

Minutes of the
REGION 9
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
Serving Rural Scott County and all of Muscatine County

Wednesday, March 27, 2013, 11:00 A.M.
Walcott City Hall/Fire Station
128 West Lincoln Street
Walcott, Iowa

Policy Committee Members Present

Bill Cusack	Scott County Board Supervisor
Jim Couper	Mayor, City of Walcott
Tom Furlong	Muscatine County Board Supervisor
DeWayne Hopkins	Mayor, City of Muscatine
Joe Hutter	River Bend Transit Board Representative

Others Present

Chris Ball	City of Wilton
Doug DeLille	Bi-State Regional Commission
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of the December 20, 2012, 2012 Region 9 Joint Transportation Policy and Technical Committees Meeting Minutes. Mr. Hutter moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Furlong seconded the motion with a correction to add Dave Watkins to the list of those present. Hearing no additional comments or revisions the minutes were approved as with the revision noted.
2. Consideration of Bi-State Region Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture. Ms. McCullough gave an overview on the Bi-State Region Intelligent Transportation System and directed the Committee to a presentation handout for their reference. She discussed the definition and purpose of the ITS Architecture, and noted examples of ITS service packages utilized in the Bi-State Regional Architecture, such as Traffic Incident Management System. Information in the document was generated by the ITS architecture software that creates flow charts and incorporates regional stakeholders. The ITS Architecture maintenance is scheduled every 5 years but the software is routinely reviewed and updated. The Transportation Technical Committee recommended approval of the Bi-State Region ITS Architecture update. Mr. Cusack motioned to approve the Bi-State Region ITS Architecture update. Mr. Furlong seconded the motion and it carried.
3. Consideration of Bi-State Region Transit Development Plan (TDP) Update. In the absence of Mr. Harper, Ms. McCullough directed the Committee members to the agenda packet to a notice that was sent to the Regional Transit Interest Group on March 6, 2013 notifying them of the 2013 Bi-State Region Transit Development Plan Annual Update. A presentation handout was provided to overview the document. There are ongoing efforts to obtain relevant public information to enhance passenger transportation in the greater Bi-State Region. The Regional Transit Interest Group had until March 26, 2013 to provide any comments/feedback. No comments were received. Committee members also received a copy of the Bi-State Region Transit Development

Plan 2013 Annual Update Summary that was sent to the Iowa Department of Transportation on February 1, 2013. There were five components to the Transit Development Plan updates.

- Coordination Efforts Having Occurred
- Results of Previous Public Needs
- Opportunities for New Transit Development Plan Input
- New Projects

The Transportation Technical Committee recommended approval. Mr. Furlong motioned to approve the Bi-State Region Transit Development Plan as presented. Mr. Cusack seconded the motion and it carried.

4. Consideration of Iowa Region 9 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Flex Funding. A staff recommendation to distribute TAP Flex funds to the TAP apportionment was enclosed in Policy Committee members' packets. Mr. DeLille presented to the Region 9 Policy Committee that the Iowa Department of Transportation as part of Moving Ahead for Progress (MAP-21) has allocated funding targets among Transportation Management Areas (TMAs), e.g. Iowa Quad Cities portion of Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA), statewide Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), and Regional Planning Agencies (RPAs). In addition to the TAP targets, a new category of funding has been created, "TAP Flex". These funds are TAP funds that are available to fund either TAP or Surface Transportation Program (STP) eligible projects at the discretion of each planning agency policy board. As with past years, there remains significant uncertainty with federal funding levels. MAP-21 provided some certainty for FFY2014 and FFY2015 (appropriation years 2013 and 2014, respectively). The RPA has been cautioned as with other planning agencies to be prepared to address any changes that may arise within the programming period which may include removing projects from the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) if there are significant cuts in funding. Mr. DeLille communicated that it is the staff recommendation that Region 9 take the entire TAP Flex allocation and place it into the TAP program. A table was presented outlining the TAP and TAP Flex targets for FFY2014 through FFY2017 for Region 9. First, this would increase the targets to fund transportation alternatives projects (such as multi-purpose trails and sidewalks) at a slightly higher level than in FFY2013 (\$108,268). Second, a statewide TAP grant program is being formulated but at significantly lower amounts than in previous years, resulting in a more competitive process. Lastly, existing STP funds can currently and in the future be used to fund transportation alternatives and are encouraged in the STP evaluation process to be incorporated into road projects. Iowa DOT allocated STP funds to maintain roughly existing levels. The Transportation Technical Committee recommended approval of leaving the TAP Flex program separate from the TAP program. This would allow flexibility of using this set-aside for either program. Mr. Furlong and Mayor Hopkins had discussed this with their staff. Mr. Furlong motioned to transfer the TAP Flex funds to the STP program and to track the TAP Flex funds with the Region 9 programming process to allow flexible use of these funds. Mayor Hopkins seconded the motion and it carried.
5. Presentation on FY2014 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). The draft TPWP was included in Committee members' agenda packets. Ms. McCullough overviewed the TPWP which outlines Region 9's transportation planning and work tasks for the upcoming fiscal year. A handout of the presentation was distributed for reference. The TPWP also lists the major

transportation issues facing the Region in FY 2014. The FY 2014 TPWP summarized accomplishments over FY 2014. A summary of Region 9 transportation planning funding for FY 2013 was presented to Committee Members for information. It was noted that there was a need to increase the use of Region 9 Surface Transportation Program funds from \$5,000 to \$10,000 to continue planning efforts. Consideration of this would occur as part of the Region 9 Transportation Improvement Program update process. Bi-State Regional Commission approves the TPWP budget and authorizes execution of planning agreements with the Iowa Department of Transportation. Any comments from the Policy Committee on the work activities could be provided to staff prior to the TPWP being taken to the Bi-State Regional Commission meeting in May. Mayor Couper motioned to concur with the work activities and use of STP funds and Mayor Hopkins seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6. Public Comments. There were no public comments.
7. Other Business. No other business was presented.
8. Adjournment. Mayor Hopkins motioned to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Mr. Furlong. The meeting adjourned around noon.