

MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2013

2:00 P.M.

MCHENRY CITY HALL

333 S. GREEN STREET

MCHENRY, IL 60050

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS (SIGN-IN SHEET)

President Rick Mack, Chair of the McHenry County Council of Mayors, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. The meeting was held at the McHenry City Hall located in McHenry, IL. There was a quorum. Attendance was as follows:

Members Present:

Rick Mack, Chair, Village of Ringwood

James Anhalt, Village of Spring Grove

Lisa Armour, Village of Huntley

Peter Koenig, Village of Richmond

Bob Mitchard, Village of Algonquin

Erik Morimoto, City of Crystal Lake

Cris Papierniak, Village of Cary

Claudett Peters, Village of Johnsburg

Catherine Peterson, Village of Lakewood

Paul R. Ruscko, City of Woodstock

Jon Schmitt, City of McHenry

Jeannine Smith, Village of Prairie Grove

Jeff Young, McHenry County

Others Present:

Bunny Anderson, Illinois Tollway

John Bartman, IDOT

Brian Carlson, IDOT

Akram Chaudhry, HR Green

Kama Dobbs, CMAP

Lee Fell, CBBEL

Alex Househ, IDOT Local Roads

David Johanson, EEI

Mark Johnson, Ciorba Group

Diane Lukas, HLR, Inc.

Sue Palmer, IDOT Programming

Chad Pieper, HR Green

Michael Plant, Baxter and Woodman

Brian Plum, TCE

Andy Plummer, RTA

Jeff Strzalka, HR Green

Rich Stull, City of McHenry

Kaamil Tayyab, IDOT Local Roads

Chalen Daigle, McHenry County Council of Mayors

Chair Mack also introduced Mr. John Bartman from IDOT. Mr. Bartman works in the Office of the Secretary and will be attending the Council meetings regularly.

B. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Ms. Peterson moved for approval of the meeting agenda. Ms. Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

C. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 19, 2013

Ms. Smith moved for approval the meeting minutes from September 19, 2013. Mr. Young seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

II. PROGRAM & AGENCY UPDATES

A. IDOT Highway Report

Ms. Palmer provided the updated status sheets. She noted that the IL 31/IL 176 project will have intermittent delays during the day and construction will continue through the winter. Ms. Palmer also said that IDOT is putting together their FY 2014-2019 Multi-Modal Transportation Improvement Program which is available online for viewing. Lastly, Ms. Palmer handed out a Fall 2013 Construction Update sheet which included information about the Western Algonquin Bypass.

B. Pace Report

Ms. Donner was not at the meeting. Ms. Daigle said she would email the information to the Council.

C. Metra

Chair Mack said the Metra budget was approved Friday and there were no fare increases or service cuts. The budget total was \$935.9 million. Chair Mack said that ridership was up 1% with over 80 million rides a year.

He also talked about the UP North Line which will have ongoing construction for bridge updates and that 176 diesel cars are being rehabbed. Lastly, he said that the CTA/Pace Ventra card was having issues and that Metra was looking for ways to better the process. He also noted that the Fox River Grove Metra Station opened on November 1.

D. McHenry County Division of Transportation

Mr. Young said the Miller Road project is complete for this year. The second phase of the project should begin in the spring, pending right of way. He also said the Chapel Hill Road at St. John's intersection project will begin next year.

E. RTA Update

Mr. Plummer distributed the Current RTA Tax Distribution spreadsheet which explained how the RTA sales tax was and is distributed to the region. He also spoke about funding proposals within the current structure. Mr. Plummer spoke about the sham business operations of some large companies that open small offices in outside counties to avoid paying the RTA sales tax. He noted that today the IL Supreme Court released a ruling noting the businesses are not in compliance with State law. Mr. Young asked how much is lost in sales tax due to these businesses. Mr. Plummer said it was up to \$300 million a year.

F. Illinois Tollway

Ms. Anderson said the I-90 project is progressing well. The 37-mile corridor is being widened by adding a lane. Construction to tear down the

Des Plaines Oasis will begin in April so that the eastern section of I-90 can be widened. The I-57/I-295 interchange is set to open in 2014. Ms. Anderson also said it was the 20 anniversary of I-PASS. Chair Mack noted that the I-90/IL 47 interchange is now open. Ms. Anderson confirmed and said that after 25 years of planning, the project took 17 months to build and is used as a template of collaboration and working together with the municipalities.

G. IDOT STP Local Program

Ms. Tayyab gave a brief update on the STP projects programmed.

III. CHICAGO METROPOLITAN AGENCY FOR PLANNING (CMAP) / COUNCIL OF MAYORS

A. Executive Committee Report

Ms. Dobbs said that the Executive Committee met on November 19. She informed the Council that the advance funding requests were approved. The CDOT projects of regional significance were also discussed. Referring to the STP program, 66% of the regional mark was spent and \$4.5 million was added to the region's unobligated balance.

B. CMAP Report

Ms. Dobbs provided the CMAP update which included the following:

- The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) was released for public comment. There were no projects in McHenry County on the proposed program.
- The FY 2014-2018 CMAQ program was approved. Project sponsors are required to attend an informational meeting on December 6. All are invited to attend and Ms. Daigle will provide the registration information.
- The Safe Routes to School Call for Projects is underway. Applications are due on January 31, 2014.

IV. MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS / STP PROGRAM

A. Village of Cary – Jandus Cutoff at US 14 Update

Ms. Daigle explained that at the November 19 Council of Mayors Executive Committee meeting, the Executive Committee did approve two requests for additional advance funding for the Jandus Cutoff and Bunker Hill Road project in the Village of Algonquin. Ms. Daigle noted that the Executive Committee had already approved advance funding for these projects at their September meeting and the November request was for additional funding.

Ms. Daigle distributed a memo from CMAP that explains the history of advance funding and the practice. She noted that the McHenry County Council was in a great position and was spending the region's unobligated balance while completing projects quickly. While this is the desired way of programming projects and spending federal funds appropriately, Ms. Daigle noted that better programming and planning is needed. She proposed requesting advance funding for projects only twice a year, rather than at each meeting. Requesting funding one or two times is better than piecemeal and shows the Executive Committee that we are programming responsibly.

Ms. Daigle urged municipal project sponsors to carefully review their projects and the funding amounts. The information should be the most up to date. Lastly, she distributed a timetable provided by CMAP that lists their meetings and request deadlines. She asked that everyone pay close attention to the spreadsheet when determining a letting date for their projects.

Mr. Young reiterated that engineers and sponsors need to be on top of their game with their projects.

B. Village of Algonquin – Bunker Hill Road Update

Ms. Daigle covered the information about the Bunker Hill Road Update with Agenda Item A.

C. City of McHenry’s FAU Requests – Martin Road, Veteran’s Parkway, Dartmoor Drive and Prime Parkway/Ridgeview Road

Mr. Strzalka provided information about the four FAU requests for the City of McHenry. Ms. Daigle said that she drove all four routes and had questions about two of the routes that she needed further clarification about – Dartmoor Drive was not striped and Prime Parkway/Ridgeview Road was not a continuous route. She said she would check with IDOT for further clarification. Ms. Smith said she had questions about the routes as well and wondered if the traffic was adequate for FAU status. She also questioned if these could be tabled until the next meeting so more information, including a signed resolution and letter of support, could be provided. Mr. Young asked if these would need to be approved now. Mr. Strzalka said that the City of McHenry is working to update their road network and it was good planning to have these included as FAU routes now.

Ms. Smith made a motion to table the request to the next meeting. Ms. Peters seconded the motion. Ten Council members voted to table it. Two – McHenry and McHenry County – voted no. The motion passed to table the requests to the next meeting.

V. PLANNING LIAISON REPORT

Ms. Daigle said the project status updates would be sent in December. She asked that each project sponsor complete them with current information and include any possible funding increase should include backup documentation.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

The 2014 Meeting Schedule was included in the packet.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2014 at the McHenry County Division of Transportation at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was later rescheduled for January 9, 2014.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Ms. Peterson. It was approved unanimously at 2:48 p.m.