

SIOUXLAND INTERSTATE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COUNCIL
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
Transportation Technical Committee

Minutes of the January 7, 2015 Meeting

1:30 P.M.

SIMPCO, 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jill Wanderscheid	City of Sioux City, Iowa / Neighborhood Services
Ben Kusler (<i>substitute for Mark Nahra, Vice Chair</i>)	Woodbury County, Iowa
Mike Collett	City of Sioux City, Iowa / Transit System
Jeff Dooley	Dakota Dunes CID, South Dakota
Jade Dundas	City of Sioux City, Iowa / Public Works
Aaron Lincoln	City of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
Robert Livermore	City of South Sioux City, Nebraska
Curt Miller	City of Sioux City, Iowa / Airport
Raymond Roggow	Union County, South Dakota
Tom Rohe	Plymouth County, Iowa

MEMBERS ABSENT

Brent Clark	City of Dakota City, Nebraska
Fred Kellogg	Dakota County, Nebraska
Kory Menken	City of North Sioux City, South Dakota

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Dakin Schultz	Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT)
Justin Luther (<i>conference call</i>)	Federal Highway Administration (Nebraska)
Kaine McClelland (<i>conference call</i>)	Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR)
Brad Zumwalt (<i>conference call</i>)	Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR)

GUESTS

Glen Ellis	City of Sioux City, Iowa / Engineering
Carmie Hotchkiss	City of Sioux City, Iowa / Finance Department
Jacob Bossman	Senator Chuck Grassley, Sioux City, Iowa / Regional Director

STAFF

Michelle Bostinelos, Deputy/Transportation Planning Director	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Kathryn Pfaffle, GIS/Modeler Transportation Planner	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Jacob Heil, Transportation Planner	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Christopher Klove, Transportation Planner	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Dwight Lang, Executive Director	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Sharon Burton, Executive Assistant	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Dawn Kimmel, Mobility Manager	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council

The Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) met on Wednesday, January 7, 2015 1:30 p.m., SIMPCO, 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa. A quorum was present.

Jill Wanderscheid, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

- I. **Introductions:** Chair Wanderscheid led members, staff and guests in introductions.
- II. **Approval of the Agenda:** Chair Wanderscheid asked if there were any corrections or changes to the January 7, 2015 agenda.

Curt Miller moved to approve the January 7, 2015 agenda as presented, seconded by Aaron Lincoln. No further discussion. Motion carried with all ayes.

- III. **Approval of the Minutes:** Chair Wanderscheid asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the November 5, 2014 Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) meeting.

Curt Miller moved to approve the November 5, 2014 TTC minutes as presented, seconded by Jade Dundas. No further discussion. Motion carried with all ayes.

- IV. **Review Monthly Correspondence:** Michelle Bostinelos provided an overview of the director's report included in the meeting packet.

Kathie Pfaffle and Jacob Heil have been working with Sioux City Transit System on GPS bus stops, maps and brochures.

Staff is working with the Blue Zones Staff, Sioux City Community Schools and Siouxland District Health on sustainability of the Walking School Bus program. Ms. Bostinelos noted plans to assist schools in maintaining the program include hosting workshops and establishing online resources.

Staff continues to work with the University of Iowa, Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities (IISC) projects. Ms. Bostinelos noted students working on the Active Transportation Plan have completed a draft and will be presenting the final plan to the Sioux City Council in April. She reported the University of Iowa is interested in a second-round of IISC assignments that would include additional Sioux City projects and more regional projects.

Staff continues participating in the Downtown Partners Taskforce. She noted this group is working on the one-way to two-way conversion study, wayfinding signage, and trolley stops and sponsors.

Staff met with the United Way and Siouxland Cares regarding the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG). She reported a comprehensive strategy group meeting is planned for March 3 to identify problems and discuss solutions for persons with mobility issues.

Staff met with Sioux City Transit System and South Sioux City to discuss the feasibility of electric buses. Discussion followed.

- V. **Transportation Improvement Progress Report:** Dakin Schultz with Iowa DOT reported lettings have been done for two I-29 projects –southbound through Sergeant Bluff and the two-year project that includes replacement of the southbound Floyd River bridge, paving and the northbound Bacon Creek and Floyd River bridge.

Jade Dundas with the city of Sioux City reported projects for 2015 are in design. Jill Wanderscheid added the Iowa DOT has approved a RFQ for Phase II of the rail study; and in early spring there will be back-to-back full street closures on Nebraska and Pierce Streets to reconstruct rail crossing surfaces.

Mike Collett with Sioux City Transit System reported the new radio system includes GPS antennas on all buses so dispatch can see the location of buses in real-time. He noted soon the public will be able to access this information through a website. Re-lamping the MLK ramp and transfer point with LED lighting will start within the next month.

Curt Miller with city of Sioux City / Airport reported the design and specifications contract has been awarded for the taxiway foxtrot. Improvements include total replacement of one section and removal of old pavement. The letting will be this spring with construction next summer.

Aaron Lincoln with city of Sergeant Bluff reported the RISE grant project (connecting South Lewis to Port Neal) is moving forward. The Iowa DOT is planning to install traffic signals on the I-29 Interchange in calendar year 2016. The school board is moving forward with a facility plan review and a vote will be taken in the fall on a proposal to build a new high school on the east end of town, which could shift transportation improvement priorities.

Ben Kusler with Woodbury County reported the Port Neal Interchange is now open. The grading project in Bronson is open to traffic with paving planned in the spring as weather permits. Concentration will now be on FEMA emergency repairs.

Jeff Dooley with Dakota Dunes reported plans are being made to remove emergency measures that were placed on the Big Sioux levy in June. Barring no other events work should start this spring and be finished by the end of summer.

Raymond Roggow with Union County reported a resigning program is planned for all cities and townships within the county (excluding Dakota Dunes) using federal safety funds.

Robert Livermore with the city of South Sioux City reported staff has been working with SIMPCO staff on obtaining CMAQ funds for a third electric fueling station.

Jacob Bossman, Regional Director for Senator Chuck Grassley, reported the Senator is hoping a long-term federal highway bill will be on the table this year. He noted Senator Grassley is not on the Transportation Committee, but is very interested in finding a way to sustain plans for moving forward with roads and bridges.

- VI. **SUDAS Board of Directors Appointment:** Michelle Bostinelos reported an appointment from the MPO to the Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) Board of Directors is designated every two years. Currently Mark Nahra serves as the MPO representative and is interested in continuing this role. She noted this program is through the Institute for Transportation at Iowa State University and they maintain manuals on statewide standards for urban public improvements. Their Board of Directors meets twice per year and is comprised of members representing various stakeholder groups and organizations.

Jade Dundas moved to recommend to the Board of Directors the reappointment of Mark Nahra as the MPO representative on the SUDAS Board of Directors, seconded by Mike Collett. No further discussion. Motion carried with all eyes.

VII. **FY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment:**

1. Electric fueling station in South Sioux City needs to be programmed for a total estimated cost of \$12,500 with \$10,000 Federal participation (CMAQ) in FY 2015

Michelle Bostinelos reported the proposed amendment is reprogramming the project from FY 2014 to FY 2015.

Robert Livermore moved to recommend to the Policy Board approval of the proposed amendment to the FY 2015-2018 TIP as presented, seconded by Curt Miller. No further discussion. Motion carried.

- VIII. **2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Draft Chapter 2: Community Overview and Draft Chapter 6: Intermodal:** Michelle Bostinelos reported *Chapter 2: Community Overview* has been brought back with updated maps and adjusted population projections. Kathie Pfaffle provided a detailed overview of the new maps and updated data now included in the chapter. Christopher Klove provided an overview of adjustments that have been made to the population and employment projections since the chapter was last presented. Michelle Bostinelos reported the chapter will be posted to the website and asked members to review return comments.

Michelle Bostinelos provided an overview of *Chapter 6: Intermodal*. She explained this chapter addresses the current conditions and future issues of facilities for truck, rail, air, and barge freight. She reviewed priorities of the MPO in regards to maintaining and developing the Intermodal system. With the CF Industries expansion staff is working on updating the yearly barge traffic along with the freight value and tonnage moving into the area. She noted recommendations encouraged by the Federal Highway Administration and DOT include more input from the freight industry at the MPO level by implementing an advisory committee and also having a representative as part of the MPO process. She asked members to review the chapter presented and let staff know of any updates or changes as soon as possible.

- IX. **MPO 101:** Michelle Bostinelos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the purpose and function of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The presentation explained an MPO is a transportation policy-making and planning body with representatives of local, state and federal government and transportation authorities. It is federally mandated and funded for areas with an urbanized area population of 50,000 or more. The MPO ensures federal spending on transportation occurs through a comprehensive, cooperative and continuing process. Ms. Bostinelos noted the SIMPCO MPO is one of 5 tri-state MPO's in the nation. The Technical Committee is an advisory body to the Policy Board for transportation issues as the Policy Board is the decision making body. Subcommittees include the Transportation Advisory Group, Bicycle and Pedestrian Roundtable and Tri-State Traffic Management Team. Ms. Bostinelos reviewed each document that the MPO is required to develop and their respective deadlines. She also discussed the various funding categories and the FY 2015 funding levels.

Ms. Bostinelos also provided a demonstration on how to navigate the new SIMPCO website.

- X. **MPO Officer Elections:** Michelle Bostinelos reported current officers are Jill Wanderscheid, Chair, and Mark Nahra, Vice Chair.

Chair Wanderscheid opened the floor to nominations for Chair.

Mike Collett nominated Jill Wanderscheid as Chair, seconded by Jade Dundas. Curt Miller moved nominations cease. Robert Livermore moved to approve Jill Wanderscheid as Chair, seconded by Mike Collett. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Chair Wanderscheid opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chair.

Tom Rohe nominated Aaron Lincoln as Vice Chair, seconded by Robert Livermore. Jeff Dooley moved nominations cease. Curt Miller moved to approve Aaron Lincoln as Vice Chair, seconded by Jade Dundas. No further discussion. Motion carried with all ayes.

- XI. **Additional Comments:** Michelle Bostinelos reported the next TTC meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 4, 2015, 1:30 p.m., 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City.

Ms. Bostinelos noted a public input meeting will be held for Long Range Transportation Planning stakeholders at the end of February or first of March. Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) applications will be sent on Friday by email and mail; and will be available on the website.

Jade Dundas suggested presenting upcoming projects to TTC and Policy Board meetings in March. Curt Miller also suggested including in the presentation the upcoming air services report being released by DOT. Discussion followed.

- XII. **Adjournment:** ***Jade Dundas moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Robert Livermore. Motion carried with all ayes.*** The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.