

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)

MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
ON APRIL 11, 2016
IN MARION, ILLINOIS

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Chris Wallace	City of Carbondale
Brad Robinson	City of Carterville
Steve Frattini	City of Herrin
Ron Mitchell	Village of Crainville
Julie Peterson	Jackson County
Jim Marlo	Williamson County
Bill Jung	Rides Mass Transit

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Betsy Tracy (by phone)	FHWA
Doug Keirn	IDOT
Larry Piche	IDOT
Cary Minnis, Executive Director	Greater Egypt
Joe Zdankiewicz, Director of Transportation Planning	Greater Egypt
Margie Mitchell, Program Director	Greater Egypt

Welcome and Introductions

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

Approval of March 14th , 2016 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Mr. Frattini moved to approve the March 14, 2016, Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting as received. The motion was seconded by Ms. Peterson. The motion carried.

SIMPO FY 2016-2019 TIP Amendments #9, #10, #11, #12

Mr. Zdankiewicz requested the Committee to approve the TIP amendments. They are all State Projects. Mr. Keirn said Amendment #9 was for ADA Ramps at IL 37 and Old Route 13 in Marion and also ramps in Johnston City and Benton. Amendment #10 is to resurface Route 13 from IL 148 to Skyline Drive (moved from FY 2018 to FY 2017). Amendment #11 is for a Restricted Access U-Turn intersection improvement at Old Rt. 13 and Norman Road in Marion. Amendment #12 is for Railroad Crossing Improvements on IL 148 in Herrin between Cherry and Walnut Street.

Mr. Frattini moved to approve 2016-2019 TIP Amendments #9, #10, #11, and #12. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robinson. The motion carried.

Approve Payment of Bills

Joe requested approval of the The i5 Group invoice in the amount of \$7,062.25. The group is working on the Carbondale Bike Plan. They met with the Advisory Committee last week. The draft Bike Plan is out for public

review and comment. The final report is expected to be submitted in May. Mr. Wallace noted a few comments were received at the meeting last week.

Mr. Jung made a motion to approve paying the i5 Group invoice in the amount of \$7,062.25. The motion was seconded by Ms. Peterson. The motion carried.

SIMPO FY 2017 to FY 2020 Preliminary SIMPO TIP

Joe said the TIP is a summary of scheduled projects prepared annually and updated as needed. The projects in yellow are the new projects. Mr. Keirn said this is pretty much what the State program is doing. It was noted that the draft TIP will be posted for public comments before the final is adopted. Mr. Wallace asked about the Grand Avenue roundabout. Should it be added? It does need to be shown.

Mr. Jung made a motion to approve the FY 2017-2020 Preliminary Draft TIP and add the Carbondale Grand Avenue Roundabout to the list. The motion was seconded by Ms. Peterson. The motion carried.

SIMPO FY 2017 Preliminary Draft UPWP

Joe noted the UPWP outlines the planning work for FY 2017. The Contractual Services includes the Transit Study that was recently approved and additional studies if funding permits and approved by the Policy Committee. In-house staff will complete the East/West Corridor Study, pursue safety analysis as requested, and any other special studies requested. This is the Draft UPWP for FY 2017.

Mr. Minnis noted the State has been paying the 20% match for the MPO funds. Currently the State owes the Commission \$31,326 for FY 2016 MPO match. We will get the funds eventually. We are depending on the State match for FY 2017, if not included in the appropriations we will need to ask for additional funds from the members. As per the Intergovernmental Agreement, a total of 3 1/2 % of total budget, or about \$9,000, will again be requested from members for the Fiscal Year 2017.

The RFQ for the transit study is ready to send out, but staff has been reluctant to send, as the match for the study would be about \$20,000. To keep on schedule, staff will probably issue the RFQ and select a firm pending receipt of funding. This is an important study for the MPO.

Mr. Jung made a motion to approve the SIMPO FY 2017 Preliminary Draft UPWP. The motion was seconded by Ms. Peterson. The motion carried.

East/West Corridor Study

Joe noted that the public meeting was held in March, with about 20 people in attendance. Comments received were favorable. Both the Herrin Road and Crenshaw Road were analyzed. A draft report is completed and was sent to the Technical Advisory Committee. The draft report includes existing conditions, an inventory of ADT, horizontal and vertical alignment and structures, crash data (5% segments and intersections), right of way and utilities. Analysis and comparison used 3R standards on existing alignment and new construction/reconstruction standards for any improvements on new alignment. Herrin Road corridor already meets a much higher standard and seems to be the more favorable route as an east/west corridor. Comments were made regarding extension of the corridor to the west, south of Walkers Bluff and connecting to Reed Station and Vaughn Road. Some preliminary environmental work was done when applying for the HUD grant. There were no endangered species; there are some wetlands and floodplains. The report is currently about 80% complete, should finish by the end of the Fiscal Year.

Mr. Minnis noted the comment had been made about extending the corridor to west to Route 51. See a real need for the road for people in Williamson County. Need feedback on how road would benefit Jackson County residents. This extension is not included in the study, but needs to be looked at.

Mr. Piche noted the road would have economic impact for Jackson County. The Airport is establishing a tech park and the road would have a direct connection to the Interstate. The Airport is the 3rd busiest airport in the State of Illinois. The road would have an economic impact and a lot of opportunity for Jackson County and it would be heavily traveled.

Joe requested comments from the Technical Advisory Committee regarding the general recommendations. If Policy Committee members would like a draft copy of the report, let him know. Comments would be appreciated.

Other MPO Business

Mr. Jung invited those present to look at Rides new bus that was just received. It is in the parking lot.

Joe noted that the Safety projects applications are due June 15. If anyone needs assistance in preparing an application, staff will be glad to help. The Illinois Transportation Enhancements Program (ITEP) applications are due June 17. Staff can supply a copy of the application if needed.

Mr. Piche gave an update regarding new programming restrictions. Need to make sure the total cost estimates are correct, Local Roads cannot cover 25% overruns anymore, if the project goes over the estimate by 10%, funds would have to be taken out of another project or the project would be rolled over to the next year. Make sure estimates are correct, Local Roads no longer has the flexibility to cover overruns. If an MPO project, make sure the estimates are correct.

Mr. Minnis mentioned reestablishing the Comprehensive Regional Planning Fund (CRPF). These funds have been in the IDOT budget for the last 5 years. The Chicago MPO is working with their legislators to have these funds put back in the State's General Fund. These funds are used to match the MPO. It is not new money. It would benefit the Commission and MPO if the Funds were in the General Fund. The Chicago MPO wanted to know if we are willing to add our name to the letter to support this bill. The bill is in the Senate and House that would add these funds to the State's General Fund.

Mr. Keirn asked about having the TIP numbers of the projects be sequential, such as Carbondale projects to be numbered 1 through whatever. The numbering system was discussed. Should we keep the same number when moving from one FY to another? It makes no difference to MPO staff.

Adjourn

Mr. Jung made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robinson. The meeting adjourned at 1:48 pm.