

**Minutes of the
QUAD CITIES, IOWA-ILLINOIS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 2:30 p.m.
Scott County Administration Building, First Floor Board Room
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa

Policy Members Present

Ray Ambrose	Alderman, City of Davenport
Bob Gallagher	Mayor of Bettendorf
Bill Gluba	Mayor of Davenport
Jeff Justin	Alderman, City of Davenport
Larry Lorensen	MetroLINK Board Chair
Marty O'Boyle	Mayor of Eldridge
Scott Raes	Mayor of Moline
Sam Shea	Iowa Department of Transportation
Kris Tobin	Illinois Department of Transportation
John Thodos	Mayor of East Moline

Others Present

Greg Aguilar	Illinois Department of Economic Opportunity
Denise Bulat	Bi-State Regional Commission
Doug DeLille	Illinois Department of Transportation
Brian Fries	City of Bettendorf
Gene Hellige	City of Davenport
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Brandon Melton	Bi-State Regional Commission
Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission
Steve Wilkins	Illinois Department of Transportation

1. Approval of the Minutes of the September 24, 2013 and October 22, 2013 Transportation Policy Committee Meetings. Mayor Gallagher welcomed those present and asked for introductions. He called for approval of the September 24, 2013 and October 22, 2013 Transportation Policy Committee meetings. Mr. Ambrose motioned to approve both meeting minutes as written. Mayor Thodos seconded the motion, and it carried.
2. Consideration of Surface Transportation Program (STP) Funding Request by City of Davenport. Ms. McCullough directed the Committee to a letter of request from the City of Davenport in their agenda packets. An additional \$1.9 million in federal Surface Transportation Program funds is requested for DA-12-02 Forest Grove Road (Utica Ridge Road to Eagle Ridge Road) due to configuring the easterly end of the project to connect with the Bettendorf portion. The original project cost was \$4.2 million, and the revised total cost is \$6.3 million. Ms. McCullough indicated that in 2010 the project was programmed \$3,139,244 in STP funds by the Policy Committee. Mr. Hellige indicated that Bettendorf is supportive of

the request. The cities have been working cooperatively to coordinate two respective STP funded projects on Forest Grove Road.

Currently, there is a solicitation for STP projects with an estimated \$7.2 million in STP funds available through FFY2019. Mayor O'Boyle asked how this request would affect funding levels. Ms. McCullough indicated that of the funding available through FFY2019, the request would be taken from the balance leaving just over \$5 million to program for the projects expected to be received by Friday, November 22, 2013. Davenport's request is preceding the new project prioritization process and is a project that has already been prioritized and already had received STP funding. Mayor Thodos motioned to approve the request \$1.9 million in STP funds for Forest Grove Road (DA-12-02), and Mayor O'Boyle seconded the motion. It carried.

3. Consideration of Revisions to the FFY2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. Melton referenced the agenda that noted two Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects and the STP project referenced in agenda item 2. He noted the two TAP projects were programmed in September and required an amendment into the FFY2014 Annual Element of the TIP. They included:

- RI-14-06 Safe Routes to School – Rock Island Academy Intersection of 11th Street and 10th Avenue (8th-12th Streets), Rock Island to install a pedestrian beacon at 11th Street and ADA-accessible sidewalk curbs along 10th Avenue; Total cost \$105,921 with \$84,737 Federal TAP funds and remaining funds being from the city and YMCA.
- RD-13-01 Mississippi River Trail along U.S. 67 (S. Bellingham Street to Fenno Road) for Preliminary Engineering and Trail Construction; Total cost \$1,017,000 with the addition of Federal TAP funds from the MPO \$318,644 and TAP (formerly Scenic Byways) funds \$494,956 with the remaining funds from the city and a local foundation grant (SCRA).

Mr. Melton also stated a request was sent to the Policy Committee from the Illinois Department of Transportation for a project to be amended in FFY2014 as a result in an increase in total costs. An amendment is requested because the cost increase is greater than 30% of the original total cost. The project included:

- IL-12-28 IL92 (.4 miles N. of Brights Court. to 115th Street West in Andalusia for pavement widening and shoulder reconstruction; Total cost \$6,867,558 with federal share of \$4,824,797 HSIP and \$1,203,869 STP and the remaining amount as state funds.

It was noted that the Riverdale trail project has been awarded State Recreation Trails funding since the TAP programming. The city is working with their engineer on final design costs and has been advised that it should maximize the SRT funds prior to accessing the TAP funds. This would allow for local TAP funds to be used for other projects. Ms. Bulat noted the city cannot exceed 80% federal share, such as with their existing Federal Scenic Byways funds.

Mr. Justin motioned to approve the amendments as presented. Mayor Thodos second the motion. Ms. Bulat noted that the motion included approval of the STP funds approved in agenda item 2. The Policy Committee members concurred with this understanding, and the motion carried.

4. Consideration of Resolution of Support and Concurrence on Consistency with Transportation Planning for City of Bettendorf Roundabout's Iowa Clean Air Attainment Grant Application. The City of Bettendorf submitted an ICAAP application to construct a roundabout at Middle and Crow Creek Roads. The Policy Committee was asked to approve a resolution supporting the project and indicating it was consistent with the MPO transportation plans. Roundabouts reduce idling by allowing more continuous traffic flow and the project is consistent with the Long Range Transportation Plan and the Congestion Management Process. Mr. Lorensen motioned to approve the resolution and Mayor O'Boyle seconded the motion. It carried.
5. Consideration of Letter of Comment on Iowa Department of Transportation Future Funding Concepts. Proposed concepts from the Iowa Department of Transportation (IADOT) were included in Policy Committee members' packets. Ms. Bulat had been present for two presentations on these concepts presented by IADOT. As a recent development, the IADOT was asking stakeholders for written input on the funding concepts by November 27. A draft comment letter was sent to the Policy Committee prior to the meeting and provided as a handout. Ms. Bulat received feedback from local government staff in developing the draft comments. She reviewed the key points of the letter with the Committee. This was followed by discussion. Mr. Ambrose noted issues with taxes and users fees, as generally not beneficial to Iowa's economy. Mayor O'Boyle motioned to approve the comments for comment to the IADOT. Mr. Justin seconded the motion with one opposing. The motion carried.
6. Public Comments. There were no public comments at the meeting.
7. Other Business. Ms. McCullough directed the Policy Committee to a letter from the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations that outlined comments to the Federal Transit Administration regarding inclusion of public transportation providers in the MPO Planning Process. Without a quorum, Bi-State staff did not submit the letter to the docket on this issue. However, AMPO's letter more comprehensively indicated that public transportation providers should be included, but that it should be a local decision in how that would be formulated. As it stands, the Transportation Policy Committee includes the two Iowa Quad Cities public transit providers via the Cities of Bettendorf and Davenport, as well as the Illinois Quad Cities with representation from the board of MetroLINK.

Ms. McCullough directed the Committee to a resolution distributed at the meeting amending the August resolution for handling the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 monies. The resolution adds that ILDOT will be a co-designated recipient for the Illinois Quad Cities' portion of the 5310 funds. This will allow MetroLINK and other human services transportation providers to compete at a state level and access state matching funds for capital projects that serve enhanced mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities from the Illinois Quad

Cities portion of the metro area 5310 allocation. This arrangement was seen as win-win by all parties. MetroLINK staff concurred with the resolution. Mr. Ambrose motioned to approve the resolution, and Mr. Lorensen seconded. The motion carried.

Mayor Gallagher noted the next meeting of the Policy Committee would be in January 2014.

8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. by consensus.