

MINUTES

McLEAN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MCRPC) Meeting

WEDNESDAY, September 7, 2022, 4:00 P.M.

McLean County Law & Justice Center

104 W. Front St, Bloomington, Illinois

Room 702 and Virtual

Members Present:

John Burrill, Chairperson; Carl Teichman, Vice-Chairperson; Bart Bittner; Stan Gozur; Dr. Charles Irwin; Ron Lesser

Members Absent:

Michael Pettorini; Carl Olson; Jennifer Langley; Jim Fruin; Tony Morstatter

Others Present:

MCRPC Staff – Raymond Lai*; Tessa Ferraro; Jennifer Sicks; Greg Huss; Tania Barreto; Ana Mendoza; Anthony Yamzon; Katie McShane*

Others – Jacob Smith, Connect Transit*; Philip Dick, McLean County Building & Zoning*; Mercy Davison, Town of Normal*

*Attended Virtually

1. Call To Order:

Mr. Burrill called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and noted the presence of a quorum.

2. Attendance:

See above

3. Public Comment:

None

4. Consent Agenda:

- A. Minutes of the August 3, 2022 Commission meeting
- B. Financial Reports
- C. MCRPC Staff Report

Mr. Burrill called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Teichman moved for approval. Mr. Bittner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. Regular Agenda:

- a. Items removed from the Consent Agenda (if any)

None

b. Approval of Proposed FY 2023 Overall Work Program (OWP)

Mr. Lai provided a background of the proposed FY 2023 Overall Work Program (OWP). He explained that there are two budget documents MCRPC creates annually. First, the Unified Work Program (UWP) is for IDOT with their Fiscal Year starts on July 1st. The current FY23 UWP was approved in June 2022 by the Transportation Policy Committee. Second, the OWP is for the County with its Fiscal Year starts on January 1st. The OWP approval process has many steps, first the staff met with the County Administration, followed by consideration and a recommendation by the MCRPC's Executive Committee. After the Executive Committee recommended the proposed FY23 OWP in August 2022, it is presented to the full Planning Commission for approval. Once approved, the OWP will be presented to the County Board Executive Committee, then to the full County Board for final adoption as part of the overall FY23 County budget. Mr. Lai explained that the draft minutes from the August 2022 Executive Committee meeting were provided in the agenda packet for information.

Mr. Lai referenced the proposed FY23 OWP document, a budget summary table and a pie chart explaining the several funding sources and expenses breakdown. The FY23 budget is slightly higher than last years at a little over \$1.1 million. The RAISE Grant was budgeted over the next 3 years and additional allocation from IDOT based on the infrastructure bill are the 2 main reasons for the increase.

Dr. Irwin asked about the different work elements MCRPC uses. Mr. Lai explained the different work elements. Dr. Irwin also asked about the specific work elements listed as only being funded by IDOT. Ms. Sicks answered by explaining the different funding sources for each of the work elements.

Mr. Burrill called for a motion to approve the Proposed FY 2023 OWP. Mr. Bittner moved for approval. Mr. Lesser seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6. Items for Information or Discussion:

a. Regional Housing Initiative update

Ms. Ferraro advised since May 2022 Members of the Housing Coalition have seen an increase in the amount of pandemic-relief related funds being distributed to County residents. In July, over \$93,000 were distributed to residents seeking assistance due to the pandemic.

Ms. Ferraro advised that MCRPC staff are currently working on updating the Income Qualified Housing white paper. She explained a few changes to Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) properties. One property in Heyworth has become inactive, this property had 20 LIHTC units. However, there have been 3 properties approved earlier this year, adding 132 units to our area. Two of the new approved properties are in Bloomington and the other one is in Heyworth.

b. Vision Zero/Go:Safe McLean County Action Plan Project update

Mr. Lai explained that MCRPC staff continues to look for additional grant opportunities for traffic safety for implementation of our adopted Go:Safe McLean County Action Plan. He also advised that MCRPC was awarded a Bike & Pedestrian Grant by IDOT that was applied for earlier this year. This grant will help with promotional & advocacy of the current action plan.

c. Metropolitan Long-Range Transportation Plan (MLRTP) update

Mr. Lai explained that the Draft Metropolitan Long-Range Transportation Plan (MLRTP) document is available for public comment. The document has been published on our website, as well as social media sites and other outlets. He advised that staff has received a few comments so far and public comment period ends on October 17th with comments from the public are encouraged to be submitted by October 10th. He also explained that the Project Steering Committee (PSC) has still been meeting monthly.

Mr. Bittner asked the East Side Bypass corridor project. Mr. Lai advised that the project is currently on hold by IDOT and staff has received no additional updates. Ms. Sicks explained further that talks with IDOT have advised that the project will not happen, there just hasn't been any official announcement from IDOT yet.

d. That which may arise

Mr. Lai introduced MCRPC's new ISU Stevenson Fellow, Anthony Yamzon. Mr. Yamzon introduced himself to the Commission.

7. Adjournment:

Mr. Burrill called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Teichman moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lesser seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Katie McShane
Office Manager/Executive Assistant