

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)
MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
ON January 08, 2024

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Travis Emery	Williamson County
Mitch Burdick	Jackson County
Molly Maxwell	City of Carbondale
Donnie Smoot	City of Carterville
Doug Phillips	City of Marion
Jay Kranz	IDOT

Others Present:

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

Welcome and Introductions

Travis Emery, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and welcomed all present. It was noted that a quorum is present.

Approval of the November 06, 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Burdick to approve the Technical Advisory Committee minutes of the November 06, 2023 meeting (included in handout). The motion carried.

TIP FY2024-2027 Modification #16 (Amendment)

This modification adds a new Carbondale project to the TIP. The project is for preliminary engineering for a road diet and multi-use path on East Grand Avenue from South Washington Street to South Wall Street using HSIP funds. Mike noted that the costs listed on the handout are actual costs, not in thousands and it has been corrected for the Policy Committee meeting packet.

A motion was made by Mr. Burdick and seconded by Mr. Smoot to approve Modification #16. The motion carried.

South Market Street – Marion: Project Update

Mr. Emery stated that we're waiting on quorums and he has reviewed some of their traffic projections and development schemes, so they are moving along and expect things to be finalized in the next few months.

Safe Routes to Schools Plan – SOQs Received / Selection Committee

Mr. Emery informed the group that there was a three-person selection committee and Horner & Shifrin scored the highest of all of the submissions. They will be ready to start as soon as possible after their selection has been approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Ms. Maxwell to recommend Horner & Shifrin as the consultant for the Safe Routes to Schools Plan. The motion carried.

eRoadMAP Fact Sheet

Mike referred to the handout with a new resource. It's an interactive online tool to help users understand more about EV charging loads on the U.S. electric grid.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Funding Opportunities – USDOT Highway, Transit, and Safety Funds

Mike noted that this portion of the handout has been recently updated and urged members to explore the opportunities available utilizing the links imbedded in the version sent via email.

A Crash is Not an Accident – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Mike referred to the memo in the handout and explained that he just wanted to bring it to everyone's attention as we are moving into our Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) projects.

IDOT VRU Safety Assessment 2023

Mike informed everyone that our transportation partners with IDOT have completed the Vulnerable Road User (VRU) Safety Assessment and it is available on the IDOT website. The link is embedded in the electronic version of today's packet.

Greenhouse Gas Performance Measure Final Rule

FHWA issued a final rule that establishes a Greenhouse Gas Performance Measure for state departments of transportation and MPOs to assess the change in percentage of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions on the National Highway System.

Other MPO Business

- The MUTCD's latest update has been released, please reach out to Mike if you'd like the link forwarded to you.
- Mike informed members of a possible upcoming SPR project. Jackson County would like to explore a study that adds a multi-use trail along Giant City Road from Carbondale to Giant City State Park.
- FHWA has released a new guidebook on trails. Mike will be sending a link to members.
- An info briefing has been released by the Pedestrian and Bicycle information center, titled "Advancing Trails to Support Multi-Modal Networks". Please email Mike if you'd like for him to send you the link.
- IDOT has released multiple circular letters and Mike will provide these to members if requested.
- Cary Minnis urged members to send/submit project specific study ideas. He announced that we got the executed agreements for SPR bike planning and the RFQs will be going out soon. The upcoming bike plans will cover Carterville, Cambria, Crainville, DuQuoin, Herrin, Murphysboro, Pinckneyville, and West Frankfort.
- Williamson County received their own SS4A grant. Plan coverage coordination between the MPO and Williamson County's area of coverage (rural areas and small communities outside the MPO boundary) is planned. IDOT is allowing a SS4A plan to cover the remaining 3 counties (Franklin, Jefferson, and Perry). Jackson County will have full coverage and be split between the MPO boundary (Carbondale) and the rural Jackson County areas.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Burdick to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 12:33 pm.