

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

Tuesday, March 25, 2008, 12:00 Noon
Third Floor Conference Room 320
Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois
John Thodos, Chair

Policy Members Present

Ian Frink	City of Davenport Alderman
Lyle Lohse	Mayor of Silvis
Larry Lorensen	MetroLINK
Tom Rockwell	Rock Island County Board
Mark Schwiebert	Mayor of Rock Island
Tom Sunderbruch	Scott County Board of Supervisors
John Thodos	Mayor of East Moline
Kris Tobin	Illinois Department of Transportation – Dixon

Others Present

Marianne Doonan	Bi-State Regional Commission
Richard Field	Candlelight Services
Nathan Kimbrough	Candlelight Services
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission
Darryl Smith	Candlelight Services
Chelsey Waterman	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of the Minutes of the February 26, 2008 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mayor Thodos asked for approval of the February 26, 2008 Transportation Policy Committee minutes. Mr. Lorensen motioned to approve the minutes. Mayor Lohse seconded the motion and the motion carried.
2. Consideration of Regional Transit Development Plan (TDP). In addition to the summary of revisions provided in the Committees' agenda packets, Ms. Waterman provided the Policy Committee with a handout copy of additional revisions to the draft 2008 Transit Development Plan (TDP). These additions were based on suggestions from the Iowa Department of Transportation, Office of Public Transit. As a general suggestion, the Iowa DOT recommended that Bi-State broaden the scope of the document beyond public transit systems to include more information on specialized transit providers. Specifically, it was suggested that Bi-State provide more information on agencies receiving funds from one of the 62 federal programs identified as indirectly financing transportation services in the development of SAFETEA-LU. Examples of these funding streams would include Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Veteran's Affairs. Ms. Waterman explained that these agencies have been contacted, but often are lacking an incentive to provide detailed financial and fleet information. Continued efforts will be made to encourage participation and obtain more extensive information from the region's specialized

transit providers. To better incorporate these agencies in the body of the document, a spreadsheet containing basic agency information as well as a chart of the 62 federal programs will be added to chapters within the text. It was reiterated that there is an expectation the TDP is an evolving document as human services coordination relationships are established and a greater understanding of mobility needs and transportation services are uncovered and coordinated.

Also, several projects have been added or modified to the project tables in Chapter 5 based on the Iowa DOT's comments. Bi-State will be adding an ICAAP grant that was recently awarded to River Bend Transit as well as a proposed Public Infrastructure Grant (PTIG). In addition, urban Job Access and Reverse Commute and New Freedom funds awarded to MetroLINK and River Bend Transit at the February Technical and Policy Committees have been revised or added to the document. Text will also be added to reflect a need for replacement vehicles that has been expressed by several agencies wishing to apply for Illinois Section 5310 funding in FY2009.

Following this summary, Mr. Lorensen motioned to approve the Bi-State Regional Transit Development Plan update of 2008. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sunderbruch and it carried. The TDP was approved with the stated revisions.

3. Presentation on FY09 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). A draft FY09 TPWP was provided in members' agenda packets and a summary presentation was distributed at the meeting. 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 FY09 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 \$ 788,641. 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 and Passenger Rail
- Long Range Plan Implementation and Planning
- Coordination with Human Service & Specialized Transportation Providers
- Integration of Safety and Security

Accomplishments from FY08 include:

- Update Transit Development Plan (TDP) & initiate competitive selection process for urban JARC & New Freedom funds
- Update FFY08-11 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs)
- Provide Grant Assistance – ICAAP, Recreation Trails, RISE, SRTS, Scenic Byways, TCSP
- Hold Complete Streets Workshop & Plan for Midwest Transportation Planning Conference
- Provide technical assistance – model scenarios, traffic studies, accident analysis, ITS coordination, trail planning, RFPs, etc.
- Served Technical and Policy Committees, Bi-State Regional Trail Committee, CARS group, QC Air Quality Task Force
- Completed SAFETEA-LU Compliance Report as LRP Addendum

The Technical Committee recommended approval of the FY09 TPWP activities to the Policy Committee. There were no comments by the Policy Committee on the FY09 TPWP on the activities. Mr. Frink stated that he is supportive of the Complete Streets effort and interested in what cities can do to further this effort. Ms. McCullough indicated that Bi-State staff is working with public works, engineering, and planning staff to identify corridors where Complete Streets concepts could apply. The Policy Committee would continue to be apprised on the issue as it unfolds. With no other comments, the FY09 TPWP will be forwarded to the Bi-State Regional Commission for approval of the budget and authorization to apply for the federal grants.

4. Public Comments. No public comments were made.
5. Other Business. Ms. McCullough noted that the ozone standard had been lowered from 84 ppb to 75 ppb for the three-year average. The Quad Cities has a 3-year average of 68 ppb (2004-2006). Staff is fact-finding on the fine particulate issue and its implications for potential non-attainment. The Policy Committee will continue to be briefed on this issue. Mayor Thodos recognized Mr. Fred Dean for his twelve year service to the Quad City Area Transportation Technical and Policy Committees. Mr. Dean was recognized with a certificate of appreciation and staff will convey the recognition prior to Mr. Dean's retirement.

To help address and mitigate the effect of the congestion and manage incidents on the highway system, the Iowa and Illinois DOTs installed an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) within the Quad Cities. Its spine aligns with the I-74 Mississippi River Corridor. This system consists of cameras, traffic sensors, over head and side mount message signs, highway advisory radio (HAR), and the software to tie all these devices. Dynamic message signs and highway advisory radio are located throughout the Quad Cities. Dynamic message and side mount signs are very crucial in relaying messages to motorists if an incident occurs. Three new dynamic message signs are going to be installed along with few side mount signs. Various diversion routes are prepared when the incident occurs at different locations through the Quad Cities. Local city engineers, DOT staff, and law enforcement agencies have been involved to prepare diversion routes in the event of a highway incident. The initial phase of the system is expected to be deployed this spring.

Ms. McCullough distributed a summary on funding levels. She noted the Bi-State Regional Commission certification review will occur April 22-24, 2008. A public hearing will be part of the next Policy Committee meeting.

6. Adjournment. Mayor Schwiebert motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sunderbruch. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.