr. Simpson stated that Machesney Park has been successful with their electrical aggregation project and has already seen a 39% decrease in their bill to their customers which is a significant cost savings.

**6.08 HUD Sustainability Grant:** No report.

## **7. COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mr. Ernst stated that he received a letter from IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider regarding the State's Long-Range State Transportation Plan and provided members a copy of the letter.

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.



**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Ernst entertains a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Mr. Lundin, Boone County Highway and seconded by Mr. Simpson, Village of Machesney Park Public Works. Meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m. with a unanimous voice vote.