



MINUTES

Joint Policy Board & Technical Advisory Committee Meetings, Stateline Area Transportation Study Thursday September 5, 2024 at 10:00 A.M, 100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511

A joint meeting of the Stateline Area Transportation Study Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Board was held on Thursday September 5, 2024. Nee called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Policy Board Members Present (8): Greenlee, Hoppes, Barber, Schleeper, Jorgenson, Von Bergen, Schreiber, Bates

Policy Board Members Absent (2): Forbeck, Kehoe

Technical Advisory Committee Members Present (12): Frisbee, Christensen, Hoppes, Barber, McKearn, Schleeper, Downing, Jorgenson, Baker, Von Bergen, Schreiber, Bates

Technical Advisory Committee Members Absent (3): Prindiville, Hecox, Winnebago County Planning

Non-voting Members / Others present: Justin Johnson, Doug DeLille, Karl Buck, Sydney Turner, Josef Kurlinkus, Don Driscoll, Joe Rose, Rachel Sarow, Jeff Johnson, Carl Lange, Rick Barder T.J. Nee

2. Public Participation

Jeff Johnson noted he was excited for new trail developments including Lee Lane and CTH Q. Jeff inquired about the Afton Road sidepath and Pow Wow Trail connection. McKearn noted the road would be constructed in the next phase of the subdivision this fall or next spring. Jorgenson noted the Afton Road sidepath had cost issues with design, and so options are being reviewed to determine how best to move the project forward.

Rick Barder also noted that he was excited for new trail developments, and that they are being regularly used, including by children.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the May 29, 2024 Joint Policy Board and Technical Advisory Committee Meetings

A motion was made by McKearn, second by Greenlee, to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

4. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Administrative Modifications

None to report

5. Resolution 2024-5, Assignment of Carbon Reduction Program Funds – Wisconsin

Nee reported that SLATS is responsible for project selection and programming of Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds on the Wisconsin side estimated at \$121,212 annually for SFY25-28. Two applications were submitted for review. One is from the City of Beloit for a multi-use path connecting Afton Road to the existing path located at the Welty Environmental Center in Big Hill Park, referred to as the Peace Trail Connector. The City is requesting two years of CRP funding for this project, which would be \$242,424. Jorgenson asked about timeframe. Frisbee noted design is underway and will be ready to move forward soon. Christensen asked about the connecting highway issue. Schreiber noted we are still waiting on a response from WisDOT Central Office. Hoppes asked about crossing Henry Avenue, and slowing people down at that point.

The other application is from the Town of Beloit for a multi-use path along the west side of USH 51 from Riverside Park to Armstrong Eddy Park. The total CRP funding request is \$117,180, which is 80 percent of the total design and construction costs.

In total between both projects, \$359,604 is requested. It was recommended that up to two years of funding be allocated to the City of Beloit project, and up to one year for the Town of Beloit project, with the City's project moving forward first, and the Town's second.

A motion was made by Frisbee, second by Jorgenson for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend approval of Resolution 2024-5 to the Policy Board.

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Barber, second by Hoppes for the Policy Board to accept the recommendation of the Technical Advisory Committee and to approve Resolution 2024-5, Assignment of Carbon Reduction Program Funds – Wisconsin.

6. Resolution 2024-6, Reassignment of COVID Relief Funds – Illinois

Nee reported that in 2022, the Village of Rockton received a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant in the amount of \$250,000 to fund the Rockton Road path extension from Old Meadow Lane, west to Aspland Drive at the east entrance of Rockton Grade School/Whitman Post.

On August 29, 2022, the Policy Board approved the use of \$55,553.98 in COVID Relief funds that were allocated to the Illinois portion of SLATS for the extension of the Rockton Road Path further west of Aspland Drive in conjunction with the Village's SRTS project, which was planned to end at Aspland Drive. The approving resolution from 2022 purposely contained specific language that required the COVID Relief funds be used west of Aspland Drive.

Since the SRTS grant was awarded and COVID Relief funds were assigned, route modification along with other cost factors increased the Village of Rockton's construction cost for the SRTS project by an estimated \$56,000. As such, the Village is now requesting to use the COVID Relief funds to offset this cost increase east of Aspland Drive whereby not extending the path west of

Aspland Drive as originally planned and approved by the Policy Board. If they are not reassigned, they will lapse at this point.

Barber noted the Village still wants to extend the path to Illinois 2 at some point. There are some right-of-way issues to work through. Bates and Barber discussed the scope change and where the path will connect now as opposed to crossing the driveway. Hoppes confirmed if at some point it would go along the front of the school and cross both driveways. DeLille asked if the change in termini would be handled in a TIP amendment. Nee noted that would not be today.

A motion was made by McKearn, second by Frisbee for the Technical Advisory Committee to recommend approval of Resolution 2024-6 to the Policy Board.

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Hoppes, second by Barber for the Policy Board to accept the recommendation of the Technical Advisory Committee and to approve Resolution 2024-6, Reassignment of COVID Relief Funds – Illinois.

7. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Agency Reports

- City of South Beloit – Hoppes noted that the City is going after an ITEP grant for design of multi-use paths from the South Beloit High School to the Rockton/75 path at Illinois 2, across the Prairie Hill Road Bridge to South Bluff Road, and along South Bluff Road to Shirland Avenue. The application also includes construction funding for phase one being from the South Beloit High School to the Rockton/75 Path at Illinois 2.
- Village of Rockton – Barber noted the Rockton Road bike path project will be going out to bid soon, and discussed the Old River Road path with Winnebago County. Von Bergen noted it was scheduled for 2025. Barber noted a path will then connect Stephen Mack Middle School to IL-75, through the park, to Hononegah High School, and back to the Rockton Road path at the Rockton Grade School and Whitman Post.
- BTS – Downing noted BTS was awarded the VW grant for a new bus. Technology upgrades including the ability to pay through an app and track buses through an app are expected to be completed soon.
- Jorgenson noted the CTH Q project and path are complete.
- Winnebago County Highway - Von Bergen noted plans for the bridge at Prairie Hill Road over the River will be out to bid yet this year or in the spring, with construction scheduled for 2025 including accommodations on the structure for a future path on the south side. Old River Road is planned for 2025 construction as well.
- WisDOT Southwest Region – Schreiber noted he was looking forward to working with everyone.
- IDOT District 2 – Bates noted Illinois 2 bridge over the Rock River would be ongoing at least through this year. A public involvement meeting for Blackhawk Boulevard is planned around December.
- IDOT Bureau of Urban Program Planning – DeLille noted that IDOT Fall Planning Conference is October 2-4 in Fairview Heights, and that registration was open. Safety targets were sent

out a few weeks back, so timeline for adoption would be by February 2025. October 14 is a holiday so IDOT will be closed. Nee noted the planned October 14 meeting would be moved.

- Buck also noted FHWA is closed on October 14 and that WisDOT determined we had a two-year allocation for Carbon Reduction for FY25.

8. Scheduling of Future Meetings of the Policy Board and Technical Committee

The next meeting will now be scheduled for later in October.

9. Adjournment

Downing moved to adjourn, second by Jorgenson. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

- T.J. Nee, City of Beloit, Director of Planning and Building Services