

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)
MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
ON August 07, 2023

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Travis Emery	Williamson County
Molly Maxwell	City of Carbondale
Doug Phillips	City of Marion
Adam Lach	RIDES
Jay Kranz	IDOT

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Doug Keirn	IDOT
Tom Caldwell	IDOT
Michael Ziarnek	SIMPO
Cary Minnis	GERPDC
Abra Phillips	GERPDC

Welcome and Introductions

Travis Emery, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed all present. A roll call was taken and a quorum is present.

Approval of the July 03, 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve the Technical Advisory Committee minutes of the July 03, 2023 meeting (included in handout). The motion carried.

Consultant Studies Update/Payment of Bills

The following FY-23 Consultant Studies were discussed and Mike announced that this is the final update for the FY-23 studies:

- East Grand Ave Bike, Pedestrian, & Motor Vehicle Study – FY23 (Oates Associates) – the consultant has billed \$50,000.00 (including the final bill to be approved today), the entire amount of the contract. The final report has been posted to the SIMPO website (link in packet), and the HSIP grant application documents have been delivered to the City of Carbondale. This project is complete and Molly Maxwell reported that she is happy with the final product and it will be a good base for future projects.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Station Needs Study - FY-23 (Walker Consultants) - the consultant has billed \$59,690 (includes 2 bills to be approved today) to date with \$310.00 remaining. They do not plan to bill for the remaining balance. The draft copy of the final report was received on 7/31/2023 and review is underway. So far, there is nothing objectionable within the draft and it is available for TAC members and uploaded to the Greater Egypt/SIMPO website for public access.

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

1. East Grand Ave (Carbondale) Study – Oates Associates: Inv #37478 - \$6,449.00
2. EV Charging Needs Study – Walker Consultants: Inv#310095610006 - \$5,372.10
3. EV Charging Needs Study – Walker Consultants: Inv#310095610007 - \$11,938.00

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

TIP FY2024-2027 Modification #03 (Amendment)

This is for a new HSIP project being added to the TIP. It is a state project on IL 148 for roundabout construction on IL 148 and Old IL 13 west of Marion. Doug Keirn mentioned that they are currently having ROW issues with the refuge.

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve adding this project to the FY2024-2027 TIP. The motion carried.

South Market Street (Marion) Study Selection Committee Results

Mike explained to the group that we received 5 SOQs for this project, and that Horner & Shifrin scored the highest.

A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Lach to recommend to the Policy Committee that Horner & Shifrin be awarded the contract. The motion carried.

Energy.gov (Livewire Data Platform)

Mike referred to the page in the handout regarding Energy.gov and pointed out the link for members to explore the forward-thinking transportation technology (i.e., Electric Vehicles) within the site.

Accessibility Reports (Auto, Bike, & Transit)

Tom Caldwell forwarded three reports that were completed for the state of Illinois by the Accessibility Observatory at the University of Minnesota.

Safe Routes to School / Safe Routes Partnership

Mike referred to IDOT Circular Letter 2023-24 and requested members to contact him if they'd like a copy or had questions. He also noted that there is no local match due to IDOT using HSIP funds to cover the 20%. Jay Kranz reminded the group that there are webinars related to this on 8/23/23 and 9/20/23.

MPO Learning Collaborative

Links and other information are in today's packet. This concentrates on the Economic Benefits of Walking and Biking Infrastructure. The final session is on 9/20/23.

E-bikes Fact Sheet (FHWA-HEP-23-032)

This is included within the packet for informative purposes.

Other MPO Business

- Mike pointed out the 2 pages within the handout referring to the benefits of walkable streets
- Missouri's EV ownership increased by 78%.
- Argon National Laboratory and JD Power are collaborating to do more with EV marketing and infrastructure.
- The MPO FY24 agreement has been finalized.
- We've submitted SPR applications and feel that they'll be funded. The two applications are centered on bike planning for Murphysboro, Carterville, Cambria, Crainville, Herrin, DuQuoin, Pinckneyville, and West Frankfort.
- Cary Minnis urged members to come up with more studies that we can do this fiscal year.
- Mike is hopeful that IDOT gives the thumbs up to do the SS4A (Safe Streets and Roads for All) comprehensive safety action plans from a regional approach/perspective.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Lach to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.