

MINUTES
McLEAN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MCRPC) Meeting
WEDNESDAY, January 8, 2025, 4:00 P.M.
115 E Washington St, Bloomington, Illinois
Room 404 and Virtual

Members Present:

Carl Teichman, Chairperson; Jim Fruin, Vice-Chairperson; Bart Bittner; Fred Grieder; Amy Roser; Katie Ruder; Carl Olson*

Members Absent:

John Burrill; Ron Lesser; Dr. Mark Wylie; Rory Roberge

Others Present:

MCRPC Staff – Raymond Lai; Thomas Valencia; Jennifer Sicks; Luke Talavera; Anthony Baumann; Katie McShane*
Others – Phil Dick, McLean County*

*Attended Virtually

1. Call To Order:

Mr. Teichman called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and noted the presence of a quorum.

2. Attendance:

See above

Mr. Teichman called for a motion to allow Mr. Olson to attend and vote at the meeting virtually due to conflicting meeting schedule related to employment. Mr. Fruin moved for approval. Mr. Bittner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Election of Officers:

Mr. Teichman advised the Commission he plans to be part of the voting process. He named Mr. Lai Chairperson Pro-Tempore to handle the Chairperson election process.

Mr. Lai called for nominations for Chairperson. Mr. Fruin nominated Mr. Teichman. Mr. Olson seconded the nomination. Hearing no other nominations for Chairperson, Mr. Lai declared nominations closed and called for a vote. Mr. Teichman was unanimously elected Chairperson.

After Mr. Teichman was re-elected Chairperson, Mr. Lai turned the rest of the election process over to Mr. Teichman, the newly elected Chairperson.

Mr. Teichman called for nominations for Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Teichman nominated Mr. Fruin. Mr. Bittner seconded the nomination. Hearing of no other nominations for Vice-Chairperson,

Mr. Teichman declared nominations closed and called for a vote. Mr. Fruin was unanimously elected Vice-Chairperson.

Mr. Teichman called for nominations for Designated Member of the Executive Committee. Mr. Fruin nominated Ms. Ruder. Mr. Bittner seconded the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Teichman declared nominations closed and called for a vote. Ms. Ruder was unanimously elected as Designated Member of the Executive Committee.

4. Public Comment:

None

Mr. Teichman welcomed new Commission Member, Fred Grieder. Mr. Grieder introduced himself. Mr. Teichman welcomed new staff members Anthony Baumann and Luke Talavera. Mr. Lai explained both staff members will be Community Planners. He also explained that Mark Adams accepted a position locally with DCEO. Mr. Baumann and Mr. Talavera introduced themselves.

5. Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of the December 4, 2024, Commission meeting
2. Financial Reports
3. MCRPC Staff Report

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

6. Regular Agenda:

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

None

7. Items for Information or Discussion:

- a. Regional Housing Initiatives update (Luke Talavera)

Mr. Talavera advised the Commission about the committee meetings that MCRPC staff have attended recently. Staff is currently working on the second drafts of the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan's executive summary, needs assessment and market analysis chapters. These chapter's first drafts were submitted to the Town and City for their review and comments.

Staff is working on the Quarter 3 Town of Normal requisition for submission. Staff has also submitted the CDBG application for the 2025-2026 program year to the City of Bloomington for review. The status of the DCEO RISE Implementation Award is still pending, staff should hear something in January.

b. Human Services Transportation Plan update (Jennifer Sicks)

Staff coordinated and attended the joint technical and policy committees in Pontiac on December 16. Ms. Sicks noted that McLean County withdrew from the agreement with SHOW BUS in providing rural transit services starting July 2025. Communications between IDOT, Connect Transit, and McLean County have taken place to transition rural transportation services with a new provider. Connect Transit has stated that it still needs permission from its board, the Town and City to move forward with providing rural transportation services.

Mr. Bittner asked why McLean County dropped out of the intergovernmental agreement about SHOW BUS. Ms. Sicks stated that it was decision made by the McLean County Board. She was only made aware of the decision a few days before it was going to the County Board to be voted on and doesn't know why they made the decision.

Mr. Teichman asked if the decision to remove McLean County from the Intergovernmental agreement can be reversed. Ms. Sicks stated she hasn't heard anyone talk about that.

c. Veterans Parkway Corridor Plan update (Raymond Lai)

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) met in December to review the Current Conditions Report the consultant drafted. Staff will meet again with the PSC on January 10, 2025. The consultant started the public engagement phase of the project. A survey is available for the community to take and it's also on our website. The survey is available until February 10, with flyers will be distributed soon.

d. That Which May Arise

Ms. Roser explained that she heard Jennifer Sicks' recent interviews regarding the Veterans Parkway Project on the news and advised that she sounds good and knowledgeable.

8. Executive Session pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(2) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act

At 4:29PM, Mr. Teichman called for a motion to enter into an executive session. Mr. Bittner moved to enter into the executive session. Mr. Fruin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 4:54PM, Mr. Teichman called for a motion to exit the executive session. Ms. Roser moved to exit the session. Mr. Bittner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

7. Adjournment:

Mr. Teichman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bittner moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Olson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Katie McShane
Office Manager/Executive Assistant