

McLean County Regional Planning Commission Transportation Technical Committee

Minutes Friday, September 20, 2019 10:30 am

Government Center, Room 345 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois

Committee Members:

(bold indicates members attending or represented by proxy; italics members not present)

Vacant MCRPC, Executive Director, Technical Committee Chair, by proxy

Jennifer Sicks

Jim Karch City of Bloomington, Director of Public Works, Kevin Kothe, as proxy

for *Tim Gleason* and *Jim Karch*

Jerry Stokes McLean County Highway Department, County Engineer, and as

proxy for Camille Rodriguez

Ryan Otto Town of Normal, Town Engineer, and as proxy for *Pam Reese*

Robert Nelson IDOT District 5, Planning & Services Chief Dan Magee IDOT District 5, Federal-Aid Coordinator Isaac Thorne Martin Glaze, as proxy for Isaac Thorne

Carl Olson Central Illinois Regional Airport, Executive Director

Others Present:

Jennifer Sicks MCRPC

Call to Order

Ms. Sicks called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Public Comment

Ms. Sicks advised that no request for public comment was received, nor were any comments submitted in advance.

Minutes

Mr. Glaze noted a correction on pg. 3. Mr. Otto offered a motion to approve the minutes as amended of the June 21, 2019 meeting of the Technical Committee, and was seconded by Mr. Kothe. The motion was unanimously approved.

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Items for Action

Approval of Amendment #1 to the FY 2020-2024 TIP

Mr. Nelson noted that Amendment #1 to the current TIP consists of funding increases and sources for projects J043 and D082. Project K030 is a new project consisting of Phases I and II for Main Street consistent with the 2016 State application for TIGER funding, including ADA improvement, bike lanes, resurfacing and reconstruction in areas with surviving brick pavement. This project generally will reflect the same scope as the current Route 9 project.

Mr. Kothe inquired about the project termini, and was advised that the study area duplicates that used in the TIGER application. The Committee discussed the possible need to extend the study area, perhaps to the Oakland/McArthur couplet in Bloomington and Gregory Street in Normal, to allow for the study of improvements at the termini currently identified. Mr. Nelson noted that indicated that the matter should be raised with Mr. Neihart. He also noted that currently he cannot estimate the timing of the project; it is being included in FY 2020, making it possible to get Phase I underway in that time period.

Committee members noted that the municipalities are very pleased that the Main Street project is being programmed.

Mr. Otto offered a motion to refer approval of Amendment 1 to the FY 2020 – 2024 TIP to the Policy Committee and was seconded by Mr. Kothe. The motion was unanimously approved.

<u>Approval of the 2019 Transportation Investment Report</u>

Ms. Sicks noted that the report follows the format established last year, and includes projects not located in the metropolitan planning area. She noted that some of the information regarding project phases and discussion of advanced construction is also included in the TIP. She also noted that the information for the transit system will be updated before it is provided to the Policy Committee.

Mr. Kothe advised that the non-structural Safe Routes to School grant results from an application submitted by the Friends of Constitution Trail. Mr. Otto suggested contacting Pat Dullard of the Friends for details on the application.

Mr. Stokes offered a motion to refer approval of the 2019 Transportation Investment Report to the Policy Committee, and was seconded by Mr. Glaze. The motion was unanimously approved.



Items of Information or Discussion

Meeting Schedule

Ms. Sicks noted that the FY 2020 schedule for Policy will need to be altered to accommodate Mayor Renner, whose current class schedule prevents him from attending Friday meetings.

Next Meeting and/or Public Hearing

The Technical Committee will next meet on October 18, 2019 at 10:30 am.

<u>Discussion Regarding Connect Transit Concerns</u>

Mr. Glaze advised that he has been working with Brian Hogan at IDOT regarding the current work on Route 9, which is very helpful to Connect Transit as they continue work on bus stop improvements. On September 24th the Trustees will recommend moving forward with a Downtown Transfer Station Feasibility Study.

Connect Transit is obtaining 12 to 17 electric buses under a manufacturing contract, with delivery of the first 2 to 4 expected in January 2021.

IDOT Program & Grants

Mr. Nelson noted that there still is not an IDOT program available for release, and there is no known timetable for it release. There were discussions with legislative representatives regarding projects under the capital bill. He also noted that the Fall Planning Conference will be held October 2 – 4 in Evanston. At Mr. Nelson's request, Ms. Sicks demonstrated access to the TIP on the MCRPC website; she noted that changes to the website to make documents more accessible and searchable.

<u>Adjournment</u>

Mr. Otto moved for adjournment and was seconded by Mr. Hohulin. adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Jennifer A. Sicks

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Senior Transportation Planner

McLean County Regional Planning Commission