

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

Tuesday, May 25, 2010, 12:00 Noon
Third Floor Conference Room 300
Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

Policy Members Present

Ray Ambrose	Davenport City Council
Mike Freemire	Mayor, City of Bettendorf
William Fox	Mayor, City of Silvis
Tom Kelso	Illinois Department of Transportation-Springfield
Becky Marruffo	Illinois Department of Transportation - Dixon
Gene Meeker	Davenport City Council
Sam Shea	Iowa Department of Transportation - Davenport
Tom Sunderbruch	Scott County Board of Supervisors
Helen Heiland	East Moline City Council
Don Welvaert	Mayor, City of Moline

Others Present

Tom Caldwell	Illinois Department of Transportation – Springfield
Mark Hunt	Bi-State Regional Commission
Stacy Lentsch	Bi-State Regional Commission
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission
Steve Swisher	River Bend Transit
Chelsey Waterman	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Public Hearing on FFY2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Sunderbruch asked for a motion to open the public hearing. Mayor Freemire motioned to open the public hearing at 12:00 noon and Mayor Welvaert seconded the motion. Ms. Waterman explained that the public hearing was set to receive comments on the draft FFY2011-2014 TIP. A public notice, per the Public Participation Plan procedures, was published in the Dispatch-Argus and Quad Cities Times noting the availability of the draft for comments and information on the public hearing. The Regional Transportation Advisory Committee received notice of the TIP availability for comment. The draft was posted on the website at www.bistateonline.org/ser/tra/tip.shtml. No comments were received prior to the meeting. No comments were provided at the public hearing. Mayor Freemire moved to close the public hearing, and Mayor Welvaert seconded the motion. The motion carried, and the public hearing was closed at 12:03 p.m.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the March 23, 2010 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mr. Sunderbruch asked for approval of the March 23, 2010 Transportation Policy Committee minutes. Ms. McCullough asked for a correction to include Lalit Patel as being present at the meeting. Mayor Welvaert motioned to approve the minutes as corrected. Mayor Freemire seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

3. Consideration of Job Access & Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom (NF) Project Submittals. Ms. Waterman indicated that Bi-State Regional Commission acts as the direct recipient for JARC and NF funds. Other direct recipients (Bettendorf Transit, Davenport CitiBus, MetroLINK, and Departments of Transportation) are eligible to receive these funds through a competitive selection process. They can work with non-direct recipient agencies as sub-recipients. Riverbend Transit (RBT) requested JARC and NF funds as a sub-recipient of Iowa Department of Transportation. The JARC and NF applications were enclosed in Committee members' packets for review prior to the meeting.

RBT requested \$225,000 in JARC funds with a total project cost of \$432,000 to continue service for low-income employees, trainees, students, and supporting services in the Iowa Quad Cities. RBT requests \$98,000 in NF funds with a total project cost of \$192,000 for continuation of service for its program to accommodate same day service, beyond ¾ mile limitation, door-to-door services for individuals with disabilities. Ms. Waterman indicated that the FY10 appropriations estimate for NF funds is \$90,084. The NF request would require programming beyond FY10. Mr. Swisher with RBT was present to answer any questions. The projects are derived from the Transit Development Plan. The Technical Committee recommended approval of the JARC and NF requests by RBT, with a qualification that the NF project be funded up to the FY10 levels, not to exceed \$98,000. Mr. Ambrose motioned to approve the projects as recommended by the Technical Committee. Mayor Fox seconded the motion, and it carried.

4. Consideration of FFY11-14 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ms. Waterman directed the Policy Committee to their agenda packets where a draft TIP was included. A full draft of the TIP was also made available on the Bi-State website. Ms. Waterman noted projects in the TIP must be derived from the 2035 Quad City Area Long Range Transportation Plan, must be fiscally constrained, and show year of expenditure dollars. She reported on a number of regionally significant projects listed in the TIP, including I-74 Mississippi River Corridor. Following a discussion by the Technical Committee, they agreed to a table of unmet needs to address project placeholders. This table is included in the document to illustrate projects that are seeking funding but not programmed with specific funding sources to date. It addresses strengthened fiscal constraint requirement from SAFETEA-LU. Projects will receive a TIP number but will require an amendment to move into an Annual Element once funding is identified. With this addition, the Technical Committee recommended approval of the FFY2011-2014 TIP.

Mr. Ambrose motioned to recommend the FFY11-14 TIP for approval to the Policy Committee with a table identifying unmet needs to address fiscal constraint. Mayor Fox seconded the motion, and it carried.

5. Status of Long Range Transportation Plan Update. Ms. McCullough reported briefly on the status of the Long Range Transportation Plan development. Efforts continue toward preparing the data sets that feed into the travel-demand model. Staff has held meetings with Bettendorf, Carbon Cliff, Coal Valley, East Moline, Moline, Rock Island, and Rock Island County to discuss future housing and employment in the horizon years. Other community meetings still need to be set up.

Mr. Hunt directed the Policy Committee to a handout on projection methodology. He explained that both for population and employment, the purpose was to provide a range of projections, fast growth to slow growth, and an equidistant line in between. In past plan updates, a single projection was adopted. It is assumed that the range will allow for some flexibility and for a robust transportation network that can accommodate traffic. Population data was derived from a Census based package

known at PopStats and assigned to Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) with a data engine known as Allocate. Employment data was derived from Employment Security 202 Reports and assigned to TAZs by latitude/longitude and address references. This data set has strict regulations and confidentiality so information is aggregated in order to not link the data to any single company. Having explained the data and TAZ projection methodology, Mr. Hunt reported the population projections for 2040 ranged from 297,419 to 450,414 and employment ranged from 154,059 to 167,932. Mr. Hunt fielded questions from the Policy Committee. He noted the most dense TAZ had 17 persons per acre but used a limiter of 20 persons per acre in his projections, which limited roughly 7 TAZs.

6. Status Reports. Ms. McCullough quickly briefed Policy Committee members on few issues.
 - I-74 Mississippi River Corridor. The I-74 corridor project was awarded a TIGER grant. A joint letter from Bettendorf and Moline was sent to the Iowa Department of Transportation encouraging submission of the project for a TIGER II grant, and a response was received from Iowa DOT confirming their intent to apply.
 - Passenger Rail. While the Chicago-Iowa City route did not receive federal High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) discretionary grant program (ARRA), funds were given to the Chicago-St.Louis high-speed rail corridor (\$100 million) and \$300 to CREATE to relieve highway/rail congestion in the Chicago metro area. The State of Illinois has committed \$60 million to a Chicago-Rockford-Dubuque route, \$45 million to Chicago-Quad Cities, and \$45 million to the Galesburg area. There are plans to submit for another round of the High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail funds yet this calendar year. Funding has been committed by the State of Iowa for matching funds. The Iowa DOT is working on a mid-range rail plan to further the states' initiatives.
 - Air Quality. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is reviewing the ozone standard and is expected to release the threshold by the end of August. There have been no exceedances of ozone in 2010 with monitors being activated April 1st. There have 61 exceedances for PM2.5 across Iowa in 2010 with 9 in the Iowa Quad Cities and 16 in the Muscatine Area. This is much higher than last year.
 - Bridge Coordination. The I-80 Bridge at the Mississippi River is to open head-to-head traffic before mid-July with one lane in each direction for the remainder of the project. Work continues south of the I-74 Mississippi River bridges to complete the resurfacing project as part of ARRA funding. Progress continues on the Arsenal Viaduct Bridge.
7. Public Comments. No public comments were made.
8. Other Business. No other business was conducted.
9. Adjournment. Mr. Sunderbruch called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ambrose motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mayor Welvaert. The meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.