



Rockford Metropolitan Agency For Planning

**RMAP Mobility Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 1, 2015 / 11:00 AM
Regional Center for Planning and Design**

ATTENDEES: Chairman Steve Haight; Dyanna Walker; Janna Bailey, Wesley Willows; Terrance Hall, Michael Hren, Colin Belle, Sydney Turner, Christina Washington, Jon Paul Diipla, RMAP; Lisa Brown, RMTD; Justyn Miller, Boone County; Cate Osterholz, Presence Saint Anne Center; Tammy Bene, Mike Hughes, Lifescape; John Strandin, Northern Illinois Workforce Alliance.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Haight called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.
2. **INTRODUCTIONS:** Attendees introduced themselves.
3. **COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:** Mr. Diipla stated that RMAP has released the 2016 RMAP Meeting schedule, with meeting dates and locations for Mobility, Technical and Policy Committees. These have been emailed to the committee and made available on the RMAP Website.

Mr. Diipla added that EDDNI has completed a draft CEDS. There will be three open house public comment events starting next week, Thursday, Dec. 10 at Winnebago County Courthouse from 4-6 PM, McHenry County Administration Building on Tuesday, December 15 from 5-7 PM, and at Boone County Administration Building on Wednesday, December 16 from 4:30-6:30 PM.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Chairman Haight entertains a motion to approve the agenda. So moved by Ms. Walker, seconded by Ms. Bailey. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE 6/22/15 MOBILITY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:** Chairman Haight entertained a motion to approve the June 22, 2015 minutes. Motion was made by Ms. Brown; seconded by Mr. Miller. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

6. **RMAP HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN (HSTP) UPDATE:** Mr. Diipla thanked members for attending on the unusual schedule. Mr. Diipla described the history of the HSTP. Transit analysis, needs, opportunities and gaps. Plan was focused on JARC/New Freedom. In current law, some funding sources have been consolidated within existing FTA funding sources. Still a need for areas requiring additional services, and analysis of what can be improved, what does work, and other similar issues. Three of the four recommended areas in the current plan have been funded. Service to Cherryvale Mall, to Burden Loop area in Machesney Park, to Belvidere/Boone County route from the East Side Transfer Center all have been implemented. At this point, the plan is seven years old. Currently, there are no new federal transportation law regulations to determine what needs to be included in an updated document. It is important to begin to start the

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Region 2

conversation about projects that need to be represented in the document. Mr. Diipla outlined the purposes of the coordinated plan, its intent to coordinate workforce investment, public transit, other services (education, medical and others). The plan looks at transit dependent populations and needs that exist. RMAP staff would like good progress on an update within the next six months.

Chairman Haight would like to attempt to get more people to the table. Use NICNI email list to get non-profits. RMTD could post to get riders represented at the meeting. Look to RMAP to see if we can attract any businesses to the table, particularly call centers and others that rely heavily on public transportation.

Mr. Strandin asked about the fourth priority, Mr. Diipla clarified that it was for additional services on E. State Street during evenings and weekends. Mr. Strandin asked about the status of the Belvidere service. Ms. Brown said that it is funded through June of 2016. RMTD will be doing an ad campaign to focus on the connection that BCCA provides. It is perhaps not as well-known enough. RMTD is having conversations with Belvidere about whether they can fund a good portion of that service (35%) as the JARC funds no longer will apply to this route. Have 1st and 2nd quarter funding.

The committee discussed public participation further. Rockford Community Partners formerly EDEN may benefit from increased presence. Mr. Diipla noted that if committee members have suggestions or concerns regarding the HSTP update, to please contact himself or Mr. Hren.

7. FTA 5310 ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM

Mr. Diipla noted that some questions had come in regarding the 5310 dollars allocated to the region. Estimated IDOT CVP application and local application available sometime in March with a deadline of May 2016. Funding available will be urbanized allocated amount based on current information. \$262,995 is the FY 2015 regional allocation. That amounts to roughly 2-3 vehicles. RMAP has not yet heard that local entities within the urbanized area will be able to apply to the State funding pool. Do we want to program these dollars in the 2016 application cycle, does the committee want to pool multiple years to better serve projects? Currently we follow the IDOT application process cycle. RMTD and IDOT are co-designated recipients, allowing IDOT to provide oversight for non-profit organizations. With the application process we can add local modifications to it if desired. Application appears to be fairly extensive/comprehensive but is open to suggestions for new questions or information requested through the process. Chairman Haight mentioned that the Region 1 coordinator Jacob Matsen is no longer at the position. Mr. Diipla explained the urban vs. rural distinction for how transit funds process. The committee discussed the merits of pooling of the 2015 and 2016 dollars.

8. DISCUSSION:

RMTD is preparing for Triennial review. Desk review will be Dec. 11th, with an audit May 24th. City of Rockford is talking about cutting RMTD \$250,000. This also would mean a nearly \$400,000 cut from state matching funds. Farebox is 12% of revenues. RMTD already leaves about \$5,000,000 on the table at the state due to lack of matching funds. Would need an additional \$3,000,000 locally to get that money. Chairman Haight mentioned that start-up routes are only funded temporarily by start-up money, and need to be funded locally long-term. Operating expenses funds are 50/50, capital expenses 80% federal/state and 20% Local.

9. PROGRESS REPORTS:

RMAP underwent its 4 year Federal certification review recently. Initial comments from the FHWA/FTA review committee do not anticipate any corrective actions. The report should come out sometime after the first of the year and provide some recommendations. Title VI/EJ and LEP Plans have been updated. Over 54% of federal

dollars in the area have been spent in disadvantaged areas, and over 64% in minority predominant areas. The LRTP update has been completed as well.

RMAP has produced a regional transportation map of Boone and Winnebago counties, also a Greenways Map and accompanying Plan. RMAP will distribute these materials to committee members or members of the public upon request. The work on these plans and documents and maps feed into the upcoming update of the Bicycle/Pedestrian plan as well. RMAP will also begin updating the Public Participation Plan in the upcoming year.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Haight entertained a motion to adjourn the December 1, 2015 meeting. Motion made by Ms. Brown and seconded by Ms. Osterholz, meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.