



Draft Minutes
McLEAN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Transportation Technical Committee
of the Metropolitan Planning Organization

Friday, January 15, 2021
10:30 a.m.

Virtual Meeting through GoToMeeting™

Committee Members in attendance:

Raymond Lai	MCRPC, Executive Director, Technical Committee Chair
Kevin Kothe	City of Bloomington, Director of Public Works, and as proxy for Tim Gleason
Craig Shonkwiler	City Engineer, City of Bloomington
Jerry Stokes	McLean County Highway Department, County Engineer, and as proxy for Camille Rodriguez
Mercy Davison,	Town of Normal, Town Planner, as proxy for Pam Reece
Ryan Otto	Town of Normal, Town Engineer
Mark Peterson	Connect Transit, Interim General Manager
Robert Nelson	IDOT District 5, Planning & Services Chief
Dan Magee	IDOT District 5, Federal-Aid Coordinator

Committee members not in attendance:

Carl Olson	Central Illinois Regional Airport, Executive Director
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Others Present

Kimberly Smith	City of Bloomington	Brian Trygg	IDOT District 5
Tom Caldwell	IDOT, OP&P	James Kyte	FHWA
Patrick Kuebrich	Connect Transit	Jennifer Sicks	MCRPC
Brady Lange	Connect Transit	Will Harris	MCRPC

1. Call to Order

Mr. Lai called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

2. Attendance & Introductions

A quorum was present, with members in attendance as listed above.

3. Public Comment

Ms. Sicks advised that no request for public comment was received, and no one has requested to be present to offer comment.



4. Minutes

Mr. Magee offered a motion to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2020 virtual meeting, and was seconded by Mr. Stokes. The motion was unanimously approved.

Items for Action, for referral to the Policy Committee

Amendments to the FY 2021 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

5. Approval of Amendment #12

Ms. Sicks noted that Amendment #12, for Connect Transit, consists of updated tables for expenses, revenue and funding, and capital projects. The revised contents reflect the addition of new grant funding into the program.

Instead of an amendment to a specific project, Ms. Sicks noted that the Connect Transit program update offered as Amendment #12 represents the transit system budget, funding and program details as a whole, and thus a single amendment, and includes the solar energy project funding. Changes are highlighted to allow comparison to the original Connect Transit program.

Mr. Peterson noted his return to the Technical Committee, and introduced Pat Kuebrich, the finance director, and Brady Lange, the maintenance manager and procurement officer. Mr. Lange described the solar energy project, which will power the entire facility. The project is funded by a “No or Low Energy” grant, supplemented by IDOT debt service. There have been modifications, but the project is now under way. Mr. Peterson noted that this project is tied to the purchase of electric buses later this year. Charging equipment for the buses is part of the project, and requires the installation of a new Corn Belt line of service.

Mr. Nelson moved for the approval of Amendment #12 to the FY 2021-2025 TIP, and was seconded by Mr. Stokes. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Acceptance of IDOT Performance Measures & Targets as Promulgated in October 2020.

Mr. Lai noted that in the last meeting of the Technical Committee, a consensus was reached that the state targets should be adopted as presented by IDOT. Ms. Sicks noted that she will prepare a resolution for adoption by the Policy Committee, confirmed this acceptance, and noted that the MPO and its participants will contribute to the State targets commensurate with the incidence of targeted outcomes within the metropolitan planning area.

Mr. Otto moved for acceptance of the IDOT Performance Measures & Targets, and was seconded by Mr. Stokes. The motion carried unanimously.



Mr. Caldwell noted that the acceptance of the measures and targets must be confirmed by the Policy Committee, whether through the minutes of the meeting or a resolution. Ms. Sicks noted that the Policy Committee had previously adopted a resolution, and will follow the same procedure. Mr. Lai noted that using the minutes would require waiting for the February Policy meeting and indicated that a resolution will be prepared for consideration by the Policy Committee.

Items of Information or Discussion

7. That Which May Arise

Mr. Otto noted Mr. Magee's email regarding a potential \$1 million in the FY 2022 STU program, further noting that he has had discussions this morning regarding allocating funds to the Town's West College Avenue project. The project's total cost estimate is about \$9.3 million. Mr. Magee noted that the project must fall in FY 2022, and is the amount available to the MPO as a whole. He is also looking for projects to fit into FY 2024 through FY 2026.

Mr. Kothe referred the issue to Mr. Shonkwiler, noting that the Hamilton Rd. project costs have been revised due to track relocation discussions with the railroad. Those efforts will require additional funding, and thus the project is likely to be moved into a later fiscal year.

Mr. Stokes sees no issue with the changes in Hamilton Rd. as described. He noted that the County's White Oak Road project might be eligible in FY 2022, and would not require all of the \$1 million potentially available.

Mr. Kothe asked if Fox Creek Road might be a possibility. Mr. Shonkwiler noted that the project has not been developed anticipating the use of federal funds; no Phase I study has been undertaken. Mr. Magee noted that Phase I would be required.

Mr. Ryan noted that the delay in the Hamilton Rd. project might free up funding that could be applied to both White Oak Road and West College Avenue. Ms. Sicks noted that although the projects discussed might not solve Mr. Magee's immediate issue, but the impact of the re-scheduling on the later years where there are gaps could be dealt with in the TIP update process.

Mr. Magee confirmed that the White Oak Road project would qualify in FY 2022; he will have further discussions with the local government staff members.

Mr. Peterson gave an update on the Downtown Bloomington Transfer Center project, noting that the three top candidate sites for the facility will be announced in the next few



weeks. Community comment will be solicited, and investigation of the final selection and acquisition will proceed.

8. Next Meeting

The Committee is next scheduled to meet virtually at 10:30 am on February 19, 2021.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Stokes moved for adjournment, and was seconded by Mr. Magee. Approval of adjournment was unanimous, and the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Jennifer A. Sicks".

Jennifer A. Sicks
Senior Transportation Planner
McLean County Regional Planning Commission