

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)
MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
ON March 06, 2023

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Travis Emery	Williamson County
Doug Phillips	City of Marion
Molly Maxwell	City of Carbondale
John Crawford (Zoom)	City of Carterville
Adam Lach	RIDES

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Doug Keirn	IDOT
Jay Kranz (Zoom)	IDOT
Tom Caldwell	IDOT
Betsy Tracy (Zoom)	FHWA
Michael Ziarnek	SIMPO
Cary Minnis	GERPDC
Abra Phillips	GERPDC

Welcome and Introductions

Travis Emery, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. and welcomed all present. A roll call was taken.

Approval of the February 06, 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Crawford to approve the Technical Advisory Committee minutes of the February 06, 2023 meeting (included in handout). The motion carried.

Consultant Studies Update/Payment of Bills

The following FY-23 Consultant Studies were discussed:

- Bikeway Map & Route Study – Jackson & Williamson Counties – FY23 (Bacon Farmer Workman Engineering & Testing Inc.) - the consultant has billed \$30,000.00 (includes bill to be approved today) to date with \$30,000.00 remaining. The buildout of a bikeway map continues (utilizing GIS data provided by Carbondale and Marion) and development of the map is virtually complete. The consultant met with SIMPO staff to review and discuss map development, provide updates to the original GIS data, and discuss the next steps in the study.
- East Grand Ave Bike, Pedestrian, & Motor Vehicle Study – FY23 (Oates Associates) – the consultant has billed \$22,158.50 (includes bill to be approved today) to date with \$27,841.50 remaining. The determination of feasibility of the potential configuration continues and the online public engagement survey is underway.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Station Needs Study - FY-23 (Walker Consultants) - the consultant has billed \$19,100.80 (includes bill to be approved today) to date with \$40,899.20 remaining. Grant research and plan/strategy approaches continue. Stakeholder interviews continue, the consultants met with Ameren and had a very productive meeting. Research continues on traffic volumes, demand analysis, and potential sites. The consultant is also developing background and current conditions sections within the report.

There are three bills to be approved today (included in handout):

1. Bikeway Map & Route Study – Bacon Farmer Workman: Inv #41343 - \$9,000.00
2. East Grand Ave Multi-Modal Study – Oates Associates: Inv #36622 - \$6,425.50
3. Electric Vehicle Charging Station Needs Study – Walker Consultants: Inv #310095610002 - \$10,147.30

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve payment of the bills listed above. The motion carried.

TIP Modification #20 (Amendment)

This is for the IL 148 streetscape and pedestrian safety project in Herrin. It was already on the TIP but the funding for a little over \$1.5 million has been approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve TIP Modification #20. The motion carried.

TIP Modification #21 (Amendment)

This is for the Preliminary engineering at Pleasant Hill Road in Carbondale. This amendment was previously tabled for more information about funding sources from Jay Kranz. It has now been updated to include a correction to the funding (\$100K STU ; \$25K Local).

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Phillips to forward this amendment to the Policy Committee with the correction to funding. The motion carried.

Statewide Planning & Research (SPR) Call for Projects

The SPR call for projects is due in about a month and has around \$7 million total funding available. Mike will be attending a related webinar on March 15th and working on applying. Eventually SIMPO is expected to be disbanded, and at that point we will be taking a “Greater Egypt” approach to include all 5 counties in SPR funding. The major difference with the STU funding once we are disbanded will be that it will no longer be pooled together, and instead would go to each entity separately. Transit announced that a formal letter from FTA Region 5 has been received stating that transit will be adjusted from urban to rural.

FY-2023 SIMPO Planning Study Application (DSATS360 / Google Streetview)

The Dekalb legal teams have not released the DSAT manual yet, so this study is at a standstill for now. Mr. Emery mentioned that he has had discussions with the City of Marion regarding an increase in traffic on South Market St and they would like to do a corridor study between Boynton and Cochran that would likely cost around \$75K. The City of Carbondale is also interested in doing a public transit study to determine where stops and things like that would be needed. This has been done in the past, but it's been a while and might be due for an update. Project ideas are actually due today, however, we are a bit behind, so Cary urged members to have something in by the end of this month so that we can take action at next month's meeting.

Illinois Healthy MPO Learning Collaborative

The meet and greet for this was kicked off the same day as the Illinois Bike Infrastructure Project and Mike and Kelsey Bowe attended both and shared information, the next meeting will be on March 22, 2023 and Mike will be attending and reporting back.

FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Update

The draft copy is available on the Greater Egypt site, yellow highlighted items are pending more information and Mike is sending the draft to Tom Caldwell after today's meeting.

Other MPO Business

- Doug Keirn mentioned that we need to start considering the FY24-27 TIP and adjust as needed. The draft was sent around 1.5 weeks ago and there are projects on the June letting that still need to be put in. He asked Tom Caldwell if the TIP would still be utilized after the MPO gets

disbanded and Mr. Caldwell confirmed that it doesn't really expire. Mr. Keirn plans to get the changes/additions in tomorrow so they can be included.

- Betsy Tracy reminded all that the public involvement process must be followed when adding things to the TIP.
- Molly Maxwell inquired about the HSIP, she did not receive a notification but it's on the website that they received it, others have received notice already and Jay Kranz said that it's ready to go but needs to be on the TIP.
- Voting and being considered as part of the quorum via Zoom will no longer be allowed as of May 11, 2023. Beyond that date, we must have an in-person quorum to vote. There is legislation pending to approve voting via Zoom indefinitely, but it has not passed yet.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Phillips to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm.