

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

Tuesday, May 27, 2008, 12:00 Noon
Third Floor Conference Room
Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

Policy Members Present

Ray Ambrose	City of Davenport Alderman
Jim Bohnsack	Rock Island County Board Chair
Bill Fennelly	Scott County
Mike Freemire	Mayor of Bettendorf
Norman Johnson	Illinois Department of Transportation – Springfield
Larry Lorensen	MetroLINK Board of Trustees Chair
Bob Scannell	Mayor of LeClaire
Mark Schwiebert	Mayor of Rock Island
John Thodos	Mayor of East Moline
Don Welvaert	Mayor of Moline

Others Present

Rick Carlson	Arc of Rock Island County
Mike Jackson	Iowa Department of Transportation
John Lowery	Project NOW, Rock Island County Senior Center
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Jeff Nelson	MetroLINK
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission
Paul Rumler	Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce
Kathy Starling	Iowa/Illinois Center for Independent Living
Tony Taylor	Iowa Department of Transportation
Chelsey Waterman	Bi-State Regional Commission
Diane Welsh	InTouch Services, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

1. Public Hearing on FFY2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program. Mayor Thodos opened the public hearing. Ms. McCullough indicated that the Regional Transportation Advisory Group had received notice of the public hearing and draft copies of the annual elements. A public hearing notice was published in the *Quad City Times* and *Dispatch*. Mayor Thodos asked for comments on the FFY09-12 TIP. Mr. Paul Rumler, Illinois Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce, suggested that two projects be included in the TIP. He stated that local entities are seeking \$1.5 million in federal funds to complete a feasibility study for an East Rock River Bridge as well as a \$13.5 million federal earmark to bring Amtrak service to the Quad Cities. Mayor Freemire asked it be noted that any efforts to secure funding for these two projects should not diminish efforts to fund a new I-74 bridge. Mayor Welvaert concurred stressing that I-74 corridor is the Quad City Area's highest priority. Mr. Norman Johnson from the Illinois Department of Transportation stated that he would look further into

the request and provide guidance on whether or not the two projects can be included in the TIP. Ms. McCullough noted the feasibility study is discussed as an illustrative project in the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan and the passenger rail project is discussed as is the LRP Intermodal Chapter. Hearing no other comments, Mayor Thodos closed the public hearing.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the April 22, 2008 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mayor Thodos asked for comments and/or approval of the minutes. Ms. McCullough asked the Policy Committee to consider revisions of the April 22, 2008 minutes. Mr. John Lowery of Project NOW, Mr. Jeff Anderson of the City of Moline, and Mr. Greg Tast of River Action were present at the meeting but not listed. Mr. Ray Ambrose motioned to approve the corrections. Mark Schwiebert seconded the motion and it carried. Mr. Schwiebert motioned to approve the minutes with revisions. Mayor Welvaert seconded the motion and it carried.
3. Consideration of FFY2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. Waterman directed Policy Committee members to their agenda packets for a draft copy of the FFY09-12 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ms. Waterman noted that the TIP contains federally funded transportation projects over the next four years. Projects pursuing federal funds must be included in the TIP and derived from the Quad Cities Long Range Transportation Plan. The document is fiscally constrained, and therefore cost estimates must be shown in year of expenditure dollars. Ms. Waterman provided Policy Committee members with a list of projects programmed at over \$1,000,000 and/or receiving Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds as well as updated annual element pages with revisions. Ms. Waterman noted that both the Illinois and Iowa Departments of Transportation have programmed funds for engineering and land acquisition in relation to the replacement of the I-74 Bridge, and the cities of Bettendorf, Moline, and Rock Island plan to begin construction on STP projects during the 2009 fiscal year. In regards to transit, both Davenport CitiBus and MetroLINK are pursuing federal funds for maintenance facilities in the next fiscal year. Mayor Freemire asked if the JARC and New Freedom projects approved by the Policy Committee in April were included in the document, and Ms. Waterman confirmed. It was again noted by the committee that the possible inclusion the East Rock River Bridge and Amtrak service within the document should not diminish efforts to acquire funding for a new I-74 bridge corridor. Mr. Ambrose motioned to approve the document with attached revisions. Mayor Welvaert seconded the motion and it carried.
4. Consideration of the FY08 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) – Transit Planning Amendment for CitiBus. Ms. McCullough presented the Policy Committee with a proposed amendment for CitiBus to the FY08 TPWP to include \$16,000 of FTA 5307 for Long Range Planning – System Level with a local share of \$4,000 and total cost of \$20,000. Mr. Ambrose motioned to approve the amendment. Mayor Schwiebert seconded the motion and it carried.
5. Consideration of Letter Supporting Additional MetroLINK Transit Service on Additional Routes. Ms. McCullough referenced a letter that was included in committee members' packets, recommending that MetroLINK provide additional service during the John Deere Classic. Mr. Nelson noted that at this time, he does not believe guidance from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will allow MetroLINK to provide the additional service. However, Mr. Nelson stated that an upcoming meeting on charter rules has been scheduled to provide additional information to MetroLINK staff. Mr. Ambrose suggested that Bi-State staff add this issue to legislative agendas and address it in the next reauthorization. Mr. Bohnsack motioned to approve and send MetroLINK the letter as enclosed in agenda packet. Mayor Welvaert seconded the

motion and it carried.

6. Status of Quad City Area Incident Management System. Mr. Mike Jackson, Iowa Department of Transportation, provided the status of the Quad City Area Incident Management System. Mr. Jackson noted that thirteen cameras have been installed in the area, eleven on the I-74 Corridor and two on the Centennial Bridge. Dynamic Message signs are being installed and are expected to be complete in late 2008 or early 2009. In addition, the Highway Advisory Radio System (HARS) is being programmed and will be complete this summer. Mr. Jackson stated that local communities met with Jacobs Engineering to develop coordinated incident response measures, and as a result, the QC Incident Response Guide will be released in June. All participants of this coordinated effort were encouraged to meet on a regular basis after the guide is complete. Mr. Jackson also noted that the cameras will not be used for monitoring traffic violations, but can be used for situations in which local law enforcement officials need to track vehicles. Cameras will be open to the media and public, but local officials will have the capacity to blackout the cameras if a sensitive situation should arise. Mr. Jackson also noted that all viable equipment would be transferred to the new I-74 bridge once construction is complete.
7. Public Comments. Mr. Rumler suggested that the interchange on Interstate 80 at Illinois 84/Colona Road be included in the FY2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. McCullough noted that the project is currently an Illinois Department of Transportation unfunded priority.
8. Other Business. Ms. Waterman stated that Illinois members of the Policy Committee are invited to attend a joint meeting with the Region 2 Transit Advisory Committee at 2:00 pm on June 24, 2008 at Colona City Hall. The meeting is in response to a round of Section 5310 Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Funding by the Illinois Department of Transportation. The committees will consider endorsement of candidate projects, ensuring that the applicant agency has been active in local coordination efforts and the project is derived from the Transit Development Plan.

Ms. McCullough directed the Policy Committee to a letter of request from the Iowa Department of Transportation. An Iowa Rail Advisory Committee was being established with a request for an Iowa elected official from the Transportation Policy Committee to be appointed to attend the first meeting on June 19, 2008. It was noted that Bi-State Staff could be appointed as an alternate if an Iowa elected official was not able to attend. Mayor Freemire suggested that the Policy Committee appoint Bi-State Staff as the alternate at this time, and the Iowa elected officials would meet and decide who would be represented. With this motion, Mayor Schwiebert seconded it and it carried. Staff will send information to the Iowa officials not in attendance to further the discussion of an appointment.

9. Adjournment. Mr. Fennelly motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mayor Schwiebert. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.