

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

Tuesday, May 22, 2007, 12:00 Noon
Third Floor Conference Room 320
Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

Policy Members Present

Brian Dumas	Davenport City Council
Mike Freemire	Mayor of Bettendorf
Lyle Lohse	Mayor of Silvis
John Malvik	Rock Island County
Kris Tobin	Illinois Department of Transportation – Dixon
Don Welvaert	Mayor of Moline
Norma Wren	Mayor of Riverdale

Others Present

Mike Atchley	City of Davenport
Denise Bulat	Bi-State Regional Commission
Marianne Doonan	Bi-State Regional Commission
Mark Hunt	Bi-State Regional Commission
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission
Doug Riel	Citizen
Tiffany Spranger	Handicapped Development Center

1. Public Hearing on FFY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program. Mayor Freemire opened the public hearing for comments on the draft FFY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A fact sheet on the TIP was enclosed in all agenda packets and draft annual elements could be downloaded from the Bi-State website at www.bistateonline.org. Public notices were published in the Quad City Times and Dispatch/Argus newspapers. Copies of the annual element pages were sent to the Regional Transportation Advisory Group for comment. Ms. McCullough reported that no written comments had been received from the public. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Freemire closed the public hearing and proceeded with the remainder of the agenda.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the March 27, 2007 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mayor Freemire asked for approval of the March 27, 2007 Transportation Policy Committee minutes. Mayor Thodos motioned to approve the minutes with corrections that he was not present at the March 27th meeting while Mayor Wren was. Mayor Lohse seconded the motion with the attendance corrections noted and the motion carried.

3. Election of Transportation Policy Committee Chair and Vice-Chair. Ms. McCullough noted per the Transportation Policy Committee by-laws, the election of officers is required to occur in an odd numbered year. Mayor Welvaert motioned to recommend Mayor Thodos as Chair and it was seconded by Mr. Dumas. The motion carried with Mayor Thodos being voted Chair of the Policy Committee. Mayor Thodos motioned to recommend Mayor Freemire as Vice-Chair and the motion was seconded by Mr. Malvik. The motion carried with Mayor Freemire being voted as Vice-Chair of the Policy Committee.
4. Consideration of FFY08-11 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Hunt directed the Policy Committee to draft copies of the FFY08-11 TIP in members' agenda packets. He provided handouts with summary tables for plan justification, by jurisdiction, and by federal funding sources. The FFY08 Annual Element contains \$52 million in projects with over \$32 million in federal funds. A map distributed with the summary handouts illustrated the location of these projects. Placeholders were not included in the summary tables due to fiscal constraint requirements placed on the TIP. Mr. Hunt indicated that the Transportation Technical Committee recommended approval of the FFY08-11 TIP and amendments to the FFY07 Annual Element included in the document as a status of projects. It was noted that TIP approval, as stated on the agenda, assumes continuing support of Iowa's Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) program and the statewide pavement management system using Iowa Quad Cities Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. Mayor Welvaert motioned to approve the FFY08-11 TIP and amendments to FFY07 with the assumption of using Iowa STP funds to support the SUDAS and pavement management programs. Mayor Lohse seconded the motion and it carried. Having examined the TIP, it was realized that the I-74 Mississippi River Corridor Design project was not part of the Iowa Department of Transportation (IADOT) project listings. Mayor Thodos motioned and directed staff to request clarification on the status of the project with IADOT and to include the project under the direction of the IADOT as appropriate. Mr. Malvik seconded the motion and it carried. Ms. Bulat indicated she would work with the DOT on the issue.
5. Report on Final Rule on Metropolitan Transportation Planning, Notification of Public Comment and Consideration of Amendments to the Public Involvement Process. The Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act, A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) was passed in August 2005. Final rules for metropolitan and statewide transportation planning were finalized on March 16, 2007. Their content provides guidance on the implementation of SAFETEA-LU. Within SAFETEA-LU, there is language requiring that the long range transportation plan and planning process be compliant by July 1, 2007. Ms. McCullough reported on a teleconference sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration that highlighted key points from the rules. Key points related to SAFETEA-LU compliance included the following:
 - Fiscal Constraint – need to project funds to the horizon year
 - Linking Transportation Planning to the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) – requires consultation with resource agencies

- Planning Factors – separates issues of safety and security and emphasizes operations and management and congestion management process
- Public Transit and Human Services Coordination – requires a plan

Following this report, Ms. McCullough directed the Policy Committee to a copy of the revised public involvement process within their agenda packet. A reference to major investment studies is proposed to be deleted. The long range plan comment period is proposed to be revised to 45-day period. Under accommodation, reference to meetings being held at convenient and accessible locations and times was proposed to be added. Hearing no comments on these proposed changes, Mr. Malvik motioned to recommend the changes to the Public Involvement Process to the Policy Committee. Mayor Thodos seconded the motion and it carried.

6. Public Comments. No public comments were made.
7. Other Business. Ms. Bulat reported on the status of passenger rail. She noted the rail coalition initiative by the Illinois Quad City Chamber of Commerce and growing support of passenger rail service between Chicago and Quad Cities. She reported on the Rockford study and indicated the Amtrak studied of Chicago to Quad Cities would be completed in September. It was noted that ILDOT subsidizes passenger rail with \$24 million while IADOT does not subsidize passenger rail at this time. It was also noted that the Amtrak study for the Quad Cities is also looking at service to Iowa City. For successful service, an on-time schedule will be critical.
8. Adjournment. Mayor Lohse motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mayor Welvaert. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.