

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
(SIMPO)

MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
ON AUGUST 8, 2016  
IN MARION, ILLINOIS

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Gary Williams	City of Carbondale
Steve Frattini	City of Herrin
Robert Butler	City of Marion
Julie Peterson	Jackson County
Jim Marlo	Williamson County
Adam Lach, Proxy	Rides Mass Transit

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Betsy Tracy	FHWA
Doug Keirn	IDOT
Grant Guthman	Jackson County
Chris Wallace	City of Carbondale
Stan Hansen	Crawford, Murphy, Tilly (CMT)
Brian Eads	Crawford, Murphy, Tilly (CMT)
Cary Minnis, Executive Director	Greater Egypt
Margie Mitchell, Program Director	Greater Egypt

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Marlo, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and welcomed everyone. He asked all present to introduce themselves.

Approval of July 11<sup>th</sup> 2016 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Mr. Butler moved to approve the July 11, 2016, Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting as received. The motion was seconded by Mr. Williams. The motion carried.

Downtown Carbondale Traffic Study (CMT)

Mr. Hansen and Mr. Eads, CMT, presented information on the Carbondale Downtown Traffic Study. Mr. Hansen thanked the MPO for the opportunity to work on the Carbondale Downtown Traffic Study. They discussed the methods and findings. Copies of the report were presented to the MPO, IDOT, and to the City of Carbondale.

The study was a follow-up to the recommendation in Carbondale's Master Plan to look at the one way couple on Illinois and University and changing to a two-way street. The area studied was Illinois and University from Mill Street on the south to Willow Street on the north. The purpose was to offer better services for all modes of transportation and enhance business in Carbondale. The existing traffic and traffic projections were used. Four alternatives were considered and evaluated.

Alternative 1 was the base conditions. Leave as is.

Alternative 2 leave as one way streets with 2 lanes of traffic each way, adding enhancements, extra parking-203 spaces, improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, and a roundabout at Mill Street, 2 parcels and .05 acres

would be affected. Roundabout can't be a single lane, more studies on a roundabout would be needed. Cost could range from \$3.6 to \$3.7 million.

Alternative 3 with option of making University as U.S. 51 with 2 way traffic and just 2 lanes of traffic, would lose 150 parking spaces, 82 parcels and 2.75 acres would be affected, need 3 acres of new ROW, and affect 32 buildings. Cost could range from \$15.1 to \$18.1 million.

Alternative 4 with option of making Illinois Avenue as U.S. 51 with 2-way traffic and just 2 lanes of traffic, would lose 230 parking spaces, 110 parcels, 2.71 acres, and 57 buildings would be affected. Cost could range from \$15.2 to \$18.6 million.

Alternative 2 would improve pedestrian and bike accommodations with fewer impact on businesses. Alternatives 3 and 4 come with a high cost and both would have major impacts on businesses and parking.

It was noted that IDOT would have to be involved. Mr. Kerin noted it could be part of a long range plans.

#### Approval of STU Application Form and Scoring Criteria

Mr. Minnis noted the STU Application Form, Scoring Criteria, and a letter to be sent out with the Application Form were included in the packet. The application form and scoring criteria are the same as last year. The letter includes wording the approximate amount of funds available and there is no upper limit on the amount of funding that can be requested, however the commitment of future funds will be a consideration if the project selection. Also asking that no more than two applications be submitted and indicate your top priority. Since there is no cap on amount requested, the project costs could be spread over more than one year, with engineering and ROW one year and construction following year. September 30 is the deadline. Applications will be sent out this week.

To keep better track of the STU projects, will ask the communities for project updates at least quarterly at the Committee meeting. It was noted that the Carterville project will be let soon. This is the first MPO STU project to begin construction.

Discussed if a resolution from the community was needed stating that the local funds are available for all applications submitted or for the ones that are selected. Need to know that the community has funds on hand for the local share of the project. It was decided to request resolutions for the projects selected. It was noted that project readiness is no longer a scoring criteria. Smaller communities probably don't have the funds to conduct the engineering and procure the ROW as some larger communities. Project for small community projects could be in multi-year phases.

Ms. Peterson moved to approve Application for STU Funding, STU Project Scoring Criteria, and the Letter as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Butler. The motion carried.

#### Other MPO Business

Mr. Minnis reported we received the IDOT Intergovernmental Agreement, signed it and sent back to IDOT for their signature. Haven't received the signed copy from the State.

The Lochmueller Group was selected to conduct the Transit Study, contract is ready, but won't sign until the signed Intergovernmental Agreement is received. Hopefully we will have within a week.

The Intergovernmental Agreement includes the 20% local match from the State. We are still waiting for the payments for last year. All were approved in the stop-gap budget.

A press release on the Carterville letting will be sent out noting it is an MPO project. We are proud of the studies that have been completed by the MPO.

#### Adjourn

Ms. Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lach. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.