
MEETING MINUTES: RPA 1 Transportation Policy Board
Thursday, May 22, 2014, 10:00 a.m. - Upper Explorerland RPC, Postville

Board members in attendance: Jan McGovern, Howard County; Don Arendt, City of Decorah; Larry Schellhammer, Allamakee County; Vicki Rowland, Fayette County; Larry Gibbs, Clayton County; Mark Kuhn, Winneshiek County

Others in attendance: Al Miller, Fayette County; Rafe Koopman, Clayton County; Brian Ridenour, Allamakee County; Lee Bjerke, Winneshiek County; Karla Organist, UERPC

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.
2. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Gibbs, seconded by McGovern, approved unanimously
3. A motion to approve the 3-20-14 minutes was made by Gibbs, seconded by McGovern, approved unanimously.
4. The Draft 2015-2018 TIP was provided to the board. Organist will be submitting it this week in advance of the June 15th due date. Final will be due on July 15th
5. An updated TAP/TAP FLEX/STP balance sheet was provided to the board – STP funds were increased by \$95,689 from a closeout return on a 2011 Clayton County project.
6. Motion to open the Public Hearing to review and receive comment on proposed FFY 2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendments was made by Rowland and seconded by McGovern at 10:10 a.m. Motion approved unanimously
7. Public hearing was held to discuss the following TIP amendments:
 - Winneshiek County: **ADD** lighting project at intersection of US 52/College Dr. and St. Hwy 139/Co. Rd. A18. HSIP-C096(127)-6C-96
 - Howard County: **ADD** lighting project at intersections of A46 at V58 and A46 at Hwy 63. HSIP-S-C045(73)-6C-45
 - Howard County, **ADD** guardrail project on T68 at Bridge J-8A and on T68 at Bridge J-9. HSIP-S-C045(74)-6C-45
 - Fayette County: **ADD** pavement marking project on W33 from IA3 No. to IA 187; on V68 from IA 3 no. to Fay/Winn CL; and on W14 from north Hawkeye CL no. to B44. HSIP-S-C033(113)-6C-33
 - Allamakee County: **ADD BY REPLACING** TPMS 14246, part of the DEMO project for design/engineering on bike/ped facilities on X52 from Red Oak Rd to La Fayette Ridge Dr. EDP-C003(046)-7Y-03
 - Clayton County: **CHANGE** the total project costs on a bridge project on Iowa Ave. over Elk Creek from \$450,000 to \$800,000 and the FA amount from \$330,000 to \$640,000. BROS-C022(073)-8J-22
 - DOT in Winneshiek County: **ADD** pavement rehab project on Hwy 9 from 2 miles E of Ridgeway to US 52 in Decorah. NHSX-009()-3H-96.

Hearing no additional public comment, a motion to close the public hearing was made by McGovern, seconded by Arendt, and was approved unanimously. Public hearing was closed at 10:17 a.m.

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8. A motion to approve and adopt the FFY 2014 TIP amendments as presented was made by Gibbs, seconded by McGovern. Motion approved unanimously
 9. The 2015 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) was presented to the board. This document outlines the work to be completed by the RPA over the coming state fiscal year. Of note is the completion of the full update to the region's Passenger Transportation Plan which will be due February 1, 2015.
 10. A motion to approve and adopt by resolution the TPWP as presented was made by McGovern, seconded by Rowland, on roll call, all unanimously approved
 11. Committee Updates:
 - Enhancement Committee is partnering with the Food & Fitness Active Living Work group to conduct a trail count in various locations in each county. Counts will occur three times a year on one Saturday and one weekday each time. Locations will not vary over time so that consistent data can accrue over time. Along with the trail count, a survey has also been created for trail users and will remain online throughout the trail counting seasons. The survey can be taken by hard copy at the trail count or online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NEIowaTrailUser>. The group will be meeting on June 5th to discuss how the initial count went and set the next count dates.
 - Transportation Advisory Group met last on March 28th, and the new Mobility Manager, Jenna Sutton, is now on board. She and Karla attended the Passenger Transportation Summit in Marshalltown on May 15th. The committee will be meeting next on July 18th.
 12. DOT updates:
 - Iowa DOT has a new website for construction projects. It shows each project. you can click on one and see the updated progress, budget, timeline and what is happening currently. www.iowadot.gov/travel scroll down and click "Plan Ahead," and go to "highway construction," then to "current projects."
 - Legislative appropriations – see attached handout (not yet signed by the Governor).
 - The Obama Administration submitted its transportation bill: GROW AMERICA ACT; which proposes changes based on tax reform. The senate Environment and Public Works Committee and the House have all submitted their Reauthorization of MAP 21. No word yet on how these will work out. MAP 21 ends on Sept 30th. GROW AMERICA ACT proposes more TIGER grants, increases to Transit and Rail, connecting people to opportunity and work programs, public participation, regional planning and cooperation, performance based approaches. It is a four year bill.
 - The Highway Trust Fund may reach a balance of \$4 Billion this July at which point they will cease to reimburse on projects. In this event Iowa DOT will continue payments to local projects underway as long as it can. More to come on this matter as it develops. Also, if it reaches this balance, no authorizations will take place on new projects. The Iowa DOT Commission will look in the Five Year program to see what projects won't move forward.

Project Updates in RPA 1:

- Slurry seal at locations on IA 76/US 52/US 18 – This is a carryover project from last year. Contractor should finish strip sealing IA 76 this week and take an additional 3 weeks for everything else.

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- Mississippi River dolphin project – Only work remaining is to seal the outer sheeting. Water level needs to recede 3’.
 - IA 9 HMA resurfacing Riceville to US 63 – Most of the patching is completed, 2 separate crews continue with pipe extensions, and culvert extensions should be underway next week.
 - US 63 paved shoulders Minn. border to Lime Springs – paved shoulders may already be finished by now.
13. Organist provided copies of the draft Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) to board members. The TPWP outlines the work UERPC does to support the transportation Policy Board and its committees and to comply with planning requirements of state and federal agencies.
14. Items from Board Members:
- Mark Kuhn shared his concern about a road in Ridgeway and its condition, along with the fact that the Prairie Farmer Trail runs through the community on this road.
 - Jan McGovern brought up the possibility that support for an increase to the RUT would remain included in the Republican platform.
 - Larry Gibbs remarked that Iowa is ranked third in the nation in having the worst roads and second worst in the nation in bridge conditions.
 - A general discussion regarding politics and bridge conditions followed
15. Hearing no additional items from board members, a meeting (to include a public hearing for the TIP) was set for July 10th at 11:30 a.m. in Postville.
16. A motion was made by Gibbs, seconded by Rowland to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Modal Program Appropriations

(\$ 000 omitted)

| Program | FY 2014 Legislative Appropriation | FY 2015 DOT Request | FY 2015 Governor's Budget Request | FY 2015 Legislative Appropriation |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Commercial Service Vertical Infrastructure | \$1,500 | \$1,500 | \$1,500 | \$1,500 |
| General Aviation Vertical Infrastructure | \$750 | \$750 | \$750 | \$750 |
| State Recreational Trails | \$3,000 | \$2,500 | \$2,500 | \$6,000 |
| Public Transit Infrastructure | \$1,500 | \$1,500 | \$1,500 | \$1,500 |
| Railroad Revolving Loan and Grant Program | \$0 | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$4,000 |
| Freight Transportation Fund * | \$0 | \$5,500 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total | \$6,750 | \$13,750 | \$8,250 | \$13,750 |

* Appropriation requested from General Fund. All other appropriations were requested from Rebuild Iowa's Infrastructure Fund (RIIF)

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Other Provisions

- Public Transit Study

The department of transportation shall conduct a study to identify administrative needs, projected demand, necessary capital and operating costs, and public transit service structures including park-and-ride lots, employer or public van pool programs, and traditional fixed-route transit. The department shall submit a report with findings and recommendations to the general assembly on or before December 15, 2014.

- Legislative intent is a study of these issues in the Iowa City to Cedar Rapids corridor.

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Other Provisions

- State Recreational Trails Appropriation

Of the amount appropriated in this lettered paragraph, \$1,000,000 shall be used only for grants to refurbish existing trail bridges that have documented historical and architectural significance. A grant recipient that receives funding pursuant to the allocation in this paragraph shall not receive more than \$500,000 for a project and the grant recipient shall provide at least a dollar-for-dollar match from both private and public sources excluding funding from the state. Any match requirements regarding federal moneys shall not apply to grants received from moneys allocated in this paragraph.

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Other Provisions

- Commercial Air Service Retention and Expansion Committee

... is established within the aviation office of the department. The membership of the committee shall consist of the director or the director's designee; the managers of each airport in Iowa with commercial air service; two members of the senate, one appointed by the majority leader of the senate and one appointed by the minority leader of the senate; and two members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the house and one appointed by the minority leader of the house. Legislative members are eligible for per diem and expenses as provided in section 2.10, for each day of service. The committee shall, on or before December 31, 2014, develop a plan for the retention and expansion of passenger air service in Iowa. The committee shall meet as the committee deems necessary to assess progress in implementing the plan and, if necessary, to update the plan."

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