

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)
MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING ON April 03, 2023

Members Present:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Agency</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Travis Emery | Williamson County |
| Mitch Burdick | Jackson County |
| John Crawford (Zoom) | City of Carterville |
| Carrie Nelsen (Zoom) | IDOT D9 |
| Adam Lach | RIDES |

Others Present:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Agency</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Doug Keirn | IDOT |
| Jay Kranz | IDOT |
| Tom Caldwell | IDOT |
| Michael Vanderhoof (Zoom) | IDOT |
| Brandon Geber (Zoom) | IDOT |
| Michael Ziarnek | SIMPO |
| Cary Minnis | GERPDC |
| Abra Phillips | GERPDC |
| Kelsey Bowe | GERPDC |

Welcome and Introductions

Travis Emery, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and welcomed all present. A roll call was taken.

Approval of the March 06, 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Crawford and seconded by Mr. Burdick to approve the Technical Advisory Committee minutes of the March 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 \$36,000.00 (includes bill to be approved today) to date with \$24,000.00 remaining. The buildout of a bikeway map continues, including adding infrastructure (bike racks, etc.).
- East Grand Ave Bike, Pedestrian, & Motor Vehicle Study – FY23 (Oates Associates) – the consultant has billed \$24,106.50 (includes bill to be approved today) to date with \$25,893.50 remaining. The consultant is working on developing potential future conditions, including forward looking metrics and roadway reconfiguration.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Station Needs Study - FY-23 (Walker Consultants) - the consultant has billed \$26,860.50 (includes bill to be approved today) to date with \$33,139.50 remaining. The section of grant research and plan/strategy approach in the initial report is complete. The consultant organized interviews with Ameren and with Gary Kinsel from SIUC. Research continues on traffic volumes, demand analysis, and potential sites. They are also working on

concluding the background/current conditions sections of the report. Andrew of Walker Consultants attended the National EV Summit Expo on March 29-31, 2023.

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

1. Bikeway Map & Route Study – Bacon Farmer Workman: Inv #41533 - \$6,000.00
2. East Grand Ave (Carbondale) Study – Oates Associates: Inv #36839 - \$1,948.00
3. EV Charging Station Needs Study – Walker Consultants: Inv #310095610003 - \$7,759.70

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 #22, #23, and #24 (Amendments)

The following projects are requested to be added to the TIP via amendment:

#22: State Project - Standard resurfacing on IL 13 from East of Sinclair to West of IL 37 in Marion

A motion was made by Mr. Burdick and seconded by Mr. Lach to approve TIP Modification #22. The motion carried.

#23: State Project - Standard resurfacing on IL 13 from Crab Orchard Creek in Marion to the Saline County Line (Westbound only)

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Burdick to approve TIP Modification #23. The motion carried.

#24: City of Carbondale - Preliminary Engineering, Construction Engineering, and Construction on South Wall Street from Park Street to Walnut Street.

A motion was made by Mr. Burdick and seconded by Mr. Lach to approve TIP Modification #24. The motion carried.

FY2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Update

A draft copy of the Fiscal Year 2024 UPWP has been updated and posted to the Greater Egypt/SIMPO website.

IDOT Complete Streets / SS4A Match Waiver Fund Proposal

Mike referenced the email in the packet from Brandon Geber of IDOT and had him explain the proposal to the group. The proposal involves IDOT administering match-waivered federal planning funds for Complete Streets / SS4A at the State level rather than providing individual suballocations. IDOT feels that this approach would resolve a lot of the issues surrounding allocating the limited amount of funding and a chart is provided in the email. They would like to know if this approach is agreeable to our MPO and urged members to speak up/contact them with questions and give their opinion.

Statewide Planning & Research (SPR) Call for Projects Update

Mr. Minnis reminded the group that FY24 is the last round of MPO funding, and we need to start getting SPR funding for all 5 counties and other grants. Starting in FY25, we plan to have funding from different sources following loss of STU funds. Mr. Vanderhoof and Mr. Geber from IDOT mentioned that individual urban areas within the current planning area boundaries of SIMPO will still get STU allocations due to their urban area classification (Marion-Herrin & Carbondale-Murphysboro) and asked what the group would like to see happen with post-FY24 projects. Mr. Vanderhoof will be reaching out to discuss the impact on transit. Mr. Burdick asked if there was anything we can do to make the transition easier. Mr. Geber advised us to try to establish cooperation between the different communities now and Mr. Minnis suggested getting allocation formulas calculated and distributed. Mr. Minnis also noted that we can still choose to continue working as we have, just with different allocations. He also inquired about the Urban Area Split and Mr. Geber said he would do some research and get back to him on that.

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

Williamson County and Marion have submitted a joint application that was approved at the last Policy Committee meeting. It is for a traffic study in Marion on South Market Street and will cost around \$75K. The Dekalb legal teams have not released the DSAT Google Street View manual yet, so the local 'SIMPO Street View' project remains at a standstill for now.

Illinois Healthy MPO Learning Collaborative

Mike informed the group that he has compiled all of the information sent from the Active Transportation Alliance to MPO staff, including active links to multiple resources, into today's meeting packet. Please contact Mike with any questions.

Other MPO Business

- The State of Illinois is in the process of kicking off Walk Roll Illinois, an Active Transportation Plan (ATP) to make accommodations to improve conditions for all users.
- IDOT is holding a round of Special Programs Assistance Conferences this summer starting in May. The dates for our area are May 3rd and 4th at John A Logan College in Carterville.
- ITEP announcements are still waiting on finalization from the governor, but should be out soon.
- IDOT's bike map is on the web and is expected to be active within the next couple of days.
- The RIDES fixed route has been successful and is going smooth so far.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Burdick to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 2:11 pm.