

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

Tuesday, March 27th, 2012, 12:00 P.M.
Bi-State Regional Commission
Third Floor Conference Room 302
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ray Ambrose	Davenport City Council
Bob Gallagher	Mayor, City of Bettendorf
Larry Lorensen	Chair, MetroLINK
Larry Minard	Scott County Board of Supervisors
Marty O'Boyle	Mayor, City of Eldridge (Small Community Representative Alternate – Iowa)
John Thodos	Mayor, City of East Moline
Kris Toban	Illinois Department of Transportation – Dixon
Don Welvaert	Mayor, City of Moline
Bob Wilson	Mayor, City of Port Byron (Small Community Representative – Illinois)

OTHERS PRESENT

Denise Bulat	Bi-State Regional Commission
Bola Delano	Illinois Department of Transportation
William Fox	Mayor, City of Silvis (Small Community Representative Alternate – Illinois)
Craig Harper	Bi-State Regional Commission
Tom Kelso	Illinois Department of Transportation
Janet Mathis	Renew Moline
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Brandon Melton	Bi-State Regional Commission
Clayton Naylor	Rock Island County Regional Office of Education
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission
Steve Swisher	River Bend Transit
Chelsey Waterman	MetroLINK
Randy Zobrist	River Bend Transit

1. Approval of the Minutes of the February 28th, 2012 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mayor Welvaert chaired the meeting and asked for approval of the February 28th, 2012 Transportation Policy Committee minutes. Mr. Lorensen moved that the minutes be approved as written. Mr. Ambrose seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved as written. Mayor Welvaert requested introductions from those present. Additionally, Ms. McCullough noted that the small communities in the Iowa and Illinois Quad Cities were caucused for a representative and alternate each. Mayor Scannell was selected as the Iowa Quad Cities Small Community Representative and Mayor O'Boyle will act as the alternate. In the Illinois Quad Cities, Mayor Wilson was selected as the representative and Mayor Fox as the alternate.
2. Consideration of Regional Transit Development Plan (TDP) Updates. Mr. Harper presented a summary of proposed updates to the Regional Transit Development Plan. Mr. Harper reported that

the Iowa Quad Cities Rider's Guide is continuing to be updated and printed by the three transit systems (Bettendorf Transit, Davenport CitiBus, and River Bend Transit). The guide includes a variety of information including a Quad Cities Area transit map and route schedules for The Loop.

Mr. Harper also reported on actions taken to address public needs. These included: continuation of The Loop and extended evening and weekend service, extension of hours for route 53 on Thursday-Saturday, 10:30 P.M. to 3:30 A.M., establishment of a route from Muscatine County to Iowa City three days a week for non-emergency medical appointments. Marketing and Education services provided were the Mobility Coach/My Trip Program, and rural travel trainings for Whiteside, Rock Island, and Mercer Counties.

Opportunities for new public input were also outlined and included: a "Community Outreach" meeting for social service agencies, a public forum discussing transportation deficiencies faced by lower income residents, a public input meeting regarding Bettendorf Transit's fare increase, and a 2011 Regional Needs Questionnaire sent to regional transit interest groups. Previously programmed projects were also noted. The Loop Riverfront circulator will continue to provide services. A bus shelter has been installed on Northport Drive in Muscatine and is fully functional. Urban and Regional Transit providers will continue to provide transportation for low income individuals needing employment using Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) funds.

Mr. Harper went on to outline new projects. These include: a new Transit Maintenance Facility for MetroLINK, construction of MetroLINK's Downtown Rock Island Transfer Terminal, the Multi-Modal Station in Moline to serve passenger rail from Chicago to the Quad Cities, and a feasibility study for a partnership of CitiBus and Bettendorf Transit for a shared maintenance/storage facility. Bettendorf and Davenport continue to seek funding for trip planning software and real-time vehicle information. River Bend Transit will provide weekday service between the CitiBus hub located on Welcome Way and the APAC facility in Mt. Joy. River Bend Transit will provide early Saturday morning demand-response work trips within the CitiBus service area. MetroLINK and RIM Rural Transit are seeking JARC funds to provide transportation from the urbanized area to major employment centers along the Illinois Route 84 Corridor to Cordova, Illinois. MetroLINK plans to upgrade to its existing GPS/AVL system (known as INIT) on its fixed-route vehicles in spring 2012, and plans to add GPS/AVL equipment to its paratransit fleet in the future. MetroLINK has also proposed the upgrade of existing fare collection systems to provide contactless forms of payment.

Mr. Ambrose motioned to approve the Transportation Development Plan updates as recommended by the Transportation Technical Committee. Mayor Thodos seconded the motion and the motion carried.

3. Consideration of Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom (NF) Candidate Project Submittals and Supplemental Agreements for Designation of Funds. Ms. McCullough provided the committee with a summary of available funds through JARC and NF. There was an estimated \$791,126 in JARC funds available from FFY2010-2014 and there was an estimated \$387,621 from FFY2011-2014 in New Freedom funds. The projects were consistent with the *Quad Cities 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan* and the *Transit Development Plan*. One project was submitted by MetroLINK for JARC funds. Four projects were submitted by River Bend Transit, three for JARC funds and one for NF. Summaries of the projects are as follows:

- ▶ **MetroLINK – Illinois Route 84 JARC Route – (MLJ-CORDV)** provide transportation from the urbanized area to major employment centers along IL84 Corridor to Cordova, IL. (May 2012-May 2014) Total Project Cost: \$300,000 with request for \$150,000 JARC funds.
- ▶ **River Bend Transit – JARC Service Continuation employee shuttle (RBTJ-CONT.)** – provide transit service at times when no other public transit services is available in the Iowa Quad Cities. (July 2012-June 2014) Total Project Cost: \$462,124 with request for \$231,062 JARC funds.
- ▶ **River Bend Transit – JARC Davenport Saturday Morning (RBTJ-SAT.)** – provide transportation services for work and related needs as early Saturday morning service 6:00 – 9:00 a.m. (July 2012 – June 2014) Total Project cost \$44,742 with request for \$22,371 JARC funds.
- ▶ **River Bend Transit – APAC employee shuttle (RBTJ-APAC)** – provide 5:30 picket in Rock Island and from Welcome Way Transit Hub non-stop service to Mt. Joy APAC location in north Davenport (July 2012-June 2014) Total Project cost: \$187,260 with request for \$93,630 JARC funds.
- ▶ **River Bend Transit – New Freedom Project Continuation** – to provide Davenport and Bettendorf’s residents with transit service beyond ¾ mile limit for ADA fixed route transit requirement five days per week, Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 pm. (December 2012- November 2014) Total Project cost: \$233,486 with request for \$116,743.

Members of the Transportation Technical Committee were asked to score each of the projects. The results of the scoring are as follows:

Project	MLJ-CORDV	RBTJ-CONT.	RBTJ-SAT.	RBTJ-APAC	RBT- NF
TOTAL SCORE	908	810	901	858	664
AVERAGE SCORE	91	81	90	86	95

Ms. McCullough explained that the Transportation Technical Committee had recommended funding all the projects submitted with fiscal year priority to MetroLINK and top scored RBT JARC projects. A summary table of the recommendation was presented as follows:

FTA Source	FFY2010	FFY2011	FFY2012	FFY2013	FFY2014	Total
5316-JARC Funds Available (annually)	\$104,499	\$161,105	\$175,174	\$175,174	\$175,174	\$791,126
ML-CORDV (J)	\$104,499	\$45,501	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000
RBT- CONT. (J)		\$76,937	\$97,840	\$56,285	\$0	\$231,062
RBT- SAT. (J)		\$7,457	\$14,914	\$0	\$0	\$22,371
RBT - APAC (J)		\$31,210	\$62,420	\$0	\$0	\$93,630
JARC Remaining Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$118,889	\$294,063	
FTA Source	FFY2010	FFY2011	FFY2012	FFY2013	FFY2014	Total
5317-NF Funds Available (annually)	\$0	\$90,549	\$99,024	\$99,024	\$99,024	\$387,621
RBT - NF	\$0	\$90,549	\$26,194	\$0	\$0	\$116,743
NF Remaining Funds	\$0	\$0	\$72,830	\$171,854	\$270,878	

Mr. Lorensen motioned to approve the JARC and NF funding allocation as recommended by the Transportation Technical Committee. Mr. Minard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

4. Consideration of FFY2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Revisions. Mr. Melton began by summarizing the TIP amendments requesting approval. A table outlining the details of the amendments is attached to these minutes. Mayor Thodos motioned to approve the TIP amendments as presented. Mr. Ambrose seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Melton also mentioned two administrative modifications to the TIP. The first was ML-12-12 is moved to FY2013. The second, a new project (ML-12-13) a replacement of two (2) 12-passenger ADA paratransit vehicles was entered into the Unmet Needs Table of the TIP. The details of these projects are also outlined in the table attached to these minutes.

5. Presentation on FY2013 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). Ms. McCullough began her presentation by communicating the purpose of the TPWP which is to coordinate transportation

planning among local governments, conduct continuing, comprehensive planning, develop budgets for transportation planning activities and funds, outline requirements for various agencies toward planning efforts, and establish products, purposes, and general methods for transportation planning activities.

An outline of major transportation issues in the Quad Cities Region was presented. These include: river crossing capacity improvements, air quality improvement activities and congestion management, modal coordination for sustainability, Long Range Plan implementation and planning, passenger transportation-coordination with human services and specialized transportation providers, integration of safety and security, and implementation of existing and new planning regulations.

Ms. McCullough highlighted some accomplishments of the FY2012 TPWP. Several documents included the FY12-15 TIP and the Conservation Directory were updated. Grant assistance and project selection was provided for a number of programs such as ICAAP and STP. Bi-State Staff has attended several trainings, provided technical assistance, and continues to facilitate a number of regional groups.

The program categories of the FY2013 TPWP were reviewed. These include program support and administration, general development and comprehensive planning, long range transportation planning, and short range transportation planning.

Ms. McCullough summarized transportation planning targets for FY2013. IA FTA 5303 is expected to remain the same at \$48,684 with carryover. IA FHWA PL will be reduced to \$189,682 without carry over. IL FTA will remain the same at \$74,376. IL FHWA PL is expected to decrease to \$253,814. Programmed funding for the TPWP also includes two ICAAP grants and FTA 5307 Urban Transit Planning (Systems).

A draft summary of urban transportation planning funding for FY2013 was presented to the committee. The summary outlined distribution of Illinois Department of Transportation Planning, Iowa Department of Transportation Planning, Iowa Federal Transit Authority, Illinois Federal Transit Authority, and local funding over Short Range Planning, Long Range Planning, General Development and Comprehensive Planning and Program Support and Administration. Ms. McCullough indicated that the Transportation Policy Committee reviews the work activities of the TPWP and the Bi-State Regional Commission approves the budget and authorizes execution of the federal grants. A presentation to the Bi-State Regional Commission is planned for April. Ms. McCullough asked for any comments on the work activities and none were provided at this time.

6. Public Comments. Ms. Bulat elaborated on the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program grant awarded to Bi-State Regional Commission. The \$300,000 grant will be used to procure a consultant to conduct a Household Travel Survey for the Quad Cities Metropolitan Area. The results of this survey will allow for “person trip” modeling rather than “vehicle trip” modeling that is currently used. “Person trip” modeling will give transportation planners greater insight on where people are traveling within the region and thus will allow for more informed transportation related decision making.

7. Other Business.

Ms. McCullough noted that the City of Bettendorf did not require a change in scope for the Middle Road Recreation Trail, noted at the February Policy Committee meeting. Mayor Gallagher reiterated that the change in project scope of the Middle Road Recreation Trail has been rescinded. The southwest terminus of the trail will remain at Parkway Drive rather than being altered to 18th Street.

A public meeting was held to discuss the Illinois State Rail Plan. The meeting was attended by several area elected officials

Ms. McCullough reported that a draft of the Iowa State Long Range Plan (Iowa in Motion) was available for comments. She noted that she offered comments regarding the illustration of commercial airports serving Iowa bordering the state. She also noted a request sent out to communities in support of the Chicago-Quad Cities-Omaha passenger rail corridor as part of feedback to the Iowa Passenger Rail Feasibility Study. Reauthorization of the transportation act was still in discussions and a continuing resolution was likely as it expires at the end of March.

8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 12:45 P.M.