

MINUTES

McLEAN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MCRPC) Meeting

WEDNESDAY, June 3, 2026, 4:00 P.M.
115 E Washington St, Bloomington, Illinois
Room 404 and Virtual

Members Present:

Katie Ruder, Chairperson; Amy Roser, Vice- Chairperson; Carl Teichman; Anne Barrow; Bruce Tompkins; Fred Grieder; Mark Wylie; Ruth Burke; Bart Bittner*

Members Absent:

Carl Olson; Jeffrey "Jay" Spader

Others Present:

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

Others –Tricia Braid, Community Member; Anna Ziegler, McLean County Farm Bureau; Tim Jorczak, McLean County Accessors Office

*Attended Virtually

1. Call To Order:

Ms. Ruder called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and noted the presence of a quorum.

2. Attendance:

See above

3. Public Comment:

There was one member of the public present to provide comments:

1. Tricia Braid commented on transparency within the development of the McLean County Comprehensive Plan and her plan to submit a formal complaint to the Attorney General's office regarding the Project Steering Committee (PSC) being closed to the public.

[The public comment may be reviewed on MCRPC's YouTube page.]

4. Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of the May 6, 2026, Commission meeting
2. Financial Reports
3. MCRPC Staff Report

Ms. Ruder called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Teichman moved for approval. Ms. Burke seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. Regular Agenda:

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

None

6. Items for Information or Discussion:

a. Presentation: Tim Jorczak, McLean County Accessors Office

Mr. Jorczak presented a presentation about the duties and responsibilities of the County Accessors office. [PowerPoint available at MCRPC Office]

A Q&A followed the presentation.

b. Regional Housing Initiatives update (Luke Talavera)

Staff attended multiple housing committee meetings this past month including Housing Coalition and Unhoused Taskforce. Staff has been working on the new White Paper on Housing and Transportation. Staff attended the 2026 Home Illinois Summit in Springfield and the McLean County Spring Care Fair at Eastview Community Center last month. This month, staff will attend the Illinois Housing Blueprint Community Listening Session in Peoria.

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

Staff submitted RFP to legal for review. RFP will be published for a few weeks while awaiting applicants.

There was a discussion about the application process, the difference between posting as a normal job position and posting as an RFP. Mr. Lai explained the RFP is for the position itself, the applicants will provide a resume or portfolio and the RFP will be advertised similar to a regular job posting.

d. Human Services Transportation Plan update (Jennifer Sicks)

The next Joint Committee meeting will be on June 15. The agenda will be the revisions to the bylaws and an amendment to the 2024 plan, updating the changes with rural providers. The Joint Technical and Policy Committees will now become one planning committee per the updated IDOT agreement.

e. Veterans Parkway Corridor Plan update (Raymond Lai)

The last PSC meeting was May 8, and the next PSC will be June 12. The last meeting went over an updated cost estimate that was provided by the consultants. The project is still on budget and estimated to be completed on time in September.

f. Regional Comprehensive Plan update (Raymond Lai/Anthony Baumann)

The May 12 meeting summary is now available. The website is up and running with important updates and outreach events. The survey is available for the community to take. We've had over 200 responses so far. The survey will remain open until the end of July.

Staff has been pushing the survey out with email blasts, social media posts and using newspapers and radio advertisements. Mr. Baumann attended several events with the County Clerk office staff in rural McLean County to promote the survey.

Ms. Barrow spoke about her experience on the PSC. Mr. Lai also recognized Ms. Anna Ziegler with the McLean County Farm Bureau was present in the audience who also serves on the PSC.

Mr. Bittner inquired about the topic of the PSC being open to the public or not. Mr. Lai explained he received an unbinding opinion of the AG office stating this meeting does not meet qualifications of a meeting subject to the Open Meetings Act. He explained there is no budget and the PSC members were invited by staff as a working group to provide input and feedback to staff for development of the plan.

There were additional conversations about the timeline of the Comprehensive Plan, when most of the public outreach would be happening and the importance of transparency throughout this planning process. The timeline is available on the website. All outreach events will be posted on the website and social media, and shared through email blasts, newspaper ads and radio ads. Staff agreed in the need for transparency and will do their part in planning as many outreach events as we can to get the input of the public.

g. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update (Jennifer Sicks)

The MTP is a function of MCRPC as part of the role as a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for urban McLean County. The content of this plan is designated by USDOT and IDOT. Staff have been working on getting the population projection report finalized. The MTP will have a working group to guide this plan using members of different organizations that specialize in transportation, such as local engineers.

h. That Which May Arise

There was a brief discussion on whether to cancel or reschedule the July Commission meeting due to the 4th of July Holiday. It was determined not to cancel or reschedule the July 1 meeting because it won't be disrupted by the holiday.

7. Adjournment:

Ms. Ruder called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Roser moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Burke seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Katie McShane
Office Manager/Executive Assistant