

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)

MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
ON April 10, 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
Steve Frattini (Zoom)	City of Herrin
Carrie Nelsen (Zoom)	IDOT
Adam Lach	RIDES

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Doug Keirn	IDOT
Jay Kranz	IDOT
Tom Caldwell	IDOT
Brandon Geber	IDOT
Michael Ziarnik	SIMPO/Greater Egypt
Cary Minnis	Greater Egypt
Abra Phillips	Greater Egypt

Welcome and Introductions

Julie Peterson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:06 pm and welcomed all present.

Approval of the March 13, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Atkisson and seconded by Mr. Lach to approve the March 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 (BFW) - the consultant has billed \$36,000.00 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 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 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 were three bills approved at last week's TAC meeting (included in handout):

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

TIP Modification #19, 21, 22, 23, and 24 (Amendments)

#19: This is for the Carbondale project of reconstruction and construction engineering for New Era Rd from Airport Rd to Glenn Rd. 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.

#21: This is for the Preliminary engineering at Pleasant Hill Road in Carbondale. 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.

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. Lach and seconded by Mr. Atkisson 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. Atkisson and seconded by Mr. Lach 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. Frattini and seconded by Mr. Atkisson to approve TIP Modification #24. The motion carried.

FY2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Update

The draft copy is available on the Greater Egypt site and we are seeking public comments. Highlighted areas are pending amounts/more information. Mike urged members to email him with and questions/comments.

IDOT Complete Streets / SS4A Match Waiver Fund Proposal

Brandon Geber is here from IDOT to explain this proposal to the group. It 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. All members present seem to approve this method.

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. We currently only have 1 consultant study so there will be some remainder reserved to cover staff or more studies, but are waiting on more information from IDOT before assigning the funds anywhere. After FY24, we plan to operate as a rural transportation planning organization utilizing IDOT SPR funds.

Some areas in the MPO will be split into 2 “urban buckets” (Marion-Herrin-Carterville-Crainville & Carbondale-Murphysboro) and will still be able to receive STU funding.

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

Williamson County and Marion have submitted a joint application that was approved at last month’s Policy Committee meeting. This is 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

This is a joint effort with the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Department of Transportation. Mike and Kelsey Bowe have been attending mtgs and webinars that give a very comprehensive look at public health and transportation.

Other MPO Business

- Julie Peterson asked Adam Lach about the Mass Transit status and he said they just need to finish getting the apportionments out and will get the split letter out after they have all been received
- Mike announced that The IDOT Bike Transportation Plan has been rebranded to “Walk Roll Illinois” and more information, including who to contact is included in today’s packet.
- The Small Business Innovations Research Program’s power point presentations and recordings of the meeting addressing mini roundabouts is available. If anyone needs/wants to see it, please reach out to Mike Ziarnek.
- IDOT has a Special Assistance Conference coming up on May 3rd and 4th. Jay Kranz highly recommends that anyone interested in these programs attend.
- Carrie Nelsen announced that IDOT District 9 has received \$30 million for a \$48 million freight program to add lanes to I57 starting South of Marion to I24. It is anticipated to begin in FY25.
- West Frankfort will be reconstructing their IL 149 / I57 interchange into a split diamond. Carrie Nelsen believes that the project is around 2-3 years out.
- Fort Massac is getting a new building and an expansion of their truck parking area.
- The Shawnee town port is getting new access to the Newport District.
- IDOT updates for April 2023 are available and there are imbedded links in today’s packet.

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 1:49 p.m.