



**Human Services Transportation Plan
Region 6 Joint Technical and Policy Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Monday, March 16th, 2026
10:30 A.M. C.D.T.

Historic Livingston County Courthouse – 2nd Floor Conference Room
112 West Madison Street, Pontiac, Illinois 61764
Hybrid (In-Person & Virtual Meeting)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A.M. C.D.T.

2. Attendance

- Brandon Miles* Connect GO
- Patrick Kuebrich* Connect GO
- Torrin Matille* Futures Connections
- Laura Dick* SHOW BUS
- Henry Dick* SHOW BUS
- Adeana Fox* Futures Unlimited
- Erin Richey* Good Shepard Manor
- Benjamin Wilson* Kankakee County
- Donna Crow* Iroquois County
- Craig Monson Livingston County
- Alina Hartley Livingston County
- David Schafer* Illinois Department of Transportation
- Andrew Davis* Illinois Department of Transportation
- Melissa Ohrwall* Illinois Department of Transportation
- Raymond Lai, AICP McLean County Regional Planning Commission
- Jennifer Sicks, AICP McLean County Regional Planning Commission
- Anthony Baumann* McLean County Regional Planning Commission
- Thomas Valencia, AICP McLean County Regional Planning Commission
- Steven Kretz* Kankakee Area Transportation Study

* Indicates virtual attendance

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes of the December 15th, 2025, Meeting

Ms. Sicks asked if anyone online who attended the meeting would like to make a comment. No one online provided comments. Ms. Sicks also asked members present in-person if they have any comments. No one in-person provided comments.

Ms. Sicks asked the Committee members to approve the previous meeting minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved by all Committee members, including those online.

Items for Action by the Policy Committee (In-Person Policy Committee Quorum Required)

5. None.

Items for Discussion

6. Discussion Regarding Region 6 Committee Restructuring and Membership

- a. Representation for Participating Entities – Ms. Sicks stated that, under a single committee structure, each body being represented would have one vote. She stated most of the voting would simply be on adopting the Plan itself and approving bylaws.
- b. Single-Committee Structure – Ms. Sicks advised the Committee that current contract between MCRPC and IDOT for Region 6 Coordination states that there shall be one single committee. She believes moving to that model would be simpler than the current model of having both a Technical Committee and a Policy Committee. It would also make re-writing the bylaws easier.
- c. Participating Members' Comments and Suggestions – Ms. Sicks asked Mr. Kuebrich if he represents Connect GO only as the grantee, and if representation as the provider is conducted through Mr. Miles. Mr. Kuebrich confirmed that Ms. Sicks' understanding of the representation roles for Connect GO is correct. Mr. Miles informed Ms. Sicks that he emailed her about this topic and that Rural Transit Assistance Center (RTAC) would like to have financial coordinators for service providers be a part of the HSTP process. Mr. Schafer advised Ms. Sicks that when developing the bylaws for the single committee, she should make sure no one County has a disproportionate number of voting members. He also stated that the grantee and the provider don't have to constitute one united vote. He advised Ms. Sicks to send the final draft of the new bylaws to Ms. Ohrwall and sent can forwarded them to him. Ms. Sicks advised the Committee that she will get them a final draft of new bylaws soon so that they can vote on them at the June 2026 meeting. Ms. Sicks then asked all Committee members to introduce themselves as she did not provide that initial opportunity at the start of the meeting. All members introduced themselves.

7. Regional Human Services Transportation Plan Implementation Status

Ms. Sicks advised the Committee that she is currently updating aspects of the current Plan to reflect the recent changes in providers. She would like to put forth a revised Plan for a vote of approval at the June 2026 meeting. She noted that this revision would not be a full update encompassing additional topics such as demographic data. She will provide Committee members with a final draft of the Plan revision sometime in mid-May in order give them the opportunity to review it before the vote.

Ms. Sicks advised the Committee that a new set of bylaws will be presented at the June 2026 meeting for a vote of approval. Committee members will receive a final draft at least one month in advance. If approved at the June 2026 meeting, the new bylaws would take effect at the September 2026 meeting.

8. County Transportation Representatives Status Updates

- a. Ford – No one was present to provide an update.
- b. Iroquois – Ms. Crow provided the update for Iroquois County. She advised the Committee that the County is diligently working to get a new service provider for the area. In the meantime, Futures Connections has been assisting with providing rides. She stated that the County is in talks with Iroquois Memorial Hospital in Watseka about the idea of having them being the new service provider. The proposal will be presented to the Hospital's March 25th board meeting. Mr. Schafer was concerned about Ms. Crow's statement that the County would simply utilize the Hospital's name. Ms. Crow advised that her statement was simply an over-simplification. Ms. Sicks asked Ms. Crow if she can report back to her following the Hospital's board meeting to get an update.
- c. Kankakee – Mr. Wilson provided the update for Kankakee County. He advised the Committee that the County is in the middle of completing applications for rural transportation funding and that they recently finished the Drug and Alcohol Management Information System (DAMIS) reporting for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). He stated that the County committee responsible for rural transportation will meet tomorrow to approve the application for Section 5311 funding and Downstate Operating Assistance Program (DOAP) funding
- d. Livingston – Ms. Hartley provided the update for Livingston County. She advised the Committee that the County is also in the middle of completing applications for rural transportation funding. The County is assisting with finding a permanent provider for Iroquois County. She stated that Futures Connections has officially begun operations in Ford County. There has been extensive coordination with Connect GO and the City of Danville. Mr. Schafer asked Ms. Hartley regarding a rider in Iroquois County not being able to get to dialysis. Ms. Hartley stated that the main challenge with the rider is getting them back to their point of origin in Kankakee County. Mr. Schafer asked Mr. Wilson if he could provide any help. Mr. Wilson stated that County policy is that riders making trips within Kankakee County should be prioritized.

- e. McLean – Mr. Miles provided the update for McLean County. He stated that Connect GO had 304 rides in February and that they are nearing 200 rides already for March. He gave recognition to the team at Futures Connections for their efforts in coordinating rides. He also advised the Committee that he is pushing for a cross-county coordination plan that would make it easier for providers to coordinate with each other for riders seeking to travel outside of their county of origin.

9. Regional Public Transportation Provider Updates

- a. Futures Connections – Mr. Matile provided the update for Futures Connections. He advised the Committee that Futures Connections is now the official provider for Ford County and that they have done some marketing to get the word out. He stated that last month there were about 250 rides for just Ford County itself. For Livingston County, around 2,300 rides were provided last month. He also mentioned that Futures Connections has been assisting Iroquois County and has provided many trips into neighboring Kankakee County and Champaign County. He advised the Committee that Futures is looking to hire more drivers and Ms. Sicks stated that the job posting can be included in the HSTP Region 6 Information Hub.
- b. Connect GO – Mr. Miles provided the update for Connect GO. He said that most of his updates were provided during the County updates. He advised the Committee that his team is meeting with OSF Healthcare to discuss needs for patients in rural areas.
- c. SHOW BUS – Ms. Dick provided the update for SHOW BUS. She advised the Committee that the recent loss of manufacturing jobs in Momence has lowered the volume of riders for that area. She stated that the reduced volume has allowed SHOW BUS to better serve other parts of Kankakee County but still wants to assist Momence during this transition. She also stated that she is pleased with seeing the Senior Adult Day service being more established.

10. Next Meeting – June 15th, 2026

11. Adjournment

Ms. Sicks declared the meeting adjourned at 11:16 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Valencia, McLean County Regional Planning Commission