

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

Tuesday, May 26, 2015 – 12:00 noon  
Bi-State Regional Commission  
Third Floor County Board Chambers  
1504 Third Avenue  
Rock Island, Illinois

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ray Ambrose	Alderman, City of Davenport
Carol Earnhardt	Scott County Board of Supervisors
Bob Gallagher	Mayor of Bettendorf
Bill Gluba	Mayor of Davenport
Jeff Justin	Alderman, City of Davenport
Dan Long	Illinois Department of Transportation
Larry Lorensen	Chair, MetroLINK Board
Marty O’Boyle	Mayor of Eldridge
Dennis Pauley	Mayor of City of Rock Island
Scott Raes	Mayor of Moline
John Thodos	Mayor of East Moline

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Taylor Beswick	Bi-State Regional Commission
Doug DeLille	Illinois Department of Transportation
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Brandon Melton	Bi-State Regional Commission
Donnie Miller	Bicycle Safety
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission
Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of the Minutes of the March 24, 2015 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mayor Gallagher requested a motion for approval of the March 24, 2015 minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee. Mayor O’Boyle moved to approve the minutes as written, and Ms. Earnhardt seconded. The motion carried.
2. Consideration of Revisions to the FFY 2015-18 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Melton presented the TIP revisions attached to these minutes. The revisions included an amendment to add a project for Rock Island County for traffic sign upgrades in various locations around the county. The total project cost is estimated at \$95,045 with \$75,045 funded the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). Mr. Ambrose motioned to approve the amendments as presented. Mr. Lorensen seconded and the motion passed.

3. Presentation and Discussion on Quad Cities Long Range Transportation Plan Update – Passenger Transportation, Transportation Analysis Zone (TAZ) Projections Analysis, Travel Demand Model Calibration and Timeline. Ms. McCullough provided a timeline for the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan update. She indicated that chapters would be coming out by modes beginning in the summer and a full draft was anticipated by December 2015.

Mr. Schmid provided an outline of the developing Long Range Transportation chapter for Passenger Transportation. He first reviewed the three urban fixed-route systems: MetroLINK, Davenport Citibus, and Bettendorf Transit noting the number of fixed routes and unlinked rides in Federal Fiscal Year 2013 for each system. He provided a graphic of the historical growth of unlinked trips on the fixed route systems and discussion related to those trends.

Regarding Intercity passenger transportation, Mr. Schmid provided that the Bi-State Region is currently served by three intercity bus services: Greyhound, Burlington Trailways, and Megabus. He also noted that a TIGER grant had been awarded for a multi-modal station in downtown Moline which will be known as “The Q”. No date is officially set for service to begin, but the most recent word from the Department of Transportation is by the end of 2016. Construction is currently underway. The Bi-State Region is also served by the Quad City International Airport, which provides links to 11 locations. Annual passenger statistics show trending growth between 2002 and 2010, but a decline between 2010 and 2014 as a result of losing a low-cost carrier.

Mr. Schmid provided input on passenger transportation to date from both online public input through the MindMixer public input tool and public meetings. Some of the comments included: making it a complete “no-brainer” to take transit, increase commuter bus services to increase the frequency of buses to 10 to 15-minute headways. Mr. Schmid provided that a number of projects have been completed and implemented from the previous plan and listed a number of them such as the Rock Island Terminal and Service to Western Illinois University-QC Campus.

Mr. Schmid provided some discussion regarding the potential passenger transportation of tomorrow. Bus rapid transit systems with dedicated bus lanes or increased transit infrastructure could potentially be introduced to the region along priority transit corridors. He reviewed some projected ridership numbers extrapolated using linear regression from historical data. This projection showed an almost 390% growth of unlinked rides by the year 2045. Mr. Schmid also discussed the future of intercity rail growth as well as the potential for direct air service direct from Quad City International Airport to Washington D.C.

Mr. Patel provided an overview of the modeling methodologies used in the Long Range Transportation Plan model. The process includes Data Gathering, Trip Generation, Trip Distribution Traffic Assignment, Calibration Future Projection, and Maintenance. The Data Gathering step is considered to be 100% complete, Trip Generation is 95% complete, Trip Distribution is 90% complete, and Traffic Assignment is 90% complete. Bi-State is currently in the process of calibrating the model. Mr. Patel reviewed some calibration and validation standards and comparative status of the process and noted that the average trip length for the Bi-State urban area is 18.5 minutes.

Mr. Patel reviewed the population projections submitted by staff members of all Bi-State Region communities. After adding all of the expected population changes, it is predicted that the region's population will grow to roughly 313,000 by the year 2025 and 328,500 in the year 2045. This fits well within the constraints determined during previous meetings. Similarly, the employment projections show an increase of regional employment to 197,000 in 2025 and 210,000 in 2045. Again, this is within the constraints previously determined. Mr. Patel reviewed net growth of dwelling units per TAZ. This showed new housing mostly developing along the perimeter of the urban area, but also some infill housing in each of the communities. Similar maps were reviewed regarding expecting changes in population and employment.

4. Public Comments. There were no public comments.
5. Other Business. Ms. McCullough noted that there has been a two-month extension on MAP-21. It was also noted that the Illinois DOT fall planning conference will be held on October 15-16, 2015 and that Mr. Randy Blankenhorn is now the Secretary for the Illinois Department of Transportation.
6. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 12:50 pm.