

MINUTES
Joint Policy Board & Technical Advisory Committee Meetings
Stateline Area Transportation Study
Monday August 16, 2021 at 10:00 A.M via GoToMeeting

A joint meeting of the Stateline Area Transportation Study Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Board was held on Monday August 16, 2021 via GoToMeeting. Nee called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Policy Board Members Present (8): Rehl, Forbeck, Greenlee, Kehoe, Sweeney, Hodina, Flottmeyer, Bates

Policy Board Members Absent (2): Peterson, Anclam

Technical Advisory Committee Members Present (12): Prindiville, Pennington, Boggs*, Diduch, McKearn, Downing, Hecox, Jorgenson, Baker, Hodina, Koprowski, Bates

Technical Advisory Committee Members Absent (3): Williamson, Bomkamp, Winnebago County Planning

Non-voting Members / Others present: Bradley Sippel, Doug DeLille, Mitch Batuzich, Evan Gross, Alexander Brown, Sydney Turner, Melisa Ribikawskis, Joe Rose, James Thompson, Carl Lange, Rick Barder, Jeff Johnson, Jason Dupuis, Jim Meyer, T.J. Nee

*South Beloit voting member, Village of Roscoe non-voting member

2. Public Participation

Jeff Johnson congratulated Jorgenson/Rock County on receiving a DNR grant for the Peace Trail. He also inquired about LRTP public review period and about the South Beloit bike project. Rehl confirmed project is on schedule. Boggs noted layout will begin this week and construction will follow. Johnson inquired about public input. Boggs noted that had already occurred.

Rick Barder inquired about the Henry Avenue project and schedule change. Dupuis noted the section between Riverside and Royce will be done in 2021, and there will be a public information meeting Wednesday. The section from Royce to Prairie will now be done in 2023 when State funding becomes available. That section is currently in design.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the March 29, 2021 and June 21, 2021 Joint Policy Board and Technical Advisory Committee Meetings

A motion was made by McKearn, second by Hecox, to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2021 and June 21, 2021 meetings. Motion carried.

4. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Administrative Modifications (if any)

None to report

5. Resolution 2021-8, Approval of Amendments to the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the following:

- a. State of Illinois – Various Districtwide Safety projects (Installation of warning signs on interchange ramp curves), including \$1,028,000 in federal and \$114,000 in State funds.
- b. State of Illinois – Districtwide Bridge Cleaning (includes IL-75 bridge over Rock River in Rockton), including \$71,000 federal and \$18,000 in State funds.

A motion was made by Diduch, second by Hodina for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend approval of Resolution 2021-8 to the Policy Board.

Prindiville - Aye
Pennington – Aye
Boggs – Aye
Diduch – Aye
McKearn - Aye
Downing - Aye
Hecox – Aye
Jorgenson – Aye
Baker - Aye
Hodina - Aye
Koprowski - Aye
Bates - Aye

Motion carried by roll call vote.

A motion was made by Forbeck, second by Bates for the Policy Board to accept the recommendation of the Technical Advisory Committee and to approve Resolution 2021-8 Approval of Amendments to the 2021-2024 TIP.

Rehl - Aye
Forbeck – Aye
Greenlee – Aye
Kehoe – Aye
Sweeney - Aye
Hodina – Aye
Flottmeyer – Aye
Bates- Aye

Motion carried by roll call vote.

6. SLATS Long Range Transportation Plan Discussion

- a. **Review of Second Survey Results**
- b. **Confirmation of Fiscally Constrained Projects**
- c. **Next Steps**
 - i. **Public Review of Draft Plan**
 - ii. **Adoption of the 2045 LRTP – October 4, 2021**

Jim Meyer with AECOM provided an update on the LRTP including an overview of background information and public input. Meyer reminded everyone of the Plan goals including the new EJ/Equity goal. He noted that based on the WisDOT model, there is a lack of congestion in our area, but noted that some areas including portions of White Avenue and Gardner Street, identified by IDOT in a truck bottleneck study should be monitored. He noted high crash intersections identified including Gardner and 251 as the highest in the MPA, and Milwaukee and Cranston as the second highest (2017-2019).

For public transportation, expanded service hours and regional coordination across the Stateline are main issues identified by stakeholders during the planning process. Meyer noted the Plan recommends enhancing regional transit and potentially using microtransit to complement fixed route service in fringe areas. The plan also recommends steps to advance passenger rail opportunities in the longer term.

Meyer noted that stakeholders identified a number of non-motorized projects, both standalone projects and those associated with complete streets improvements. In addition to committed projects associated with Henry Avenue, Park Avenue and Old River Road, fiscally constrained and illustrative road projects include bike and pedestrian accommodations. Connections to Big Hill Park, the Confluence, the stadium, the casino and Milwaukee Road were identified as key priorities.

Meyer described key themes that emerged from the planning process including advancing projects that embrace complete streets principles, new technologies, equity, regional transit and those that support economic development. He noted that 74% of SLATS survey respondents agree with complete streets principles including slowing traffic and accommodating all users. Also, 63% support investing in emerging technology, 65% support increased transit investments, 70% support equity in transportation and 52% support prioritizing transportation investments that promote redevelopment.

Meyer discussed the recommended fiscally constrained projects including a portion of Cranston Road, portions of Liberty/Fourth/Portland, an extension from CTH BT, a portion of Elmwood Avenue, Old River Road and a portion of Gardner Street. Meyer emphasized that the funding and schedule is the best case scenario at this time. He also discussed priority illustrative projects, some currently in the works.

Meyer noted that public review of the draft plan begins August 30, with adoption by the Policy Board scheduled for October 4.

Rick Barder noted Stateline Road is an important link to casino and questioned if the plan addressed it. Meyer noted there are a number of bike-related projects including Stateline Road

that are priorities mentioned in the plan, but not currently part of a fiscally constrained project. The new transportation bill may make additional funding available.

Meyer concluded that the fiscally constrained projects require readiness on the part of local agencies in terms of design and local match, and that the Policy Board has the authority to amend the plan including the fiscally constrained projects. Nee noted the first project in which confirmation is needed in the draft plan is Cranston Road from Riverside to Prairie. Forbeck inquired about the project in which additional detail was provided, including that this section was the subject of a joint MLS application to WisDOT, but not awarded. Forbeck also inquired about and it was confirmed that the section of Cranston Road between Shopiere Road and Milwaukee Road will be completed by the City of Beloit this year.

7. Scheduling of Future Meetings of the Policy Board and Technical Committees

Nee noted the next meeting would be October 4, 2021.

8. Adjournment

Forbeck moved to adjourn, second by Downing. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

- T.J. Nee, MPO Coordinator – SLATS