

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)

MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
ON MARCH 13, 2017
IN MARION, ILLINOIS

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Brad Robinson	City of Carterville
Steve Frattini	City of Herrin
Julie Peterson	Jackson County
Ron Ellis	Williamson County
Bill Jung	Rides Mass Transit

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Curtis Jones	IDOT
Doug Keirn	IDOT
Dustin Riechmann	Lochmueller Group
Michael Grovak (by phone)	Lochmueller Group
Cary Minnis	Greater Egypt
Joe Zdankiewicz	Greater Egypt
Margie Mitchell	Greater Egypt

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Ellis, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm and welcomed everyone. He asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Approval of February 13th, 2017 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Ms. Peterson moved to approve the February 13th 2017, Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting as received. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jung. The motion carried.

Transit Study Update

Mr. Zdankiewicz requested the Transit Study Update be moved up to first on the agenda to accommodate Lochmueller staff since they need to travel after the meeting. He introduced Mr. Reichmann to present the update. He reported that two weeks ago they had met with the stakeholders (employers, health care, government, education). The Transit Districts were also present. Also had a public meeting at SIU during the day and at the Marion Pavilion that evening. Met with Man-Tra-Con today. Conducted an on-line survey and received several replies. Rides and staff have helped get responses.

Question was asked when rides are available. People need to know who and when to call. Need outreach to seniors. People are picked up at their homes are taken to destinations and then picked up and taken back home. There are some designated pick-up places. There are routes in and out of Carterville.

Mr. Grovak noted that over 95% of the Saluki Express operating expenses are covered by the students and a small amount by the City of Carbondale. SIU needs to be included in the National Transit base in some fashion. In reorganization of services, student fees could go down or services could be enhanced if the targets for Small Transit Intensive Cities (STIC) can be met.

Amount spent in the service area is about \$3.5 million on transit including state, federal and local funds. STIC funding has the potential to be as much as \$1.2 million, which would allow the level of services to be improved.

5307 Transit Funding Split for FY-2018

No action was taken on this agenda item. The three transit providers are currently in discussions to develop a cooperative agreement for services that will affect the funding splits. Action on the funding split letter should be delayed until the cooperative agreement is finalized. A complicating factor in the agreement is that FTA doesn't recognize SIU as a government entity that can receive transit funding. Bill Jung believes that this can be accommodated in the agreement.

SIMPO FY 2017-2020 TIP Amendment #4 & #5

Joe noted the TIP Amendments need to be added to the 2017-2020, they are IDOT projects. Extra IDOT funds are available.

Amendment #4 is to resurface #Old Illinois Route 13 from IL 148 to North Pentecost Drive west of Marion. Amendment #5 is to resurface IL 13/127-149, IL 149 east of 5th Street to North of N. 16th St/IL 149 in Murphysboro. This is a section in front of the hospital.

A motion was made by Mr. Jung and seconded by Mr. Robinson to approve Amendment #4 to the 2017-2020 TIP. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Jung and seconded by Mr. Robinson to approve Amendment #5 to the 2017-2020 TIP. The motion carried.

SIMPO FY 2017-2020 TIP Administrative Action

Joe noted that the Cambria Road Resurfacing from Herrin Road to Illinois 13 will be moved from FY 2019 to FY 2018. TARP funding is being added and STR funding is being revised. No action is necessary.

FY 2018 SIMPO Draft UPWP

Joe said the UPWP included in the packet identified contractual work--Intelligent Transportation Study of the IL Route 13 Corridor, will assess the traffic signals and make recommendations for improvements, equipment can be updated and information will be available to local communities; the Marion Study for a pedestrian overpass at IL 13 and Ray Fosse Park; and if funds are left over for the Safe Routes to Schools. In-house studies include: Completing the Reed Station Road to US 51 Corridor study; Complete a Bike Plan Study from Carbondale to Marion; various local HSIP analysis and applications; various grant applications; Traffic Counts as we now have a traffic camera; and other special studies as needed. The budget is included and is a bit higher than the current year. It is anticipated that the State will pick up the matching share of the budget.

Mr. Minnis noted staff is preparing the Intergovernmental Agreement between the State and SIMPO for funding. We will again be requesting local share from the members to have available if the State at some point does not pick up the match for the Federal Funds. We request about \$9,000 per year. When we accumulate one year's local share, \$52,000, we will stop requesting local funds.

SIMPO STU Projects Status Update and Funding/SIMPO FY 2018-2021 TIP

Joe noted that the current Draft TIP is essentially the same as last year's, minus the 2017 projects. Joe reported Carbondale's STU project is on schedule (no one from Carbondale was present). Carterville project is on schedule. The Marion STU project just selected is included in FY 2021. Joe asked for comments. Mayor Frattini, Herrin, talked about Herrin's project listed in FY 2020 and requested that the funds be deobligated until the City can fund their matching share. Mayor Frattini stated that Herrin will not be able to fund their match for the project for an indefinite period of time so the money should be made available for allocation to other projects. The Mayor would like for the project to retain its status as an approved project and funding reallocated in the first available STU cycle after Herrin can fulfill the local funding match. Mayor Frattini made a motion to deobligate the funding with the project retaining its status as an approved STU project. However, the Intergovernmental Agreement requires that any changes in STU funding be approved by a super-majority vote. A super majority was not present at the meeting, therefore; Mayor Frattini rescinded his motion and no action was taken.

Question was asked if the funds could be used for another project. Will have to work with IDOT Local Roads to determine how much of these funds will be available when next year's STU projects are submitted. Selection will probably at the November meeting.

Joe asked for any comments on the TIP before the next meeting.

Reed Station Road to US 51 Study Update

Joe reported that the public meeting was held on February 14 with about 25 people in attendance. Four alternatives were presented. There was also an online survey. The online survey results: Is there a need for a new or improved corridor from Reed Station to US 51—yes 5, no-2. Is a new roadway corridor desirable or focus on improving existing roadways: New corridor-4; Improve existing corridor-3. Which Corridor is best for implementation: Fox Farm-2; Airport Road-2; Dillinger Road-2; North Reed Station-1. Received 8 written responses- supportive comments-6; 2 negative comments; 4 comments favoring Airport Road; 1 comment favoring improvements to Dillinger road; 1 comment favoring the Fox Farm Road alternative. Two commenters expressed concerns that the primary purpose of the road was to benefit Walkers Bluff. Copies of the written comments were circulated for members to review. Joe stated that if anyone wanted an electronic copy of the comments to let him know and he would send a PDF via email. The map of the Alternatives was included in the packet. Public involvement in the prior study was one reason for the continued study. It may be a good idea to have a long range plan and a short range plan that focuses on improvements to existing roads.

Carbondale to Murphysboro Bike Plan Final Report

Joe reported the Bike Study is completed and the recommended route is along Route 13. IDOT will put in a culvert to cross under the highway; this is an integral part of the plan. Jackson County, Carbondale and Murphysboro will participate in the local share to match IDOT funds. The route will be on the south side of Route 13 from Carbondale to the culvert and then cross over to the north side into Murphysboro. This will be a very nice bike route when complete. The Plan is ready to adopt.

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mr. Jung to accept the Carbondale to Murphysboro Bike Plan. The motion carried.

Mr. Minnis noted this is the first SIMPO study to progress to a construction project. Carbondale received funding in the last ITEP funding cycle for a bike path from New Era Road to Oakland Avenue. Completion of this route should compete very well in future ITEP funding cycles.

Other MPO Business

Mr. Minnis noted that in the past several communities have received DRA funds. The 2017 funding cycle is now open, if anyone knows of a potential project, let staff know. Two years ago Energy received over \$300,000 to upgrade College Street from Rt. 148 to the Village limits.

Mr. Minnis noted a response to the letter to IDOT asking them to review HSIP funding policy to allow certain types of local projects the opportunity to compete for local HSIP funding hasn't been received. The letter was sent regarding the Herrin Downtown Safety application submitted.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mr. Jung to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.