

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

Tuesday, April 17, 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
Mark Bechtel	Federal Transit Authority, Region 7 – Kansas City
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)
Sam Shea	Iowa Department of Transportation, District 6 – Davenport
John Thodos	Mayor, City of East Moline
Kris Tobin	Illinois Department of Transportation – Dixon
Betsy Tracy	Federal Highway Administration – Illinois Division
Tracy Troutner	Federal Highway Administration – Iowa Division
Don Welvaert	Mayor, City of Moline
Bob Wilson	Mayor, City of Port Byron (Small Community Representative – Illinois)

OTHERS PRESENT

Kimberly Anderson	Federal Highway Administration – Iowa Division
Al Ayew-ew	Iowa/Illinois Center for Independent Living
Denise Bulat	Bi-State Regional Commission
Michael Cain	Federal Highway Administration – Iowa Division
Ed Christopher	Federal Highway Administration – Resource Center
Doug DeLille	Bi-State Regional Commission
John Donovan	Federal Highway Administration – Chicago Metro Office
William Fox	Mayor, City of Silvis (Small Community Representative Alternate – Illinois)
Kristin Haar	Iowa Department of Transportation – Office of Public Transit
Tom Kelso	Illinois Department of Transportation
Craig Markley	Iowa Department of Transportation
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Brandon Melton	Bi-State Regional Commission
Phil Mescher	Iowa Department of Transportation – Systems Planning
Becky Passman	Bi-State Regional Commission
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission
Garrett Pedersen	Iowa Department of Transportation – Systems Planning
Adam Shell	Iowa Department of Transportation – Systems Planning
Egan Smith	Federal Highway Administration – Head Office

1. Approval of the Minutes of the March 27, 2012 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mayor Welvaert chaired the meeting and asked for approval of the March 27, 2012 Transportation Policy Committee minutes. Mayor Thodos 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.
2. Update on I-74 Mississippi River Corridor Reconstruction. Ms. Bulat gave an overview to the committee on the status of the I-74 Bridge Project. Ms. Bulat stated that building a new I-74 bridge is a top regional transportation priority for a number of reasons. The current bridge is functionally obsolete and does not meet interstate standards. The draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has indicated that the corridor in its current state has three times the amount of crashes as compared to similar corridors.

Ms. Bulat also highlighted the positive economic impacts the bridge will bring to the area. The project is expected to create/retain 1,700 jobs, provide redundancy for I-80/I-280 movement of freight and people, and generate twelve substantial construction contracts, not including additional supply and specialty contracts.

Ms. Bulat reported that National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) procedures and Record of Decision (ROD) have been completed for the project. Final design is expected to be complete by early 2013. Currently, \$85 million have been received for environmental work and design, ROW purchases and corridor projects. Ms. Bulat stressed that investment is required to compete for the Mega Project Program included in the transportation act. Ms. Bulat noted that Iowa Department of Transportation (IA DOT) has demonstrated leadership in the project by programming \$60 million for the project and urged IA DOT to retain that amount in their Five-Year Program.

3. Public Hearing for Bi-State Regional Commission Transportation Management Area (TMA) Federal Transportation Certification Review. Mr. Christopher gave a brief overview of the Federal Transportation Certification Review process. He explained that much of the review is based on determining if the “3C” planning process is being followed. That is, ensuring that planning is being performed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in a continuing, comprehensive and cooperative manner. Mr. Christopher invited comments from the Policy Committee either at the meeting, written or via e-mail on the performance of the MPO staff in fulfilling the transportation planning process. There were no comments made at the meeting.
4. Public Comments. No public comments were made.
5. Other Business. No other business was brought forth to the committee.
6. Adjournment. Mr. Ambrose motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Gallagher seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.