

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

Tuesday, March 19, 2019 – 10:30 a.m.  
Walcott City Hall/Fire Department  
Conference Room  
128 West Lincoln Street  
Walcott, Iowa  
Randy Zobrist, Chair

Technical Committee Members Present

Jim Edmond	City of Muscatine Engineer
Amy Fortenbacher	Transit Supervisor, City of Muscatine
Bryan Horesowsky	Muscatine County Assistant Engineer
Angie Kersten	Scott County Engineer
Pat Lynch	City of Muscatine Assistant Engineer
Sam Shea	Iowa Department of Transportation
Randy Zobrist	River Bend Transit

Others Present

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

1. Approval of Minutes of the November 13, 2018 Transportation Technical Committee Meeting Minutes. Ms. Fortenbacher moved to approve the Transportation Technical Committee meeting minutes as written, and Ms. Kersten seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as written by consensus.
2. Concurrence with Technical Revisions to the Title VI Program and Non-Discrimination Policy. Mr. Schmid discussed the revisions that were made to the Title VI Program and Non-Discrimination Policy. The document was approved by the Bi-State Regional Commission and submitted to the Iowa Department of Transportation in October 2018. Revisions were also posted to Bi-State Regional Commission’s website and can be found at: <http://bistateonline.org/transportation/title-vi-and-non-discrimination>. The revisions clarified that outreach to Hispanic media was conducted through Hola America as part of the media outlets used to share news and information. As a result, Hola America has been added to the Bi-State Regional Commission distribution list. Mr. Edmond motioned to recommend concurrence of the revisions to the Policy Committee. Mr. Zobrist seconded the motion, and it carried.
3. Consideration of Region 9 Public Participation Process Revisions. Ms. McCullough outlined the revisions proposed for the Region 9 Public Participation Plan, which was posted 30 days

in advance of approval by the Policy Committee. This included clarification on minimum notification days for matters involving meeting announcements and agendas of the Technical or Policy Committee be changed from 48 hours to two working days, to be consistent with the Open Meetings Law. In addition, the comment period for matters involving adoption or amendments to the Transportation Planning Work Program, Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Regional Transit Development Plan, and Regional ITS Architecture Plan, a minimum of two working days are required, but typically a seven-day comment period shall be utilized prior to approval by the Transportation Policy Committee. It was also added that the Long Range Transportation Plan will include a specific public participation outline during the update process that will be reviewed by the Technical and Policy Committees, and the results will be documented in the Long Range Transportation Plan. Lastly, revisions were made regarding accommodation, clarifying the minimum timeframe for requests. Ms. Fortenbacher motioned to recommend approval of the revisions to the Policy Committee. Mr. Edmond seconded the motion, and it carried.

4. Presentation on the Region 9 FY2020 Transportation Planning Work Program. Ms. McCullough outlined the transportation planning issues, work tasks completed by Bi-State Regional Commission, and how Region 9 Transportation funds will be utilized in the upcoming fiscal year. All of these items are included in the Region 9 FY2020 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) that is updated on an annual basis.
5. Status of the Muscatine County Trails Plan. Mr. Schmid presented a status update of the Muscatine County Trails Plan, conceived by the Bi-State Regional Trails Committee and meetings with each community within Muscatine County. The previous Muscatine County Trails Plan was completed in 2007. Three draft maps for the plan were provided to the Technical Committee, showing the county-wide trail system, facility type, and posted speeds/annual average daily traffic within Muscatine County. Mr. Schmid noted that the facility type categories are based on the Rural Design Guide published by the Federal Highway Administration. Ms. McCullough noted that TA Set-Aside (also referred to as TASA) and TAP-Flex funds can be used to construct paved shoulder routes. To add, STBG funds are eligible for paved shoulders as well. Mr. Schmid concluded with noting the Cedar River water trail was added to the Trails Plan.
6. Public Comments. There were no public comments.
7. Other Business. Ms. McCullough noted that new targets are available for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Transportation Alternative Program-Flex (TAP-Flex) funds. With that being said, Iowa Department of Transportation projects will need to be rectified from the quarterly report, and a call for projects will be published reflecting the new targets by the end of the month.

Ms. McCullough also informed the Technical Committee of the notification of funding opportunity for AARP Community Challenge grant that opens April 17 and must be completed by November 4. Other upcoming funding opportunities to look for are the Iowa Department of Transportation's State Recreational Trails program and Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP).

Ms. McCullough mentioned the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act will conclude after FY2020, and discussions regarding reauthorization are to come. Mr. Zobrist noted that discussions regarding the gas tax and charging per VMT are becoming easier to talk about and are deemed viable options. Mr. Zobrist also mentioned that “Earmarks” are being used again and may affect future programming.

8. Adjournment. Mr. Edmond motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Zobrist seconded the motioned, and it carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:20 a.m.