

**RMAP Mobility Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 12, 2016
RMTD East Side Transfer Center**

ATTENDEES: Chairman Steve Haight; Lisa Brown, Paula Hughes - RMTD; Jon Paul Diipla, Michael Hren, Terrance Hall, RMAP; Dyanna Chandler – West Gate Coalition; Justyn Miller, Ken Terrinoni – Boone County; Mayor Chamberlain – City of Belvidere; John Strandin – Workforce Connection; Janna Bailey – Wesley Willows; Dave Grzelak – RAMP

OTHERS PRESENT: None.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Haight called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS:** Attendees introduced themselves.
- 3. COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:** M. Hren acknowledged (2) recently announced competitive FTA grants
 - \$266 million in grant funding for bus programs nationwide. The funding consists of \$211 million in grants for buses and bus facilities projects, as well as \$55 million specifically for FTA's Low and No Emission (Low-No) bus program
 - \$5.3 million in grant funding for increased access to healthcare for those who lack good transportation choices (could be a good opportunity to secure transit investments related to new MercyRockford facility); Paula Brown – RMTD will be applying for this grant
- 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Chairman Haight entertains a motion to approve the agenda. First Motion moved by Mayor Chamberlain; seconded by Lisa Brown representative. Motion carried.
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE 03/08/16 MOBILITY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:** Chairman Haight entertained a motion to approve the March 8, 2016 minutes. First Motion moved by Mayor Chamberlain; seconded by Lisa Brown representative. Motion carried.
- 6. FTA 5310 ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS W/ DISABILITIES PROGRAM:** M. Hren - Discussed at last meeting creating an agreed upon multi-year program of projects that takes into account the list of needs provided by each agency member of the mobility subcommittee. Current allocation to the region is \$263,000 – which should support the purchase of 4 vehicles.

Paula Hughes – Comment regarding Asset Survey: IDOT has never awarded funds for purchase of Super-Medium Duty vehicles to non-public agencies. It's not a stated policy but it is unprecedented.

Mayor Chamberlain – Perhaps a super-medium duty vehicle (seats 26) would serve the needs of bus service to Belvidere and allow for additional ways to fund route.

M. Hren – Intended goal for today is to align 2016 needs with the amount of available funding for 2016. Will also need to determine, at some point, how much applications that are in line with the program of projects will be weighted compared to those that are not; Proposal – Include in 2016 Program of Projects: 2 of the 10 needed RMTD vehicles (2 Medium Duty) and the 2 proposed vehicles from Boone County/BCCA (1 Medium Duty, 1 Light Duty) which would approximately cover the amount of available funding for 2016.

Mayor Chamberlain and Paula Hughes both agreeable to proposal.

Paula – Boone/BCCA should be sure to designate which vehicles will be used for urban transit and which vehicles will be used for rural transit to account for whether funds are coming from 5310 vs 5311. This will ensure that we maximize available funding.

M. Hren – Would committee prefer moving to multi-year program of projects or create program of projects for 1 year at a time?

K. Terrinoni – It sounds okay but how would multi-year approach change process?

M. Hren – Multi-year approach would show that we are forward thinking in what are regional transit needs are but would require us to be flexible with program if funding levels change or new needs arise unexpectedly.

Paula Hughes – agreed that multi-year program shows that we are visionary as long as there is flexibility to make changes

Chairman Haight – Multi-year program would give us a good starting point every year as opposed to starting from scratch

Jon Paul – Multi-year program would also allow for more flexibility/readiness if other funding pools become available.

Paula Hughes – Suggest that remaining 2016 funds be used for bus surveillance systems.

M. Hren – Proposes that committee consider 2017 program consist of 1 Medium Duty for Barbara Olson, 1 Medium Duty for Boone/BCCA, and 2 Medium Duty for RMTD.

Chairman Haight – Looks like we have a consensus on that proposal; committee also agrees that a 2-year program of projects is most practical approach.

M. Hren – Still need to be a legitimate, transparent application process but projects can be weighted so that clear preference will be given to projects in the program but we can't not allow outside applications;

Committee agrees that projects within the Program of Projects will be given clear preference in application process.

M. Hren - Final amendment of Program of Projects will occur 1 month before submittal of applications. Conversations regarding needs will start at the beginning of year.

Chairman Haight entertains a motion to adopt 2016-17 Program of Projects. First Motion moved by Mayor Chamberlain; seconded by Lisa Brown. Motion carried.

7. TRANSIT AGENCY VEHICLE ASSET SURVEY

Review of Transit Vehicle Asset Survey to raise awareness of regional transit assets and encourage partnerships among member agencies.

Paula Hughes – RMTD working with FTA/Legal on agreement for allowing vehicles that are not in use to be loaned out. Such an agreement can be used as template for vehicle sharing among other partner agencies. Will provide more info once agreement is finalized.

M. Hren – will work on creating a more uniform survey and survey report.

8. DISCUSSION:

RMTD – Ridership is level; Service to Belvidere has increased slightly (almost at 1500 per month). Increase seems to be BCCA to RMTD fixed route.

9. PROGRESS REPORTS:

M. Hren – At the next meeting we will be recommending 5310 Applications to Tech and Policy Committee and at the meeting after meeting we will be engaging the Mobility Committee on the update of HSTP.

Jon Paul – RMAP has received FTA/FHWA certification review. There are a number of recommendations in the document but RMAP has been certified as meeting requirements. More info will be provided at upcoming RMAP meetings.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Haight entertained a motion to adjourn the April 12, 2016 meeting. Motion Brown and seconded by Paula Hughes, meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.