

**Minutes of the
DAVENPORT-ROCK ISLAND-MOLINE, IOWA-ILLINOIS
URBANIZED AREA
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, October 25, 2005, 12:00 Noon
Third Floor Conference Room
Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

Policy Members Present

Fred Dean	Iowa Department of Transportation-Davenport
Sharon Durbin	Illinois Department of Transportation-Springfield
Tom Engelmann	City of Davenport Alderman
Mike Freemire	Mayor of Bettendorf
Lyle Lohse	Mayor of Silvis
Larry Lorensen	MetroLINK Board of Trustees Chair
Bob McGivern	City of Davenport Alderman
Larry Minard	Scott County
Ross Monk	Illinois Department of Transportation-Dixon
Mark Schwiebert	Mayor of Rock Island
John Thodos	Mayor of East Moline

Others Present

Denise Bulat	Bi-State Regional Commission
Doug DeLille	Bi-State Regional Commission
Marianne Doonan	Bi-State Regional Commission
John Hoffstatter	Howard R. Green Company
Mark Hunt	Bi-State Regional Commission
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of Minutes of the September 27, 2005 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mayor Freemire asked for approval of the September 27, 2005 Transportation Policy Committee minutes. Mr. Minard motioned to approve the minutes as written. Mayor Thodos seconded the motion and it carried.
2. Consideration of Amendment to FFY06-08 Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. McCullough noted the requests from the City of Davenport and the City of Bettendorf to amend into the FY06 Annual Element of the FFY06-08 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The projects were recommended by the Technical Committee for approval. The projects are as follows:
 - **City of Davenport**, Rail Extension to Eastern Iowa Industrial Center (EIIC). Total cost \$3,750,00, Federal Share \$3,000,000 HP4023 (80 percent) and Local Share \$750,000. (20 percent);
 - **City of Bettendorf**, Middle Road at I-80 Interchange Justification and Environmental Assessment Study. Total cost 625,000 with Federal Share \$500,000 and Local Share \$125,000.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Thodos motioned to approve the requested amendments, as presented into the FFY06 Annual Element of the TIP. Mr. Englemann seconded the motion and it carried.

3. Status of 2035 Quad City Area Long Range Transportation Plan and Presentation of Chapter V Multipurpose Trails and Pedestrian Network. Ms. McCullough directed the Technical Committee to their agenda packet for a copy of the draft text and map of Chapter V Multipurpose Trails and Pedestrian Network, as part of the 2035 Quad City Area Long Range Transportation Plan. It was noted that Mr. DeLille would report on the trails/pedestrian chapter and Mr. Patel would report on the status of the modeling effort. Ms. McCullough reiterated the upcoming timeline and noted the need for monthly Policy Committee meetings, including: December 2005- Roadway Network and Full Draft; January 2006- Public Meetings and Final Draft; and March 2006- Consideration of Adoption by Bi-State Regional Commission.

A summary of the input to date and survey results were included in the agenda packet for Policy Committee members to reference. The information will coincide with project development. Additionally, the initial roadway priorities (short term vs. long term) list was included in the agenda packet for review and comment in preparation for the modeling effort in the next couple of months. Policy Committee members were asked to review the listing and work with their respective Technical representatives on refinement of the roadway priorities.

Mr. DeLille provided the Policy Committee with a brief overview of the draft Multipurpose Trails and Pedestrian component of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan. A projected map was used to illustrate the existing and proposed trail network and numbers on the map correlated to the draft text. Trail developments within the last five years were highlighted and their significance to the overall network explained. The plan defines the basic types of trails (i.e. separated corridor or shared-access). The plan emphasizes expansion of existing trail systems and connections into the coast-to-coast American Discovery Trail (ADT) and the Headwaters to the Gulf Mississippi River Trail (MRT), two national trail systems intersecting in the Quad Cities Metro Area. Also identified was the importance of completing the section of the Grand Illinois Trail (GIT) from East Moline to Colona; the GIT is a state trail loop through northern Illinois. Other priorities included expanding the Hennepin Canal State Parkway Trail and connections on both the west and east ends of the Duck Creek Parkway Trail to the MRT. In general, the Quad Cities continues to pursue the development of interurban and intra-urban loop trails. Community meetings and survey results identified a need for north-south trail connections, improved trail accessibility and continuity throughout the metro area, and inclusion of trails and pedestrian accommodations when building or reconstructing bridges and roadways.

The pedestrian portion of the Chapter will address connections, continuity, and ease of mobility for pedestrians. Implementing and constructing systems to best meet the needs of all users. Mass transit, trails and other available alternative transportation modes should serve as an interconnected method of safe, continuous and fluid movement of pedestrians. A sidewalk map is being developed to illustrate the existing system along collector streets and above. The map will identify where improvements to the system are planned or needed.

The Iowa Department of Transportation (IADOT) is soliciting project applications for the State Recreational Trails Program. The Recreation Trails Program is restricted to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of recreational trails open for public use or trails, which will be

dedicated to public use upon completion. The IADOT Office of Systems Planning must receive applications no later than January 2, 2006. An estimated \$700,000 in total funding is available statewide for projects submitted by the January 2 2006 deadline. Mr. DeLille noted an additional trail grant program, Scenic Byways with a January 2006 deadline. He also mentioned the 2006 National Trails Symposium to be hosted in the Quad Cities next year. He provided a postcard with information related to the conference which has had previous attendance of 800-1,000 people.

Mr. Patel reviewed the modeling process through a computer projected presentation. A flow chart demonstrated the three step process of trip generation, trip distribution and trip assignment. There are 400 internal Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) and 44 external TAZs. Part of the trip generation step includes data collection. Mr. Patel reviewed the population and employment cap development process. After meeting with the communities to receive input on socio-economic data by TAZ, it was determined the totals exceeded the caps for population and employment. They will require follow-up. The population cap was exceeded by 600 and the employment cap was exceeded by 1,500. It was emphasized that the model is a macro model and not sensitive to price elasticity, e.g. rising fuel costs. It is based on a gravity model that forecasts trips by trying to reach an equilibrium within the roadway network. The model is calibrated for the higher level roadways, while collector streets projected traffic has a larger margin of error. It was emphasized that the model is one tool utilized in predicting traffic and provides the first estimates of future traffic. As projects move toward implementation, other engineering tools are used to refine model predictions and assess future traffic.

Ms. Doonan reported on the status of the transit chapter. Staff is currently projecting ridership and working with the transit systems on updates of the text. The transportation model outlined by Mr. Patel predicts vehicle trips and isn't used to forecast person trips for transit. The methodology used for transit is consistent with other areas similar and size and ridership. There have been several coordinated activities which will be included, such as the joint marketing and monthly universal pass.

6. Public Comments. No public comments were made.
7. Other Business. Ms. McCullough noted that a Surface Transportation Program submittal requests were sent to the Iowa Quad Cities jurisdictions. The deadline for submission of projects is October 31, 2005. She also mentioned grant applications are being accepted for the Illinois Tomorrow corridor planning program with a deadline of mid-December, 2005. The next Transportation Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29, 2005, at noon.
6. Adjournment. Mayor Schwiebert motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. McGivern. The meeting adjourned at 12:44 p.m.