



## Press Release

For Immediate Release  
January 24, 2018

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# Public Open House RMAP Public Participation Plan

A public information open house will be held at three locations to obtain comment of the **draft Public Participation Plan for the Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning**. To continually improve the public engagement process, Region 1 Planning Council (RIPC) is currently updating the Public Participation Plan, a federally required document for all Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO). The purpose of this document is to set forth the policies, procedures, methods and details for involving the general public and area transportation stakeholders in the transportation planning and programming activities of the Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning (RMAP), the designated MPO, for the Rockford Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) which is comprised of the urbanized portions of Boone and Winnebago and portions of northeast Ogle County.

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) is a federally required document that identifies the methods and strategies taken by the MPO to engage the public in transportation planning decisions. The document also provides information regarding the transportation planning process, organizations involved in the transportation planning process and information regarding other MPO planning documents.

As mentioned, the PPP is required by the federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). As stipulated in FAST Act, a 45-day public comment period is afforded. The purpose of this comment period is to solicit feedback from the public as to how they perceive the transportation planning process as well as solicit suggestions from the public as to how to better the process.

Public comments will be accepted regarding the PPP from January 2, 2018 until February 16, 2018. Comments can be submitted to the MPO through email, telephone, or sending written comments. MPO staff contact information is listed below.

The draft RMAP Public Participation Plan for the Rockford Metropolitan Area is available on the RMAP website at: <http://www.rmapil.org/> or by contacting MPO staff via the contact information found below. The objective of the open houses is to allow the public to participate in the planning process and provide feedback on the draft document during the public comment period.

The format of these open houses allows for an informal discussion between the public and MPO staff.

313 N. Main Street Rockford, Illinois 61101 [R1planning.org](http://R1planning.org) p 815.319.4180

The times are indicated below.

DATES

Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM  
Loves Park City Hall – Community Center  
100 Heart Blvd  
Loves Park, IL 61111

Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM  
Ida Public Library  
320 N. State St  
Belvidere, IL 61008

Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM  
Regional Design Center  
315 N. Main St  
Rockford, IL 61101

For questions or comments about the Public Participation Plan, the Public Open Houses, or other related matters, please contact:

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