

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
(SIMPO)

MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
ON December 04, 2017

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Travis Taylor	City of Carbondale
Doug Phillips	City of Marion
Greg Smothers	Williamson County
Bill Jung	Rides Mass Transit
Tom Somers	City of Herrin
Jay Kranz	IDOT

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Betsy Tracy (by phone)	FWHA
Doug Keirn	IDOT
Curtis Jones	IDOT
Ted Guterrez	JCMTD
Cary Minnis	GERPDC
Joe Zdankiewicz	GERPDC
Abra Phillips	GERPDC

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Greg Smothers, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm. and welcomed all present.

Approval of November 06, 2017 TAC Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Jung and seconded by Mr. Somers to approve the Technical Advisory Committee minutes of the November 6th meeting as received. The motion carried.

Payment of Bills (HLR & TWM)

HLR: Joe reported that HLR hasn't submitted a bill for this month yet.

TWM: TWM is doing the pedestrian study, to date they have billed about \$5,600, with a balance left of about \$40,000. Joe reported that he met with District 9 today; they discussed various options for an overpass or underpass and a pedestrian crossing between Garfield and Otis. Currently the pedestrian counts on Otis are running around 45 per day (due to the Huck's across from the park) and are running about 20 per day on Garfield. However, a new Casey's is being put in closer to Garfield, which might affect the crossings there. Therefore, we may need to pause the study and do some new pedestrian counts in the spring, which would push the finalization date to around September of 2018.

A motion was made by Mr. Somers and seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve payment of the TWM bill for \$3,991.37. The motion carried.

## FY-2018 UPWP Kickoff

Joe mentioned that it's time to start thinking about what to do with the FY2019 planning dollars. No studies for FY-19 have been proposed yet, a few ideas were mentioned – safety on IL 148 from Clark Trail to Brewster, transit study to help major employers with employee transportation, ADA transition plans. Joe mentioned that it will be time to renew the long range transportation plan next year, so if a desired study is not financed this year, it will not be possible to fund it with FY-2020 planning dollars.

## I-57 Road Safety Assessment

Mr. Keirn presented a summary on the results of the I-57 Road Safety Assessment. The RSA was done on November 17<sup>th</sup> along the I-57 corridor from MP44 to MP97. The team consisted of the Bureau of Safety, Bureau of Operations, FHWA, two members of the Illinois State Police, and a member from the consultants that we used. They looked at all crashes along the corridor and identified patterns and trends, looking for opportunities for safety and to reduce the severity and frequency of crashes.

Some issues that were found are loose millings along the edge drop off (making it hard to recover from going off road); narrow medians; lots of trees on the slopes and close to the curves; unrepaired guardrails; missing markers and reflectors; and dull/aging striping that is hard to see at night.

Some suggestions for improvement are to widen the shoulders; flatten the slopes (in the median) and make it more recoverable; tree removal; fixing the striping, lenses, and markers; install chevron on selected curves; and to add more parking for trucks. It was also mentioned that minimizing lane closures by avoiding working during peak hours would be helpful. A specific area of concern is the I24/I57 merge, it needs better markings and maybe route marking symbols on the pavement.

Mr. Keirn mentioned that we should have a final report from the RSA team in about four months, which will be followed by a response report from IDOT.

## Other MPO Business

Joe mentioned that staff has submitted three ITEP applications for a sidewalk in Crainville (downtown), pedestrian and safety improvements in Herrin, and a bike path across the John A. Logan campus.

## Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Jung and seconded by Mr. Taylor to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.