

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
(SIMPO)

MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
ON AUGUST 7, 2017

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Chris Wallace	City of Carbondale
John Crawford	City of Carterville
Doug Phillips	City of Marion
Grant Guthman	Jackson County
Greg Smothers	Williamson County
Bill Jung	Rides Mass Transit
Dennis Hillebrenner	IDOT

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Betsy Tracy (by phone)	FWHA
Doug Keirn	IDOT
Julie Peterson	Jackson County
Ted Gutierrez	Jackson County Mass Transit
Cary Minnis	ERPDC
Joe Zdankiewicz	GERPDC
Tyler Carpenter	GERPDC
Margie Mitchell	GERPDC

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Greg Smothers, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. He welcomed all present.

Approval of July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 TAC Meeting Minutes

Mr. Crawford made the motion to approve the Technical Advisory Committee Minutes of July 5 Meeting as received. The motion was seconded by Mr. Guthman. The motion carried.

Approval of 2017 STU Project Application Form and Scoring Criteria

Joe discussed the Application for SIMPO STU Funding and the Project Scoring Criteria. He noted the application is essentially the same with the addition of the project readiness. At their last meeting, the Policy Committee asked that Project Readiness be added to the application for the TAC and Policy Committees to review (it is now number 8). Project readiness scoring could include Phase I Engineering, ROW Purchased, and Phase II Engineering (not started -0 points, partially complete -1 point, complete-2 points). Project readiness had been previously discussed, but never added.

Members discussed if project readiness was necessary for projects being four years out. Should there just be 1 point for each if we keep it. Some members thought project readiness should be eliminated. Comment was made to not give partial credit and only award 1 extra point for items (Phase I, Phase II and Land Acquisition) if they are totally completed, this would amount to a total of 3 extra points.

Joe noted that the full application packet will be sent to the Policy Committee in order for them to see the full applications that the TAC reviews. Joe also mentioned that No. 9 on the application gives applicants the opportunity to include any other information to help sell their project.

Mr. Guthman made a motion that the TAC recommends to not include project readiness, but if included have one point for project engineering and one point for Right-of-Way. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Joe said that the Application for STU funding will be sent out after the Policy Committee meeting with applications due in late September. The TAC will then review and score the applications. Selections should be made at the October meeting. Mr. Minnis noted that instructions in the letter being sent out will state that if the project is selected a resolution will be needed from the governing body supporting the application. The sheet for Approved STU Funds was discussed, noting there is about \$1.5 million balance which includes the funds Herrin deobligated in April.

Progress reports were given on current projects—Marion is underway; Carterville, Mayor wants West Grand finished before starting the second project; and Carbondale roundabout is being designed.

#### Other MPO Business

Joe reported working on the Bike Route Study from Carbondale to Marion. Have had stakeholder meetings and more meetings are planned. Each of the cities have expressed a willingness to maintain portions of a trail. Carterville and Crainville both stated that their residents are actively using the new trail along the frontage road. Staff from the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge have been cooperative and there is potential for a route to be identified that has support from all the local stakeholders.

The ITEP applications are due October 2. The contracts with the consultants are ready to sign as soon as the State signs the Intergovernmental Agreement. Should be receiving it soon. Question was asked about the Safe Routes to Schools that was discussed earlier. Joe said we have not started an MPO wide study for Safe Routes to School, he added that if there was a specific project that needed an application that he could complete one. Mr. Minnis said it is likely there will be some contractual funds left and may be able to fund some small projects.

September meeting will be the day after Labor Day.

#### Adjourn

Mr. Wallace made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Guthman. The meeting adjourned at 1:47 pm.