

Minutes of the
QUAD CITIES, IOWA-ILLINOIS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 22, 2023, 12:00 p.m.
Scott County Administrative Center, Room 605
600 W. 4th Street
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard “Quijas” Brunk	Rock Island County Chair
Jeffrey Deppe	Alderman, City of East Moline
Jean Dickson	Scott County Board of Supervisors
Faith Duncan	Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2
Rick Dunn	Alderman, City of Davenport
Bob Gallagher	Mayor, City of Bettendorf
Dennis Gerard	Mayor, City of LeClaire
Mike Matson	Mayor, City of Davenport
Robby Ortiz	Alderman, City of Davenport
Sangeetha Rayapati	Mayor, City of Moline
Sam Shea	Iowa Department of Transportation

OTHERS PRESENT

Sarah Bambas	Bi-State Regional Commission
Doug DeLille	Illinois DOT – Springfield
Nithin Kalakuntla	Bi-State Regional Commission
Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Ryan Aguayo Padilla	Olsson
Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of Minutes of the June 27, 2023 Quad Cities MPO Transportation Policy Committee Meetings.
Mayor Matson requested a motion for approval of the June 27, 2023 minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee. Mr. Dunn motioned to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Ortiz seconded, and the motion carried.
2. Consideration of Revision to the Quad Cities MPO FFY2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program.
Ms. Bambas directed the Committee to the agenda packet to the TIP amendment submitted by the City of Rock Island. The city is requesting an amendment for a change in scope for RI-23-01 to change the project termini on 30th Street from 5th Avenue to 18th Avenue revised to 9th to 18th Avenue due to costs. The 5th to 9th Avenue segment will still be completed using local funds. Mayor Rayapati motioned to approve the amendment to the FFY2023-2026 TIP. Mayor Gerard seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
3. Consideration of Draft Quad Cities MPO FFY2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program Technical Corrections. Ms. Bambas noted that two projects required administrative modifications. Project #BT-24-06 for Bettendorf Transit bus replacements saw its funding change less than 30%, while the description of ML-24-13 for facility maintenance and renovations for MetroLINK was changed. Ms. Dickson motioned to approve the administrative modifications. Mayor Gerard seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
4. Consideration of Revisions to the Quad Cities MPO FFY2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.
Ms. Bambas again directed the Committee to the agenda packet for the revisions to the FFY2024-2027 TIP

requested from the IA DOT, IL DOT, and MetroLINK. Most amendments included in the revisions come from the IL DOT as a result of the release of the State's Multi-Year Program (MYP). In total, 30 amendments were requested by the IL DOT, 5 by the IA DOT, and 2 from MetroLINK. Mayor Rayapati motioned to approve the amendments. Mr. Ortiz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. Consideration of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program Evaluation Manual Updates. Copies of the draft manuals were included in Committee members' agenda packets. Mr. Schmid presented on the TASA Evaluation Manual. He provided an overview of the TASA/TAP program and requirements. The Transportation Technical Committee supported retaining existing considerations placing pedestrian, trail, and bicycle projects over other eligible projects in the Scenic, Historic, Archaeological, and Environmental grouping. Through FFY2027, \$1,706,987 is available for programming in the Iowa Quad Cities, whereas \$335,007 is available in the Illinois Quad Cities. Bi-State staff have been in communication with the IL DOT on the discrepancy in funding targets between the states. Staff will update the targets and notify the Committee if more information is released.

Ms. Bambas outlined the purpose of the STBG funding, eligibility changes, and funding availability for the next solicitation pending approval of the manual. She also detailed the minor updates to the Program Evaluation Manual. The evaluation criteria of submitted projects were not changed. Funding targets were updated through FFY2027 for consistency with the TIP. Mentions of SWAP in Iowa were removed due to its discontinuation for STBG funds in the MPA. All mentions to the previous transportation act, the FAST Act, were updated to reflect the current Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The Transportation Technical Committee supported keeping the ranking scores as they were. Through FFY2027, a total of \$10,147,124 is available for programming in the Iowa Quad Cities, whereas \$4,771,782 is available in the Illinois Quad Cities. The timeline for the solicitation was discussed. The application window will open in late August, and will run through October 20. Project evaluations will take place through December, and project rankings will be presented at the January or February Technical and Policy Committee meetings. Mr. Dunn motioned to approve the STBG and TASA Program Evaluation Manuals. Mr. Ortiz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

6. Updates on Mississippi River Bridges. Mr. Kalakuntla gave an overview of the Mississippi River Bridges projects. The highlights are as follows:

- The I-74 super structure has been completely removed. The eastbound superstructure is about 30% removed.
- Blasting of eastbound is scheduled for late summer.
- The landscaping project is progressing according to schedule.

7. Public Comments. There were no public comments.

8. Other Business.

Ms. McCullough noted that the next Transportation Policy Committee meeting would again be held at the Scott County Administrative Center. The contract for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) has been executed, and the Request for Qualifications would be released August 22.

- *USDOT Key Notices of Funding Opportunity* <https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/key-notices-funding-opportunity>
 - *PROTECT* – 8/18/23
 - *INFRA and Rural Grants* – 8/21/23
 - *Reconnecting Communities Program and Neighborhood Access and Equity Grant Program* – 9/28/23

9. Adjournment – Mr. Ortiz motioned to adjourn. Mr. Dunn seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.