

Human Services Transportation Plan Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 5, 2021 – 12:00 PM

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 12:05 p.m.

RURAL AREA SUBCOMMITTEE				
Name	Organization	Representing	Present	Absent
Shelly Entrekin*	FCRC/FCRT	Fulton		X
Barb Long*				X
Doug Manock*	Fulton County Board	Fulton		X
Audra Miles*	Fulton County PCOM		X	
Mark Rudolph	KCCDD	Knox	X	
Pamelyn Usher	City of Galesburg	Knox		X
Hannah Fuchs	Marshall-Stark PCOM	Marshall		X
David Lueders	Marshall County Board	Marshall	X	
Mary Patton	AARP	Peoria		X
ShamRA Robinson	GPMTD - CityLink	Peoria	X	
Traci Dowell	MSW Projects	Stark	X	
J. Thomas Howes	Stark County Board	Stark		X
Joe Roberts	Tazewell County Board	Tazewell		X
Brandon Hovey	Tazewell County Board	Tazewell	X	
Tyler Rogers	ADDWC	Woodford		X
Sean Griffin	We Care	Woodford		X
URBAN AREA SUBCOMMITTEE				
Dawn Harper	EPIC	Agency	X	
**Alexis Rhoads	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

Also in attendance:

Reema Abi-Akar, TCRPC

Jim Bremner, Washington Township

Gabriel Guevara, TCRPC

Kraig Boynton, City of Galesburg

Audrey Barrett, Snyder Village

Doug Roelfs, CityLink

Ty Livingston, East Peoria

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Approval of the August 3, 2021 Minutes

Since there is no quorum, the group could not pass August minutes; this will be tabled to the next discussion. There were no comments about these minutes.

4. Provider and Agency Updates

Tazewell County Resource Centers (TCRC)

Greg Cassidy reported that the merge with WeCare is continuing to go well, and they have been able to raise drivers' salary and are now fully staffed.

Central Illinois Agency on Aging (CIAOA)

Renee Razo reported that they hired a new program manager to replace Cliff Williams. The new program manager is named Robert.

Advocates for Access

Alexis Rhoades had nothing to report.

EPIC!

Dawn Harper had nothing to report.

Tazewell County Board

Brandon Hovey working on an inclusion initiative involving high speed internet.

MSW Projects

Traci Dowel reported 5311 and DOAP contracts and ready for the next Marshall County Board meeting. Marshall has a PCOM now and hired a new driver and are back to their full load of drivers.

CityLink

ShamRA Robinson introduced herself; she is new with CityLink. She had worked previously for the City of Peoria for 17 years. She has been working on the comprehensive operational analysis (COA) regarding bus schedule changes that will take place in March 2022. Virtual public hearings and in-person meetings across the region will occur in November 2021, and further information will be posted.

CityLink is still working on their Microtransit study, and information can be found on their website. They are working on setting up dates and times for meetings regarding this study. GPMTD is collaborating with TransDev, Washington Township, and the City of Washington for a paratransit pilot expected to be funded through Section 5310 funds.

Marshal County Board

David Lueders had nothing to report.

KCCDD

Mark Rudolph had nothing to report.

Fulton County PCOM

Audra Miles had no updates.

Snyder Village

Audra Barret reported that they still need a driver.

City of East Peoria

Ty Livingston said that East Peoria is happy to host CityLink in November.

City of Galesburg

Kraig Boynton reported that he is getting situated in his new job at the city.

Washington Township

Jim Bremner talked about Washington Township's age 65-plus free taxi ride. They are seeing success in their ride program and have been getting some free marketing through several local and regional outlets.

5. HSTP Coordinator Report

Reema reported that TCRPC is in the process to hiring of a new planner due to the untimely passing of Ryan Harms. TCRPC just hired a new GIS Specialist that will be starting later this month. IDOT has given us the green light to begin updating the HSTP planning document. Reema will provide more updates in the future.

6. Illinois Public Transportation Association Conference

Gabriel and Reema gave a presentation on the different trends and ideas presented to them at the IPTA conference. Some trends that were shared with the group were that the need for drivers is a constant throughout the state and that ridership is improving. Gabriel gave examples of how transit agencies across the state have played a role in the pandemic response.

There were also ideas about what transit should be doing moving forward post-pandemic. One idea mentioned at the conference was that transit needs to move towards more demand-response service due the rise of telecommunication in the workforce.

Reema shared IDOT updates mentioned at IPTA. The consolidated vehicle procurement (CVP) program is currently looking to the expand the vehicle types in the future. Mackenzie Thiessen of IDOT shared that GATA is no longer required for 5311 recipients and that if your organization received Covid relief funds, you should spend them as soon as possible.

7. 5310 Program Update

Reema reported that Tri-County just concluded our call for projects on Oct 1st. We received three applications and are in the process of reviewing them. Reema asked for volunteers from the Urban Sub-Committee to assist on the allocation of funds for these applications. The proposed date for this special Urban Sub-Committee meeting is Oct 13th at 10:00 a.m. Reema noted that this meeting is also open to the public.

8. Other

No other was presented to the meeting.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.