

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

Tuesday, March 27, 2007, 12:00 Noon  
Third Floor Conference Room 320  
Bi-State Regional Commission  
1504 Third Avenue  
Rock Island, Illinois

Policy Members Present

Fred Dean	Iowa Department of Transportation-Davenport
Lyle Lohse	Mayor of Silvis
Larry Lorensen	MetroLINK Board of Trustees Chair
Becky Marruffo	Illinois Department of Transportation-Dixon
Virgil Mayberry	Rock Island County Board
Stan Peterson	Iowa Department of Transportation-Ames
Mark Schweibert	Mayor of Rock Island
Tom Sunderbruch	Scott County Board
Don Welvaert	Mayor of Moline
Ed Winborn	Mayor of Davenport
Norma Wren	Mayor of Riverdale

Others Present

Mike Franke	Amtrak
Sally Heffernan	City of Rock Island
Dick Hoffman	Amtrak
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Jeff Nelson	MetroLINK
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission
Dawn Tubbs	Village of Carbon Cliff
Al Zimmer	Citizen

1. Approval of the Minutes of the February 27, 2007 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mayor Welvaert asked for approval of the February 27, 2007 Transportation Policy Committee minutes. Mr. Lorensen motioned to approve the minutes as written and ratify the actions taken at the meeting. Mayor Lohse seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. Consideration of Adoption of Bi-State Region Transit Development Plan (TDP). Ms. McCullough noted the full draft report had been presented at the February meeting. The agenda packets included comments received on the plan and how staff would address those comments in the final draft or within the next plan update. It is anticipated that the plan will be updated annually following its adoption. The plan will meet the need for a human services coordination plan as required in the federal transportation act, SAFETEA-LU. Its purpose is to reduce duplication through coordination of transportation services, to improve cost efficiency, and to

simplify delivery of transportation services to a variety of customers, including individuals with disabilities, older adults, and those with lower incomes. After reviewing the comments, Ms. McCullough reported the Transportation Technical Committee recommended approval of the plan to the Policy Committee. Mayor Wren motioned to adopt the Bi-State Regional Transit Development Plan, and it was seconded by Mr. Sunderbruch. Ms. McCullough noted that the Region 9 Policy Committee will also consider adoption of the plan at its next meeting.

3. Consideration of Amendments to FFY07-10 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Ms. McCullough directed the Policy Committee to requests from the Cities of Moline and Davenport noted on the agenda. They have requested the addition of the following projects to the FFY07 Annual Element of the TIP:

- **MO-07-06 RiverTech Blvd.** – construct new road adjacent to RiverTech Research and Technology Park and WIU Campus; Total cost \$1,590,000 with Federal share of \$1,272,000 Economic Development Administration [EDA]-pending grant application and discretionary funds request) and Local share of \$318,000
- **MO-07-07 25<sup>th</sup> Street at RiverTech Blvd.** – Raise and reconstruct existing road to match new grade; Total cost \$404,074 with Federal share of \$202,037 EDA-pending grant application and Local share of \$202,037
- **DA-07-09 I-74 at 65<sup>th</sup>/67<sup>th</sup> Street to Eastern Ave.** – Environmental Assessment; Total cost \$280,000 with Federal Share of \$224,000 with Local share of \$56,000

These projects were recommended for approval by the Technical Committee. Mayor Winborn motioned to approve the amendments as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lorensen. The amendments were approved.

4. Status Reports. A status report was provided on the calendar year 2007 bridge restrictions by Lalit Patel. A handout as of March 27, 2007 was distributed. Mr. Patel highlighted upcoming major restrictions on I-280 due to a bridge painting project. Other restrictions will be relatively minor with intermittent disruptions to traffic. He also noted the installation of additional dynamic message signs as part of the I-74 incident management project.

Ms. McCullough introduced Mike Franke and Dick Hoffman from Amtrak. They reported on recent activities, including the initiation of a feasibility study for passenger rail service between the Quad Cities and Chicago. It was noted Amtrak is 35 years old. It is set up as a private business with the U.S. Department of Transportation owning the stock; Congress set up the route structure with transcontinental routes and corridors in the eastern United States. Amtrak annually seeks appropriations to subsidize its operations since it does not have a designated federal funding source, such as the transportation trust fund. Recently, Amtrak has seen increases in ridership, which creates greater need for equipment and capital investment. Formal requests for passenger rail route feasibility studies have been received by Amtrak for the Chicago/Rockford/Dubuque corridor, Chicago/Quad Cities, and Chicago/Peoria. The Chicago/Quad Cities study would be completed by late summer or early fall 2007. Mr. Franke outlined the study process, including a physical appraisal of the rail, scheduling today with no improvements and with incremental improvements, modeling ridership, and ultimately a service recommendation. Amtrak will need demographic data from the community, such as on colleges/universities, business, corporate headquarters and projected growth. Scheduling would be assessed on two trains daily. There was an inquiry about the status of the Rockford study that is underway. A reference was noted to extend the Quad City study to Iowa City.

Amtrak would need a letter from the Iowa Department of Transportation to extend the study parameters. Mr. Dean will follow-up on this item.

5. Presentation on FY08 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). A draft FY08 TPWP was provided in members' agenda packets. Annually the TPWP document for the Quad Cities metropolitan planning area is revised to reflect Bi-State transportation staff activities for the coming fiscal year. The FY08 TPWP is developed to aid cooperative, continuing, and comprehensive transportation planning. It includes program and object-class budgets for Bi-State's transportation planning activities and funds, amounting to \$ 762,415. The document also outlines the history of organizations playing a role in transportation planning.

In the metropolitan area, major transportation issues include:

- River Crossing Capacity Improvements
- Congestion Management, Intelligent Transportation System, and Air Quality Improvement Activities
- Intermodal Connections
- Long Range Plan Implementation and Planning
- Coordination with Human Service & Specialized Transportation Providers
- Integration of Safety and Security

Accomplishments from FY07 include:

- Print/Distribute urban 2035 Long Range Plan (LRP) and develop Region 9 LRP
- Update FFY07-10 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Develop regional Transit Development Plan
- Provide Grant Assistance- ICAAP, Rec.Trails, RISE, SRTS, Scenic Byways
- Plan for National Trails Symposium, Midwest Transportation Planning Conference
- Revise Public Involvement Process
- Provide technical assistance—model scenarios, traffic studies, accident analysis, ITS coordination, trail planning, RFPs, etc

The Technical Committee recommended approval of the FY08 TPWP activities to the Policy Committee. There were no comments by the Policy Committee on the FY08 TPWP, and it will be forwarded to the Bi-State Regional Commission for approval.

6. Public Comments. No public comments were made.
7. Other Business. No other business was noted.
8. Adjournment. Mr. Sunderbruch motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mayor Lohse. The meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.