

Minutes of the
REGION 9
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday, August 4, 2006, 11:00 A.M.
Blue Grass City Hall
114 North Mississippi Street
Blue Grass, Iowa

Policy Members Present

Paul Barnes	City of Blue Grass
Larry Minard	Scott County
Bill Trent	City of Muscatine
Dave Watkins	Muscatine County

Others Present

Steve Boka	City of Muscatine
Fred Dean	Iowa Department of Transportation
Doug DeLille	Bi-State Regional Commission
Randy Hill	City of Muscatine
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Randy Zobrist	River Bend Transit

1. Approval of the Minutes of the June 1, 2006 Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mr. Watkins motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Minard seconded the motion and without further discussion the minutes were approved as written.
2. Consideration of Region 9 Surface Transportation Program (STP) Project Submittals. Committee members were referred to the project submissions and rankings included with their agenda packets.

The four projects submitted by the deadline for consideration of Region 9 STP funds include:

- Y40 (Blue Grass, south to Hwy 22 in Buffalo), Scott County, Iowa – Resurfacing: Total cost \$800,000, proposed Federal STP \$350,000 and FM share of \$450,000;
- F-58 (Davenport city limits, west to Y-40 in Walcott), Scott County, Iowa – Resurfacing: Total cost \$1,000,000 proposed Federal STP \$150,000 and FM share of \$850,000;
- Colorado Street (Park Avenue to University Drive), Muscatine, Iowa – Reconstruction: Total cost \$1,500,000, proposed Federal STP \$1,200,000 and local share of \$300,000; and
- Mississippi River Corridor and Grandview Avenue, Muscatine, Iowa – Property Acquisition: Total cost \$750,000, proposed Federal STP \$600,000 and local share of \$150,000.

The Committee was advised there is an estimated \$2,648,044 in Region 9 STP money available for programming. The estimated amount available is based on funding targets for each federal fiscal year through 2010; this includes Region 9 dollars through the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009 when the current Federal Transportation Bill expires. The total of the four requests is within the targeted amount of available funds in Region 9. Funding for the projects would be set at the requested amounts; any increase in project costs would add to the local share. The remaining balance of Region 9 STP funds would be carried over to the next round of Region 9 STP projects. The Region 9 Transportation Technical Committee is recommending the Policy Committee approve funding all four projects and that the four projects be added to the Region 9 TIP for the FFY they are expected to begin (FFY07 for Y-40, F-58 and the Mississippi Corridor; FFY08 for Colorado Street). Mr. Minard moved to approve the recommendation of the Region 9 Transportation Technical Committee for the four projects funded and programmed into the TIP at the set amounts requested. Mayor Barnes seconded the motion and it carried.

3. Consideration of the FFY 07-10 Region 9 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments and Notification of Administrative Revisions. Mr. DeLille referred the Committee members to the copy of the Region 9 FFY 07 TIP annual element included with their agenda packets. The highlighted cells identify the proposed TIP project amendments requiring Policy Committee approval. The Committee was given a brief overview of the TIP amendments and administrative revisions. Mr. Zobrist noted a correction to the amendment for project RB-07-08. The number of units should be 1 instead of 25 and the federal share should be \$381,100 with a local match of \$88,900. Mr. Watkins moved to approve the amendments as presented with the noted change to RB-07-08. Mr. Minard seconded the motion and it carried. Mr. Zobrist informed the Committee of a new project and JARC service that River Bend Transit was working to implement in cooperation with HON Industries.
4. Discussion of the Iowa Region 9 Long Range Plan Update. Ms. McCullough informed the Committee that Bi-State staff would soon begin the process of updating the Region 9 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The last plan was completed in 1999, and IADOT requires the regional planning area document to be updated every five years. The LRTP is more of a Policy document. The State of Iowa is recommending Regional Long Range Transportation Plans be more visual and fiscally constrained. As a part of the process, Bi-State will use open houses to gather public input and conduct focus groups to draw out interests of people within the region. A couple of informational meetings will also be held for public review of the final draft plan. Fall of 2006 through June of 2007 is the anticipated timeframe for completing the Plan. The public input process is expected to begin early fall of 2006. Ms. McCullough stated she would get a project schedule and proposed timeline out to the Committee. The Committee was asked to review the previous LRTP, included in their agenda packets, and submit any initial comments to Bi-State.
5. Public Comments. No comments were received.

6. Other Business. Mr. Dean announced upcoming deadlines for submitting applications to several grant and funding assistance programs including:

- Safety Projects – August 15, 2006
- REAP – August 15, 2006
- RISE – September 1, 2006
- Transportation Enhancements (statewide) – October 1, 2006
- ICAAP – October 1, 2006
- Federal Recreation Trails – October 1, 2006
- Safe Routes to Schools – October 1, 2006

Mr. Dean mentioned the public meeting held last night regarding the Hershey Avenue Overpass went well. There was also discussion about extending the timing or adding flashing yellow lights at other intersections along the Highway 61 corridor. Adding flashing yellow lights at Y48 was also mentioned. Mr. Dean also informed the Committee that IADOT is seeing indications of higher appropriations for FFY 07 and obligation limitations at 90% to 95%.

7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:50 a.m.