



Draft Minutes
McLEAN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Transportation Technical Committee
of the Metropolitan Planning Organization

Friday, July 23, 2021

10:30 a.m.

Hybrid* Meeting through GoToMeeting™

Committee Members in attendance (*Italics indicate attendance by proxy*):

Raymond Lai	MCRPC, Executive Director, Technical Committee Chair
<i>Tim Gleason</i>	City of Bloomington, City Manager, proxy by Kevin Kothe
Kevin Kothe	City of Bloomington, Director of Public Works
<i>Cassy Taylor</i>	McLean County, Interim County Administrator, proxy by Jerry Stokes
Jerry Stokes	McLean County Highway Department, County Engineer
<i>Pam Reese</i>	Town of Normal, City Manager, proxy by Eric Herbst
<i>Ryan Otto</i>	Town of Normal, Director of Public Works & Engineering, proxy by Eric Herbst
Mark Peterson	Connect Transit, Interim General Manager
Robert Nelson	IDOT District 5, Planning & Services Chief
Dan Magee	IDOT District 5, Federal Aid Coordinator

Committee members not in attendance:

Carl Olson	Central Illinois Regional Airport, Executive Director
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Others Present

Tom Caldwell	IDOT, OP&P	Shubhangi Rathor	MCRPC
JD Stevenson	FHWA	Alyssa Cooper	MCRPC
Jennifer Sicks	MCRPC		

1. Call to Order

Mr. Lai called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

2. Attendance & Introductions

A quorum was present, with members in attendance as listed above. Mr. Lai introduced Shubhangi Rathor, a new Assistant Planner at MCRPC. Ms. Rathor noted that she is originally from India, and has just completed her master's in planning at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

3. Public Comment

Ms. Sicks advised that no request for public comment was received, and no one has requested to be present to offer comment.



4. Minutes

Mr. Stokes offered a motion to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2021 virtual meeting, and was seconded by Mr. Magee. The motion was unanimously approved.

Items for Action

5. Approval of Amendment #1 to the FY 2022 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Plan, consisting of project no. BP 2022-1, bridge painting at four locations on I-74 in the Metropolitan Planning Area, at a total project cost of \$894,500. Mr. Nelson noted that the structures are located in the northwest area of the metropolitan planning area.

Mr. Stokes moved for the approval of Amendment #1 and was seconded by Mr. Peterson. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of Amendment #2 to the FY 2022 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Plan, consisting of project no. HSIP 2021-1, pavement marking on I-55 between Sugar Creek and 1 mile east of the Veterans Parkway interchange, at a total project cost of \$510,250 in HSIP funding. Mr. Nelson noted that this is a safety project, widening stripes from 4" to 6", and on the September letting.

Mr. Magee moved for the approval of Amendment #2 and was seconded by Mr. Kothe. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Approval of Amendment #3 to the FY 2022 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Plan, consisting of capital improvements by SHOW BUS, including ongoing rehabilitation of the SHOW BUS facility at Chenoa for safer pandemic operations and other needs, and the rehabilitation of the Chenoa/Meadows shed, at a total project cost of \$1,300,000. Ms. Sicks noted that the amendment refers to work to rehabilitate their Chenoa facility for safety and security, and funding through the Rebuild Illinois program.

Mr. Nelson moved for the approval of Amendment #3 and was seconded by Mr. Magee. The motion carried unanimously.

Items of Information or Discussion

5. That Which May Arise

Mr. Nelson stated that he sent Mr. Otto an email last week regarding potential implementation of a shared use path along Towanda Avenue. Mr. Herbst will follow up with Mr. Otto.

Mr. Lai advised that MCRPC has applied for a RAISE grant, which was submitted last week.



Co-applicants include IDOT, the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal, McLean County and Connect Transit. The application requests funding to reinvent Veterans Parkway, with a planning process with focuses on sustainability and equity. U.S. DOT will announce the results of the grant solicitation in November. Mr. Lai believes our application is very competitive.

Mr. Lai noted that there has been discussion regarding preferences for meeting attendance formats. Mr. Magee noted that District 5 has been meeting in person at the Danville Area Transportation Study. Mr. Kothe noted that the City of Bloomington Public Works training room is available, but does not have webcams; a laptop or tablet with a camera would be needed.

Mr. Stevenson noted that FHWA staff had been advised that they can travel, which is up to each individual staff member. Mr. Stevenson is willing to travel, but asks that the hybrid meeting remain an option.

Ms. Sicks noted that MCRPC is awaiting guidance from the Attorney General's office regarding changes in the Open Meetings Act that have not been extended. Mr. Lai noted that those who plan to attend in person please advise as soon as possible, so that appropriate meeting space can be arranged.

6. Next Meeting

The Committee is next scheduled to meet virtually at 10:30 am on Friday, August 20, 2021.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Jennifer A. Sicks".

Jennifer A. Sicks

Senior Transportation Planner

McLean County Regional Planning Commission