

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

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Mitch Burdick	Jackson County
Molly Maxwell	City of Carbondale
Adam Lach	RIDES
Jay Kranz	IDOT

Others Present:

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

Welcome and Introductions

Mitch Burdick, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. and welcomed all present. It was noted that a quorum is present.

Approval of the October 2, 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Burdick to approve the Technical Advisory Committee minutes of the October 02, 2023 meeting (included in handout). The motion carried.

TIP FY2024-2027 Modification #15 (Administrative)

This modification moves Carbondale's Saluki Greenway Multi-Use Trail Construction project from FY26 to FY24. It is an administrative action, so no vote is required.

South Market Street – Marion: Project Update

Mike explained that the Army Corp of Engineers is doing some extensive hydraulic modeling at Crab Orchard Creek to evaluate flooding in Marion, and it will be an intensive effort over months of work. Preliminary models indicate that the published FEMA flow rates have been greatly underestimated from the actual flow rates. Work is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2024. Joe Zdankiewicz and Travis Emery both thought it would be best to hold off on jumping in with both feet but will still be doing the work that they can do outside of the work that Army Corp of Engineers is doing.

Draft RFQ – Safe Routes to Schools Plan: Revised/Updated RFQ

The Policy Committee approved the draft with revisions and Mike explained the updates to the TAC. Work has been extended to October 31, 2024 and billings within that time frame can still be invoiced afterwards. The RFQ will go out for advertisement today.

Williamson County Community Wildfire Protection Plan: Notice of Planning Activities

Kelsey Bowe explained that the Environmental Department at Greater Egypt received a forest service grant to write a plan for Williamson County. The scope of work for this project is to identify evacuation routes and safety improvement suggestions. A similar grant has also been submitted for Jackson County but award status is still unknown at this point.

#### SIMPO TIP App Update

Mike shared the link on screen for the group and noted that it's also available on the website.

#### Medium and Heavy-Duty EV Deployment: Data Collection

Mike referred to the handout and noted that the link for this is included. He announced that Illinois is #2 in the US for Electric Vehicle Deployment.

#### IDOT 'For the Record' Update

Mike referred to the memo from IDOT (in today's handout) and explained that it reports the accomplishments related to the FY2023 Highway Improvement Program and pointed out that the link for more information is in the handout.

#### Other MPO Business

- Mike announced that the state of Ohio is leading the nation for NEVI (National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure) plans.
- On November 1, 2023 it was announced on WSIL Radio that the next round of EV rebate for Illinois residents is currently open.
- Mitch Burdick announced that due to the schedule of the RFQ and that there are no bills to approve, the December meetings will be cancelled unless something comes up.

#### Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Ms. Maxwell to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:28 pm.