

MINUTES

McLEAN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MCRPC) Meeting

WEDNESDAY, September 3, 2025, 4:00 P.M.

115 E Washington St, Bloomington, Illinois

Room 404 and Virtual

Members Present:

Carl Teichman, Chairperson; Bart Bittner; John Burrill; Fred Grieder; Katie Ruder; Mark Wylie; Ron Lesser; Carl Olson*; Anne Barrow*; Amy Roser (Arrived at 4:15)

Members Absent:

Jim Fruin, Vice – Chairperson

Others Present:

MCRPC Staff – Raymond Lai; Jennifer Sicks; Anthony Baumann; Thomas Valencia; Luke Talavera; Jake Crevoiserat; Calista Mackey; Katie McShane*

Others – Heidi Thomas, Lochmueller Group; Jenny Neal, McLean County Health Department*; Phil Dick, McLean County Building & Zoning*

*Attended Virtually

1. Call To Order:

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

2. Attendance:

See above

Mr. Lai introduced new planning Intern from UIUC, Calista Mackey. Ms. Mackey introduced herself to the Commission.

3. Public Comment:

None

4. Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of the August 6, 2025, Commission meeting
2. Financial Reports
3. MCRPC Staff Report

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

5. Regular Agenda:

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

None

b. Approval of the Proposed FY 2026 Overall Work Program (OWP)

Mr. Lai reminded the Commission that MCRPC creates two budgets each year. One is the Unified Work Program (UWP), for IDOT with state fiscal year starting on July 1. The proposed FY 2026 OWP is for the County with fiscal year starting on January 1, 2026. He explained the approval process that the OWP goes through each year, starting with the recommendation by MCRPC Executive Committee and ending with approval by the full McLean County Board. He provided some details on the proposed FY 2026 OWP, including the major changes from last year to this year. He went over the graphs and charts provided in the packet that included all funding sources, expenses, and personnel costs.

Mr. Wylie asked if the additional grants listed on the chart have already been awarded. Mr. Lai answered yes, both the RISE Implementation grant and the RAISE grant have been awarded.

Mr. Teichman called for a motion to approve the Proposed FY 2026 OWP. Mr. Lesser moved for approval. Mr. Bittner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6. Items for Information or Discussion:

a. Presentation: Go:Safe McLean County Action Plan 2025 Update (Raymond Lai & Heidi Thomas, Lochmueller Group)

Mr. Lai provided an introduction for Heidi Thomas, as the Project Manager/Liaison from Lochmueller group, which is under contract to prepare the Go:Safe McLean County Action Plan Update 2025. He noted their subconsultant, TYLin. Mr. Lai expressed appreciation for the contributions of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) members, and recognized Jenny Neal of the County Health Department, who was attending MCRPC meeting virtually. Ms. Thomas presented a PowerPoint presentation on the creation of the Plan Update 2025 from the 2021 Go:Safe McLean County Action Plan. [PowerPoint available at the office for review]

Q & A Followed Presentation:

Q: The data that is analyzed, what were the top 3 correlations that you recognized? How strong were the correlations?

A: Hard to analyze from looking at the numbers and the roadways. Each roadway has different characteristics that causes different risks on those roadways. Then there are the people, because we can't determine or control what they are going to do so they have their own risks. All we can do is design roadways for them or educate them.

Q: Are bike & pedestrian crashes included in the crash numbers?

A: If the crash happened on a roadway, yes that is included. If the crash happened on a trail or other than a roadway it is not included.

Q: Many accidents get more coverage when they are involved around ISU campus and include pedestrians plus cars. Is any of this planning being tied back to what ISU is doing and how to make campus safer?

A: ISU and the Town of Normal are working together on their own campus safety plan related to ISU Campus. Ryan Otto, Director of Public Works and Engineering with the Town is on the Go:Safe PSC and provided his input along the way.

Q: Is construction the next step in this project?

A: The next step is implementation and locating funding sources. There is a part of the plan that is for seeking funding sources in the future and will be part of the Go:Safe Tasks Force's responsibilities.

Mr. Lai advised that staff will poll the Commission Members about rescheduling the upcoming October 1st meeting to late September in order for the Commission to consider adoption of the final draft of the Go:Safe McLean County Action Plan Update 2025 to meet grant timeline requirements.

b. Housing Coordinator – RISE Implementation grant update: (Raymond Lai)

Mr. Lai stated we are finalizing the grant agreement and budget with DCEO. This is a state grant with local matches as the funding sources. Will issue an RFP when the grant agreement is finalized. This is a 2-year grant, half will be covered in Fiscal Year 2026 and the other half will be budgeted in Fiscal Year 2027.

c. Regional Housing Initiatives update (Luke Talavera)

MCRPC has attended its regular scheduled meetings, including Housing Staff Committee, Unhoused Taskforce and Housing Coalition meetings. Staff will facilitate the Affordable & Supportive Housing Committee on September 15. Staff is also working on a new white paper, which will analyze the change in housing units, vacancy rates, household and population and median income in McLean County.

d. Human Services Transportation Plan update (Jennifer Sicks)

Ms. Sicks advised that an upcoming Region 6 combined Technical and Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for September 15 at 10:30am in Pontiac. She advised that as part of our management of the Region 6, assistant planner Thomas Valencia has created a draft Information Dashboard regarding Region 6 services. This draft dashboard will be presented at the upcoming meeting.

e. Veterans Parkway Corridor Plan update (Raymond Lai)

Mr. Lai updated the group on the PSC meeting. Because the consultant is still working on analyzing data, they have cancelled the upcoming meeting to have more time on the data.

He advised there will be two public open houses in November, once more details are available.

f. Strategic Land Use Plan (Anthony Baumann)

Mr. Baumann presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Draft Strategic Land Use Plan. The presentation included the updated timeline, the public meetings and other special meetings that staff attended. He explained that there will be a revised draft published for public review as well as two more public meetings for community members to attend to provide comments. [PowerPoint available at the office for review]

g. That Which May Arise

None

7. Adjournment:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Katie McShane
Office Manager/Executive Assistant