

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

Tuesday, August 14, 2007, 10:00 A.M.  
Bi-State Regional Commission  
Third Floor Conference Room 320  
1504 Third Avenue  
Rock Island, Illinois

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mike Atchley	City of Davenport
Jon Burgstrom	Scott County
Fred Dean	Iowa Department of Transportation – Davenport
Tim Kammler	City of East Moline
Mike Kane	City of Rock Island
Wally Mook	City of Bettendorf

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Marianne Doonan	Bi-State Regional Commission
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Bill Molison	Ament, Inc.
Lalit Patel	Bi-State Regional Commission
Kathy Starling	Iowa-Illinois Center for Independent Living
Chelsey Waterman	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of the Minutes of the May 8, 2007 Transportation Technical Committee Meeting.  
Mr. Mook chaired the meeting and requested introductions. Ms. Waterman was introduced to the Technical Committee and will be handling the Transit Development Plan and Transportation Improvement Program. She also is the Illinois Region 2 transit coordinator. Following introductions, Mr. Mook asked members to review the May 8, 2007 Transportation Technical Committee minutes for comments and/or corrections. Hearing none, Mr. Kane motioned to accept the minutes as written and Mr. Kammler seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.
2. Project Progress Report and Status of FY08-11 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).  
A transportation project progress report was sent electronically prior to the meeting for any updates. It included FFY08 projects as identified in the TIP. Representatives from the jurisdictions either provided written progress reports or would follow-up electronically to Bi-State Regional Commission staff of street/highway, enhancement and/or transit projects' status to record for the next meeting. Ms. Waterman presented an updated listing of project revisions within the FFY08-11 TIP from a handout distributed at the meeting. She noted that the Transportation Policy Committee requested staff to follow-up on the I-74 Mississippi River Corridor project as it didn't appear in the draft TIP. The Policy Committee directed

staff to work with the Iowa Department of Transportation (IADOT) and to include the project in the TIP if necessary. This was subsequently added as part of the final document. Since the printing and distribution of the FFY08-11, there have been a number of technical corrections and administrative revisions in working with the IADOT. Staff will be preparing a full revised printed document for the next meeting. Staff suggested in subsequent years a final printed version will be distributed to coincide with the State TIPs to address these changes, with interim copies being made available to the DOTs between May and September.

3. Consideration of Addendum to 2035 Quad City Area Long Range Transportation Plan for Status of SAFETEA-LU Compliance. Enclosed in Technical Committee members' agenda packets was a draft of the proposed addendum to address rules for statewide and metropolitan planning processes which were finalized May 16, 2007. SAFETEA-LU includes language requiring compliance by July 1, 2007.

SAFETEA-LU compliance focuses on four major issues, including fiscal constraint, linking transportation planning and project development to the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) processes, developing a coordinated public transit human services transportation plan, and addressing a schedule to meet SAFETEA-LU compliance. Overall, the *2035 Quad City Area Long Range Transportation Plan*, MPO long range transportation plan (LRP) has been assessed as meeting the minimum compliance requirements of SAFETEA-LU. In addition to a compliant plan, there is language directed at addressing compliance throughout the MPO transportation planning process. Bi-State Regional Commission, as the MPO, is responsible for carrying forward compliance with these requirements.

As suggested by our Federal Highway Administration and State Department of Transportation partners, Bi-State Regional Commission has prepared this status of SAFETEA-LU compliance to accompany the long range transportation plan as an addendum and documentation of compliance activities. Ms. McCullough went through the items briefly. She emphasized the separation of safety and security, as well as areas where staff will be seeking best practices to share and discuss with the Technical Committee.

She requested consideration of the Technical Committee to recommend the compliance report as an addendum to the 2035 Quad City Area Long Range Transportation Plan and make it available for public review. On Policy approval, the information could then be released for public review and comment for a 45-day period and considered subsequently as an administrative revision to the plan.

Prior to the motion, Mr. Dean suggested efforts may need to emphasize data collection to make the case for transportation needs and priorities. He noted AASHTO had released a new report on transportation infrastructure. This follows their work several years ago that discussed the looming transportation crisis in the face of mushrooming transportation demand. AASHTO suggests the need for creative approaches to fund highway and rail transportation infrastructure. Staff noted they would provide a link to the full report

<http://www.transportation1.org/tif3report/TIF3-1.pdf> in the minutes. Within the TIP, he suggested identifying projects and summarizing them by work types, such as bridge maintenance, roadway construction, etc. This is done to some extent by federal funding source. The suggestion would be taken into consideration as the next TIP is prepared.

After this discussion, Mr. Mook motioned to recommend the addendum to the Policy Committee for consideration of release to the public for comment. Suggestions by the Technical Committee may be received by staff prior to the Policy Committee for minor revisions. Mr. Kane seconded the motion and it carried.

4. Discussion of Traffic Safety Issues. With the emphasis on safety in SAFETEA-LU, Mr. Patel noted that staff will be developing a crash report for the metropolitan area. Currently, the State of Iowa and Illinois collect good crash data. It is in tabular form from the Illinois Department of Transportation (ILDOT). ILLDOT is contracting with MPOs or counties to geocode base roadway data. Once this is accomplished, crash data can be linked to provide Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities. ILLDOT offers the Crash mapping analysis tool, a GIS based crash data software, to analyze crashes by county and city. Mr. Patel indicated the metropolitan crash report will include number of crashes at intersections as well as accident severity and rate of accidents. A technical analysis is another component of this report, offering potential solutions to the traffic problem(s) for top crash locations in the Quad Cities. Mr. Dean asked staff to consider looking at pre-improvement and post improvement situations to illustrate effective solutions to traffic problems. Ms. McCullough also noted that staff will review the states' highway safety plans and work with the Technical Committee to develop local priorities and areas of emphasis. This may lead to examination of the Surface Transportation Program (STP) evaluation process and whether criteria may need to be updated.
5. Public Comments. No comments from the public were received at the meeting. Mr. Dean offered that Bi-State staff routinely receives comments and/or inquiries from the public and media on transportation issues. Using the format of the Quad Cities Air Quality Task Force status report, he suggested staff may be able to provide the Technical Committee with a summary of public contacts as part of the Technical Committee agenda packet. Ms. McCullough noted within the last month she had received inquiries on bridge safety and the West Rock River Bridge signage and design. Where the data is readily available, staff will address these inquiries or refer them to state contacts for information.
6. Other Business. Mr. Mook and Ms. McCullough discussed the current U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ozone standards review and its implications on the transportation system if the Quad Cities were to exceed the standards and be designated as non-attainment. On June 20, 2007 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) released notice of a proposed lowering of the national ground-level ozone standard from 84 parts per billion (ppb) to 70 ppb. The lower standard is being revised on new health-based scientific evidence that adverse public health effects occur following exposure to ozone at levels lower than the existing standard. USEPA is taking comments through early October on this standards review. The Quad City Area three-year average (2004-2006) is 68 ppb, roughly

80% of the existing standard which would be 97% of the proposed standard. The new standard would bring the QCA closer to nonattainment of the ozone standard. Nonattainment can have significant impacts on the ability to build new roads and site new development. Ms. McCullough noted that the Quad City Air Quality Task Force directed staff to submit comment to the docket requesting a balanced approach for good air quality as well as moderating the impact on economic development with a lowering of the standard no less than 75 ppb.

Another status report was made on passenger rail service. Amtrack has attended a Policy Committee meeting earlier in the year and noted beginning a study of possible routes and services between Quad Cities and Chicago. The results of the study are anticipated in mid-to late September. The Cities of Rock Island and Moline are about to begin a rail station study which is expected to take three to four months. Representatives from eastern Iowa had a meeting with the IADOT Director, Nancy Richardson, and staff on passenger rail service coming to Iowa and how the IADOT would support a passenger rail program. The meeting resulted in scheduling a follow-up meeting and data collection to further the discussion of potential funding sources and partnerships, as well as the desire to develop a uniform message.

Ms. McCullough briefly noted upcoming State of Iowa grant programs, such as Safe Routes to Schools and Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program. She asked the Technical Committee to tentatively schedule September 11, 2007 as their next meeting date.

7. Adjournment. Mr. Dean motioned to adjourn the meeting. It was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. by consensus.