

Minutes

**SIouxLAND INTERSTATE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COUNCIL (SIMPCO)
METROPOLITAN PLANNING COUNCIL (MPO)
Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)**

**Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 1:30 p.m.
SIMPCO, 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dave Carney, Chair	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Tom Rohe, Vice Chair	Plymouth County, Iowa
Gordon Phair	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Mike Collett	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Aaron Lincoln	City of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
Jeff Dooley	Dakota Dunes CID, South Dakota
Jeff Harcum	Transit / City of Sioux City, Iowa
Lance Hedquist	City of South Sioux City, Nebraska
Mark Nahra	Woodbury County, Iowa
Jason Allen	City of Dakota City, Nebraska
Jeff Noteboom	Union County, South Dakota

NON-VOTING MEMBERS/GUESTS:

Dakin Schultz	Iowa Dept. of Transportation
Justin Luther	Federal Highway Administration – NE

GUESTS:

Ragen Cote	Downtown Partners, Sioux City, Iowa
------------	-------------------------------------

STAFF:

Michelle Bostinelos, Executive Director	SIMPCO
Gabriel Appiah, Regional Planner	SIMPCO
Erin Berzina, Regional Planning Director	SIMPCO
Alejandra Quintana, Regional Planner	SIMPCO
Sharon Burton	SIMPCO

The TTC met on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 1:30 p.m., SIMPCO, 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa. A quorum was present. Chair Dave Carney called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

- I. Introductions:** Chair Carney opened the meeting with introductions.
- II. Approval of the Agenda:** Chair Carney asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March 3, 2020 regular meeting agenda.

Jeff Harcum moved to approve the March 3, 2020 regular meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Lance Hedquist. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

- III. **Approval of the Minutes:** Chair Carney asked if there were any additions or corrections to the January 8, 2020 regular meeting minutes.

Lance Hedquist moved to approve January 8, 2020 the regular meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Aaron Lincoln. Motion carried. [Unanimous] Lance Hedquist was not in attendance and abstained.

- IV. **Review Monthly Correspondence:** Michelle Bostinelos provided an overview of current projects and staff activities outlined in the Director Report included in the meeting packet.

Ms. Bostinelos introduced Erin Berzina who recently joined SIMPCO as Regional Planning Director.

- V. **Transportation Improvement Progress Report:** Members provided an update on the progress of transportation improvements currently underway throughout the MPO area.

- VI. **FY 2024 Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Flex Allocation, Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), and Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Balances and Applications (Iowa):** Gabriel Appiah noted the MPO does not allocate STBG and TAP dollars for jurisdictions within the states of Nebraska and South Dakota. He recommended members interested in STBG and TAP funding located in Nebraska or South Dakota contact their respective DOT.

Mr. Appiah reported annually the MPO requests proposals from Iowa members for allocation of Iowa DOT STBG and TAP funding. Proposals were sent to Iowa members on January 10, 2020 with a deadline to MPO staff of February 7, 2020.

Staff received two TAP project requests for FY 2024 funding totaling \$287,594:

City of Sioux City and City of Sergeant Bluff – Loess Hills Scenic Trail, total cost \$3,361,430.24, request \$200,000 with consideration for funding of \$200,000 over the next six fiscal years (2023-2028) for a total TAP funding request of \$1.2 million

City of Sioux City – Downtown Wayfinding, total cost \$285,872, request \$87,594

Iowa DOT has estimated \$126,000 as the FY 2024 TAP target; however due to a negative balance resulting from target amendments in previous years, the total TAP funds programmed for FY 2024 has been adjusted to \$125,600. Mr. Appiah reviewed comments and recommendations received from the Iowa DOT on both FY 2024 TAP applications.

Staff received three STBG project requests for FY 2024 funding totaling \$7,385,200:

City of Sergeant Bluff – 1st Street Reconstruction, total cost \$2,760,000, request \$1,794,000

City of Sioux City – 11th Street Reconstruction, total cost \$5,264,000, request \$4,211,200

City of Sioux City – S. Cecilia Street Reconstruction, total cost \$1,725,000, request \$1,380,000

Iowa DOT has estimated the FY 2024 target at \$2,439,000. With the estimated balance carried forward from previous years, the total allocation for FY 2024 is projected at \$2,656,600.

Mr. Appiah reported the Transportation Alternative Program allows distribution of TAP Flex monies to any project in the STP or TAP funding category. He reported the estimated balance of TAP Flex funding for FY 2024 is \$95,000.

Mark Nahra moved to recommend to the Policy Board transferring the FY 2024 estimated balance of \$95,000 in TAP Flex funds to STBG in FY 2024, seconded by Tom Rohe.

Discussion followed.

Roll call vote: Carney (Aye), Rohe (Aye), Phair (Aye), Collett (Aye), Lincoln (Nay), Dooley (Aye), Harcum (Aye), Hedquist (Nay), Nahra (Aye), Noteboom (Aye), Allen (Nay)

Motion Carried. 8 (Ayes), 3 (Nays)

Members reviewed and discussed the estimated FY 2024 TAP balance, FY 2024 project applications and Iowa DOT comments and recommendations. It was questioned if there is time for applicants to address comments and recommendations received from Iowa DOT and resubmit their applications. Michelle Bostinelos noted if applications were resubmitted in May, there would still be time for approved projects to be included in the final 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that will be presented for approval in July.

Mark Nahra moved to allow the two sponsoring agencies that submitted FY 2024 TAP applications to adjust their applications based on Iowa DOT comments and recommendations and resubmit for consideration in May, seconded by Lance Hedquist. No further discussion. Motion carried. [Unanimous]

Members reviewed and discussed the estimated FY 2024 STBG project applications. Mark Nahra recommended not allocating any funding to the 1st Street reconstruction in Sergeant Bluff until current restrictions on trucks utilizing that street are removed. MPO funds should not be used on a project that isn't allowed to be an extension of the Farm-to-Market system. Discussion followed.

Gordon Phair moved to recommend to the Policy Board allocation of the total FY 2024 STBG balance of \$2,751,600 to the City of Sioux City's 11th Street Reconstruction project, seconded by Mike Collett. No further discussion. Motion Carried. [Unanimous]

VII. FY 2020 – 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments: Ms. Bostinelos reported Sioux City Transit has applied for Federal funds to purchase three diesel/electric hybrid buses. She noted amendments to the TIP are allowed for transit projects prior to funding awards.

1. Sioux City Transit System needs to program an upgrade of three (3) diesel buses (#1300, 1301, 1330) to diesel/electric hybrid for a total estimated cost of \$2,067,600 with \$1,757,460 Federal participation (5339) in FY 2020

Lance Hedquist moved to recommend to the Policy Board approval of the requested TIP amendment as presented, seconded by Aaron Lincoln. Motion Carried. [10 ayes, 1 nay]

- VIII. DRAFT MPO Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) FY 2021:** Ms. Bostinelos reported the work program outlines the proposed MPO transportation planning activities and budget for fiscal year 2021.

Ms. Bostinelos reviewed each of the six work elements and corresponding state budgets shown in the program. She noted the Downtown Sioux City Study is a special project that will be completed utilizing planning funds carried over from Iowa FHWA. She discussed additional planning carryover balances shown in the FY 2021 budget under Iowa FHWA PL, Iowa Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Nebraska FHWA PL. She asked members to email her plans and costs of special projects they would be interested in completing with carryover planning funds.

Ms. Bostinelos asked members to return comments by April.

- IX. DRAFT 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Chapter 7: Environmental Impacts:** Alejandra Quintana provided an overview of Chapter 7. She asked members to provide feedback about the chapter's contents and projects they would like to see discussed.
- X. 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Submitted Projects Review:** Mr. Appiah provided a listing of proposed projects for the 2045 plan, noting that he will be working with each member on estimated costs and expected year of expenditures. He discussed using an inflation rate of 5% for projects costs, scoring and prioritization of projects and targeted funding sources.
- XI. Additional Comments:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, 2020, 1:30 p.m., 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City.
- XII. Adjournment:** *Gordon Phair moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jeff Harcum.* Chair Carney adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.