



DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Human Service Transportation Plan (HSTP)
Region 6 Joint Technical & Policy Committee
McLean County Regional Planning Commission

Monday, June 16th, 2025; 10:30 A.M.
Livingston County Historic Courthouse, 2nd Floor
112 W. Madison Street, Pontiac, IL 61764
Hybrid (In-Person & Virtual Meeting)

Committee Members Present (*=Virtual Attendance)

Jennifer Sicks	MCRPC, Senior Planner/Region 6 Technical & Policy Committee Chair/PCOM
Melissa Ohrwall	IDOT, Transit Project Manager
Monte Andrews	Livingston/Ford/Iroquois Counties, PCOM
Luke Houhlin	McLean County, Assistant County Engineer
Craig Monson	Livingston County (Policy), County Board Member
Alina Hartley	Livingston County, Executive Director
Donna Crow	Iroquois County (Policy), County Board Member
Tim Nuss*	Ford County (Policy), County Board Member
Laura Dick	SHOW BUS, Director
Adina Fox	Futures Unlimited, Assistant Executive Director
Erin Richey*	Good Shepard Manor, Director of Development
Melissa Johnson	LIFE Center for Independent Living (LIFE CIL), Community Living Advocate

Others Present

David Schafer	IDOT, Transit Operations Bureau Chief
David Braun	Connect Transit, Managing Director
Melissa Walters	CRIS Rural Mass Transit District, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Raymond Lai	MCRPC, Executive Director
Anthony Baumann	MCRPC, Community Planner
Thomas Valencia	MCRPC, Assistant Planner

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 A.M.

2. Attendance

Attendance by Committee members was determined and is listed above. A quorum was present in-person. All attendees introduced themselves.

3. Announcements/Request for Public Comments

Ms. Sicks advised that no request for public comment has been received and that no one is present to offer comment. Ms. Sicks advised that announcements will occur throughout the course of the meeting.

4. Approval of the Minutes

Ms. Sicks advised that meeting minutes from the March 2025 meeting are available for review, and reminded committee members that a copy of those minutes was sent as part of the meeting packet. Ms. Sicks asked committee members if they had comments on the minutes. No committee member provided comments.

Ms. Sicks advised that the March 17, 2025 meeting minutes will be considered for approval at the September 2025 meeting as there are many new committee members who were not present at the previous meeting.

5. Items for Action by the Policy Committee

Ms. Sicks advised that there are no items for action to be considered for the Policy Committee.

6. Items for Discussion

Ms. Sicks advised that a map of Region 6 service providers that was sent before the meeting will be amended to reflect that the CRIS Rural Mass Transit District will serving Ford County, replacing SHOW BUS.

Ms. Orhwall advised committee members that all vehicles from the FY 2022 round have been delivered and asked recipients to send her photos of the new vehicles. She also advised that the vehicle inventory in BlackCat is being finalized for organizations to use. She concluded by encouraging organizations to ensure preventative maintenance for vehicles. Ms Orhwall further advised that applications for the next round of the Consolidated Vehicle Procurement (CVP) program is scheduled for this coming summer. IDOT will be holding virtual information sessions on the CVP program, but a date has not yet been scheduled. She advised non-profit agencies to check their data portal access ensure their pre-qualifications are in order.

Ms. Sicks advised the committee that beginning July 1st, 2025, there will be changes in how Region 6 counties will be served. McLean County's new rural transit service provider will be Connect Go and Ford County's new provider will be the CRIS Rural Mass Transit District. Kankakee, Livingston, and Iroquois Counties will continue to be served by SHOW BUS. Service providers provided the committee updates regarding the transition.

For SHOW BUS, Ms. Dick proposed to the committee that Route 24 should remain to transport passengers to Heartland Community College (both to their main campus in Normal and their satellite campus in Pontiac). SHOW BUS will also continue to bring non-McLean County residents into the County if they need special services. Iroquois County will continue to be served by the agency as well.

For CRIS RMTD, Ms. Walters advised the committee that they will begin serving Ford County and that they will be setting up a self-service module for people to schedule rides. There is a dedicated driver ready to serve Ford County and they will use two vehicles. They also received five new vehicles from IDOT, but that one of them broke down. Ms. Orhwall advised that such concerns should be emailed to her.

For Connect Go, Mr. Braun advised the committee that the new service will operate similarly to Connect Mobility. The service will be demand-response and rides should be scheduled by noon three

days before using the Via Transportation platform. Three vehicles from the urban fleet will be switched to the new rural fleet. The roll-out will be slow and “soft” in order to avoid demand pressure. The service will be fare-free for the time being and that there will be cancellation minimums. Riders are encouraged to go to the Connect Transit website for more information to scheduled rides, however there is currently no self-service feature. Connect Transit will have a PCOM. There is an interest in linking to other counties sometime in the future. Fares will be re-introduced at some point in order to have local match revenue. Drivers will be different every day.

Mr. Schafer advised that IDOT would like to set-up a meeting with the new service providers sometime in August to check-in and see how the transition has been going. August 19th was proposed as a meeting date.

Ms. Sicks advised that there is consideration for the HSTP Region 6 bylaws to be revised to create a consistent process for appointing committee members and for scheduling meetings. She also advised that the HSTP page on the MCRPC website will be updated to have a new cell phone for people to inquire about HSTP-related services and that there will be an updated consolidated contacts list. New meeting locations have also been proposed, with Chatsworth and Watseka being two candidates.

7. County Transportation Committee/Provider Status Updates

Ms. Sicks advised that more extensive provider status updates will occur at the September 2025 meeting.

8. Next Meeting – Monday, September 15th, 2025

9. Adjourn

Ms. Sicks offered a motion to adjourn the meeting and asked committee members if there is any objection to ending the meeting. Because there was no second to the motion, Ms. Sicks closed the meeting at 11:54 AM.

Minutes Prepared By:

Thomas Valencia

Assistant Planner

McLean County Regional Planning Commission