

Human Services Transportation Plan Urban Sub-Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 13, 2021 – 10:00 AM

Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC)
Suite 401, 456 Fulton St., Peoria, IL 61602

Hybrid Meeting: Both Virtual and In-Person Options

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome, Introductions, & Roll Call

Reema Abi-Akar called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

URBAN AREA SUBCOMMITTEE				
			Present	Absent
Dawn Harper	EPIC	Agency	X	
Jodi Scott	Advocates for Access	CIL	X	
Angel Marinich	TransDev	Provider	X	
Renee Razo	Central Illinois Agency on Aging	Agency	X	
Chris Mitchell	Paratransit User	User	X	
Don Rulis	CWTC	Agency		X
Greg Cassidy	TCRC	Agency	X	

* = Shared seat

** = Proxy Vote

~~stricken~~ = no longer in their position

We have a quorum.

Also in attendance:

Reema Abi-Akar, TCRPC

Ray Lees, TCRPC

Jim Brimmer Washington Township

Michael Bruner TCRPC

Gabriel Guevara, TCRPC

Doug Roelfs, GPMTD

ShamRA Robinson, GPMTD

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Discussion of 5310 application and recommendation of projects

Reema provided the background about Section 5310 funds and their eligibility criteria. She then introduced the four submitted projects. East Peoria is looking to build a sidewalk to expand access to a bus stop in the Richland neighborhood. The Greater Peoria Mass Transit District (GPMTD) is looking to expand its CityLift paratransit services into Washington, which currently has no service. GPMTD also applied for funding to bring back a bike share program to Peoria. Finally, EPIC submitted an application to purchase vehicles, but rolling stock is not eligible within these urban 5310 funds.

Reema then provided a breakdown of the projects' monetary requests and the total available 5310 funds. She then shared Tri-County staff's recommendations to the committee, which is to fund all the federal portions for all projects, plus East Peoria's local portion. Tri-County recommended funding Phase I of Washington's project. Afterwards, there would be \$89,237.05 left over in 5310 funds.

Reema then shared different options for what the group can do with the leftover funds: Give the remaining funds to back to IDOT to put into their CVP fund, fund a portion of Washington's phase 2 project, or roll over the funds and combine it with upcoming FY2022 funds.

Comments

Jim Bremner asked a question about what the typical timeline for putting out a call for project for 5310 funding. Reema shared that FTA's suggested timeline is to put a call for projects in the spring or summer, but she expressed that it is also the discretion of HSTP and Tri-County on when they can release a call for projects.

Jim encouraged the group to roll over the leftover funds to 2022 and release a call for projects in the spring.

Jim asked when entities should expect to receive the funds. Reema answered that she isn't sure, since this is the first time in years that Tri-County has gone through this process.

Ray asked if the Covid funds are finite, and Reema said she wasn't sure.

Reema noted that the bike share program does not have a local cost share solidified yet.

Ray asks if the bike share program has a regional lens to it. Doug Roelfs responded that the program would begin in downtown Peoria and that Bike Peoria and the Visitor's Bureau would potentially handle the local share. Doug said that GPMTD would be interested in incorporating the bus system into the bike share app if it comes online with this project.

Greg Cassidy made a motion to fund the total eligible projects' federal share (with only Phase I for Washington) with regular 5310 dollars, plus East Peoria's local share with Covid relief funds, and to put the leftover funds into the next call for project cycle. Jodi Scott seconded. Based on a roll call vote, the motion passes.

4. Adjourn

Greg Cassidy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Chris seconded. The meeting was adjourned.