

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

Thursday, October 16, 2008, 1:00 p.m.  
Pearl City Station  
100 Harbor Drive  
Muscatine, Iowa

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Steve Boka	City of Muscatine
Ann Harrison	City of Muscatine Transit
Andy Loonan	Iowa Department of Transportation – Fairfield
John Lutz	City of Muscatine Public Works
Randy Zobrist	River Bend Transit, Inc.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Daniel G. Clark	Muscatine Trolley & Tours, L.C.
Doug DeLille	Bi-State Regional Commission
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Becky Passman	Bi-State Regional Commission
Chelsey Waterman	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of the June 13, 2008 Joint Region 9 Transportation Policy and Technical Committees' Meeting Minutes. Mr. Zobrist called the meeting to order. He asked for approval of the June 13, 2008 combined Region 9 Transportation Policy and Technical Committees' minutes. Mr. Boka moved to approve the minutes and recommend their approval to the Region 9 Policy Committee. Ms. Harrison seconded the motion and it carried.
2. Consideration of Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program Projects. The Technical Committee was referred to the Resolutions of Support and Concurrence included with the Agenda packets. The Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) requires a resolution from the Region declaring conformance with transportation planning process and plans. Both the City of Muscatine Transit (MuscaBus) and River Bend Transit submitted application, which included letters of consistency with the transportation plans. Ms. Harrison provided the Technical Committee with a brief description of the MuscaBus ICAAP project. The grant would provide 100% funding for a shuttle between Muscatine and Wilton. Precision Steel has experienced a 70% employee turnover rate attributed to employee transportation issues, including lack of a dependable car, low wages and temporary hires. Mr. Zobrist explained River Bend Transit is seeking ICAAP grant funding for one new project and the continuation of two current projects. The new project would provide additional park and ride access for a Quad Cities to Muscatine commuter shuttle serving employees of HON Industries and its affiliates. River Bend is also requesting funding to continue three shifts of existing commuter shuttle service from southwest Davenport to HON and affiliates in Muscatine. The commuter shuttles serve six or more sites and attract 170 to 180 users per day. Ms. Harrison motioned to recommend approval of both ICAAP project

Resolutions of Support and Concurrence to the Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee.  
Mr. Zobrist seconded the motion and the motion carried.

3. Discussion on Transit Development Plan Update and Input on Policy Direction and Strategies. Ms. Waterman reported to the committee on Chapter 4 of the Transit Development Plan (TDP) entitled Evaluation of Needs and Policy Direction. Currently, there are 62 federal programs either directly or indirectly funding transit/transportation services provided by human service agencies. There needs to be more coordination to create efficient and effective transportation options. The Chapter addresses urban and regional issues; specialized needs; management, fleet, and facility needs; and policy direction and strategies. The Committee was asked to provide comments, additions, or other suggested changes to the plan to Ms. Waterman. The Committee discussed gaps in the transit system including human services to Iowa City and pre-scheduled demand response routes. A draft TDP is to be provided to IADOT by February 2009 with consideration by Region 9 Policy Committee in March 2009.
4. Status of Iowa Region 9 Long Range Transportation Plan Update. Ms. McCullough referred the Committee to a draft of the Intermodal Network Chapter included with the agenda packets. The chapter covers the various modes, includes data, and identifies future priorities. The Committee suggested a discussion on air quality/non-attainment be included in the Plan. Air quality will be addressed in the last chapter of the plan.
5. Discussion on Surface Transportation and Enhancement Programs. Ms. McCullough noted that the Region 9 allotment of Enhancement funds is pretty well used up through 2009. There may be some Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds still available. Bi-State will provide an updated status of the Region 9 Enhancement and STP funds at the next meeting.
6. Public Comments. Mr. Clark, a local trolley operator, indicated he is willing to participate and help the committee if policy driven activities are discussed. He is interested in linking the downtown to the riverfront. Mr. Boka added that the city is looking to reduce the lanes on Mississippi Drive.
7. Other Business. Ms. McCullough mentioned that on Monday the Iowa and Illinois EPA offices would submit their comments and recommendations regarding the air quality/non-attainment issue to the U.S. EPA. The Quad Cities Air Quality Taskforce meets next Friday and will discuss broadening the group to the Bi-State Regional Air Quality Task Force. It is possible that during the next three-year period the area could fall back into attainment. In the meantime, the plan is to work to narrow the area designated for non-attainment of fine particulates.
8. Adjournment. Ms. Harrison motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Boka seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.