

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)

MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
ON March 13, 2023
IN MARION, ILLINOIS

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Julie Peterson	Jackson County
Tim Atkisson	Williamson County
Gary Williams (Zoom)	City of Carbondale
Brad Robinson (Zoom)	City of Carterville
Ron Mitchell (Zoom)	Village of Crainville
Adam Lach	RIDES
Shawn Freeman	Jackson County Mass Transit

Others Present:

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

Welcome and Introductions

Julie Peterson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm and welcomed all present.

Approval of the January 9, 2023 and February 13, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Atkisson to approve the January 9, 2023 and February 13, 2023 Policy Committee meeting minutes as presented in the 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 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 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 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 were three bills approved at last week's TAC meeting (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

TIP Modification #19 (Amendment)

This TIP modification comes from Molly Maxwell at Carbondale. The construction engineering costs were revised to reflect 10% of reconstruction costs. This project involves STU funding and requires a super majority to vote, which we do not have at today's meeting, so it is being tabled for next month's meeting.

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. Atkisson 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). This project is funded with STU dollars, and we do not have a super majority in order to vote, so it is being tabled for next month's meeting.

FY2024 Metropolitan Planning Budget Update

We are getting a little more than expected for FY2024. The total budget is \$415,819 and there will be \$218,000 for consultant studies and there is also money budgeted for the Google Street View in-house project.

Illinois Healthy MPO Learning Collaborative

Mike Ziarnik and Kelsey Bowe attended 5 webinars over the past month and the next meeting for this is on March 22, 2023. Mike will be attending and reporting back at next month's meeting.

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

The Dekalb legal teams have not released the DSAT manual yet, so this study is at a standstill for now. Mr. Emery submitted an application on behalf of Williamson County and the City of Marion for a corridor study between Boyton and Cochran in Marion that is estimated to cost around \$75K.

A motion was made by Mr. Atkisson and seconded by Mr. Lach to approve this application. The motion carried.

FY2024 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 sent the draft to Tom Caldwell after last week's TAC meeting.

Other MPO Business

- Mike Ziarnek and Kelsey Bowe attended a pre-launch webinar for the IDOT bicycle facility inventory system.
- RIDES Mass Transit is offering \$1 rides on their new fixed routes Wildcat service, more information and a schedule is posted on www.ridesmtd.com.
- The American Planning Association – Illinois Chapter is offering pro bono planning services. If anyone is interested, please contact Mike and he will give you the contact information.
- Cary Minnis referred to the statewide planning and research funds document included in the handout and announced that Greater Egypt plans to apply and will be including all 5 counties.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Atkisson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m.