

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

Thursday, September 27, 2018 – 10:30 a.m.
Muscatine City Hall
Lower Level Conference Room
215 Sycamore Street
Muscatine, Iowa

Technical Committee Members Present

Chris Ball	City Administrator, City of Wilton
Jon Burgstrum	Scott County Engineer
Amy Fortenbacher	Transit Supervisor, City of Muscatine
Angie Kersten	Scott County Engineer
Brian Stineman	City of Muscatine Public Works Director
Keith White	Muscatine County Engineer
Randy Zobrist	River Bend Transit

Others Present

Tara Cullison	Bi-State Regional Commission
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of Minutes of the August 30, 2018 Region 9 Transportation Technical Committee Meeting Minutes. Mr. White moved to approve the Region 9 Transportation Technical Committee meeting minutes as written, and Mr. Stineman seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as written by consensus.
2. Consideration of the Region 9 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Evaluation Manual. Ms. McCullough presented an overview of the draft STBG Evaluation Manual. A document was provided explaining Region 9's process regarding application and evaluation of projects, and for programming to be incorporated into the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ms. McCullough pointed out specific elements within the draft manual that were in need of discussion/recommendation from the Technical Committee. These elements included the description of ranking criteria used in the evaluation process, determination of any matching funds required for projects, and minimum total cost amount required.

After discussion, the Committee agreed that the method used in previous years to rank projects from each jurisdiction should be revised and streamlined for the next programming cycle. Project selection should coincide with established targets based on historical geographic distribution. Within jurisdictions, projects arise through local decision-making and professional judgement of staff. Ms. McCullough recommended retaining core criteria of the current ranking process where each project would still need to meet enhancements or

improvements toward the regional transportation network through support of the state's facility condition, safety, and congestion or system reliability targets.

A concern noted in the discussion was that small towns would be less able to access funds if suballocation is solely based on targets. Again, Ms. McCullough reiterated that the historical equity distribution included consideration of small communities and transit. Scott and Muscatine counties suggested that smaller communities should consider partnering with their county to share funds and costs that often overlap, and noted that a number of communities have benefited through such a partnership.

Bi-State staff will work to draft a revised STBG Evaluation Manual or guide that reflects the Technical Committee's discussion, Department of Transportation's emphasis on a competitive system and proposes measurable targets by historical equity distribution that allows process transparency to the public and justifies project selection. Mr. Burgstrum motioned to table the STBG Evaluation Manual discussion until the next Technical Committee meeting, in order for revisions to be made. Mr. White seconded, and the motion carried.

3. Consideration of Concurrence with the Title VI Program and Non-Discrimination Policy Update. Ms. McCullough noted that the Title VI Plan was not made available for the Technical Committee to review at the last meeting, but is up-to-date on the Bi-State website, and a link was provided in meeting's agenda. The final draft of the Title VI Program and Non-Discrimination Policy update was brought to the Bi-State Regional Commission on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 and was approved. Mr. Burgstrum motioned to concur with the approval of the Title VI Program and Non-Discrimination Policy update. Mr. White seconded, and the motion carried.
4. Public Comments. There were no public comments.
5. Other Business. No other business was discussed at this time.
6. Adjournment. Mr. Zobrist motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ball seconded the motion, and it carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m.