

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)

MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
ON January 08, 2024
IN MARION, ILLINOIS

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Julie Peterson	Jackson County
Tim Atkisson	Williamson County
Molly Maxwell (proxy for Gary Williams)	City of Carbondale
Adam Lach	RIDES
Doug Keirn (proxy vote for Carrie Nelsen)	IDOT
Carrie Nelsen (Zoom – not counted in quorum)	IDOT

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Tom Caldwell	IDOT
Betsy Tracy (Zoom)	FHWA
Michael Ziarnek	SIMPO/Greater Egypt
Cary Minnis	Greater Egypt
Abra Phillips	Greater Egypt

Welcome and Introductions

Julie Peterson called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm and welcomed all present.

Approval of the November 06, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Atkisson and seconded by Mr. Lach to approve the November 06, 2023 Policy Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried.

TIP FY2024-2027 Modification #16 (Amendment) REVISED

This amendment comes from Molly Maxwell of Carbondale. It's for a new project being added to the TIP for preliminary engineering on a road diet and multi-use path from South Washington Street to South Wall Street in Carbondale. The funding split is 90/10 and the cost listed in the packet is actual cost, not in thousands.

A motion was made by Mr. Atkisson and seconded by Mr. Lach to approve TIP modification #16 as presented. The motion carried.

South Market Street Update

Traffic Projections are continuing; however, some work is still on hold while The Corp of Engineers finishes the extensive hydraulic modeling at Crab Orchard Creek. Work is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2024.

Safe Routes to Schools Plan – Vote on TAC Recommendation

Of the five submittals, Horner & Shifrin scored the highest and the Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend approval of hiring Horner & Shifrin for this project.

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Atkisson to accept the TAC recommendation to hire Horner & Shifrin to do the Safe Routes to School Plan. The motion carried.

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

Mike referred to the memo in the handout and explained that he wanted to bring it to everyone's attention as we begin 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. Our MPO will be following FHWA's recommendation.

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 titled, "Trails as Resilient Infrastructure," dated December 2023. Please email Mike if you'd like the link forwarded to you.
- An info briefing has been released by the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center (www.pedbikeinfo.org), 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. Atkisson and seconded by Mr. Lach to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.