

**Human Services Transportation Plan Steering Committee
Tuesday, April 2, 2024 – 12:00 PM**

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

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome, Introductions, & Roll Call

Reema Abi-Akar called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

RURAL AREA SUBCOMMITTEE				
Name	Organization	Representing	Present	Absent
Shelly Entrekina*	FCRT/FCRC	Fulton	~X	
Barb Long*				X
Doug Manock*	Fulton County Board/PCOM	Fulton		X
Audra Miles*			X	
Joe Coffin	Thrive Community Services	Knox	X	
Kraig Boynton	City of Galesburg	Knox	X	
Hannah Fuchs	Marshall-Stark PCOM	Marshall		X
David Lueders	Marshall County Board	Marshall	~X	
Mary Patton	AARP	Peoria	~X	
Heather Bouchez	Best Buddies	Peoria	~X	
Traci Dowell	MSW Projects	Stark		X
Renee Razo	CIAOA	Stark		X
Vivian Hagaman	Tazewell County Board	Tazewell		X
Max Schnieder	Tazewell County Board	Tazewell		X
Tyler Rogers	ADDWC	Woodford		X
Troy Maxwell	We Care	Woodford		X
URBAN AREA SUBCOMMITTEE				
Dawn Harper	EPIC	Agency	X	
Thane Hunt**	Advocates for Access	CIL	X	
Dr. ShamRA Robinson*	Greater Peoria Mass Transit District	Provider		X
Angel Marinich*				X
Kylie Rathmann	Express Employment Professionals	Agency	X	
Chris Mitchell*	Paratransit Users	User		X
Connie Schiele*			~X	
Jim Bremner	Washington Township	Partner	X	
Greg Cassidy	TCRC	Agency		X

* = Shared seat

** = Proxy Vote

~ = Present via phone or internet

Also in attendance:

Reema Abi-Akar, TCRPC
Jared Arthur, Snyder Village
Loni Baker, Stone-Hayes CIL

Gabriel Guevara, TCRPC
Melissa Ohrwall, IDOT

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Approval of February 6, 2024 minutes

While there was no quorum of the combined HSTP Steering Committee, a quorum of the Urban Area Subcommittee was present in person, so Reema asked if anyone from the group opposed allowing the Urban Subcommittee to vote to approve the minutes on behalf of the whole group. No attendees opposed.

Kylie Rathmann motioned to approve the minutes, and Thane Hunt seconded. Reema conducted a roll call vote of the Urban Area Subcommittee to approve the February 6, 2024 minutes, and they were unanimously approved.

4. Provider and Agency Updates

Thrive Community Services (Formerly KCCDD)

Joe Coffin had nothing to report.

City of Galesburg

Kraig Boynton reported that his organization had narrowed their RFP for dispatch software down to two firms. They hope to have software in the next six months.

Illinois Department of Transportation

Melissa Ohrwall reported that CVP application award letters were posted in January. They are set to begin building vehicles in July. More information about anticipated delivery timelines for each vehicle type is coming soon, as the larger vehicles take more time to construct. Contracts for the vehicles will be sent to agencies near delivery of the first vehicles. Melissa specified that non-profit partners' GATA profiles must be in good standing. The next CVP application will likely be in 2025. Informational sessions will be held closer to that time.

Fulton County PCOM

Audra Miles reported that the county has submitted the DOAP and 5311 their organization had submitted their application.

Advocates for Access

Thane Hunt gave no report.

Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

Gabriel Guevara reported that TCRPC's Active Transportation Plan survey was open until April 8. Reema said she would send the survey to those who had not received it or were not on the email list.

Express Employment Professionals

Kylie Rathmann reported having the same issues as before, difficulties transporting qualified people to jobs on the outskirts of town or outside normal bus hours.

Washington Township

Jim Bremner reported they had signed up three new riders in the last six weeks. They now total over 40 riders. He reported that ridership has recently held steady while still recovering from a COVID-19 drop-off.

EPIC

Dawn Harper gave no report.

Paratransit User

Connie Schiele praised the increased ridership in Washington Township and expressed support for outer-county transportation access.

Best Buddies

Heather Bouchez gave no report.

Fulton County Rural Transit (FCRT)

Shelly Entrekin gave no report.

Snyder Village

Jared Arthur gave no report.

AARP

Mary Patton gave no report.

Marshall County Board

David Lueders gave no report.

5. APTA Recommended Practices for Naloxone (Narcan) for Transit Agencies

Reema presented on recently issued American Public Transit Association (APTA) Recommended Practices for naloxone (Narcan) programs for Transit Agencies. Reema introduced fentanyl and provided basic facts on its effects

and potency. She highlighted growing concern about potential exposure to transit operators and staff. Reema noted some common symptoms of fentanyl overdose and highlighted the capabilities of naloxone to save overdosing individuals.

APTA guidance recommends identifying and coordinating with stakeholders, designating personnel to carry naloxone, and developing robust policies and procedures to establish a new program. Recommended training practices include exploring existing programs and considering current laws, regulations, and trainings. Reema highlighted the necessary conditions and recommendations for storing and maintaining the necessary supply of naloxone, including the inability to store it in vehicles.

Jim Bremner added a comment about the availability of free Narcan locally through Trillium Place. Jim also gave a comment about the Central Illinois Families Anonymous group for families of people experiencing addiction.

Mary Patton asked how drivers would be able to acquire naloxone on a route if it cannot be stored in the vehicles. Thane Hunt responded that drivers could take naloxone with them on route and remove it from the vehicle upon returning.

6. HSTP Coordinator Report

Reema reported that TCRPC will release their Call for Projects on April 17. Applications are due June 8. \$175,040 of Section 5310 funding is available in the pool for any urban projects. The application for Section 5310 funding is incorporated in a Combined Funding Application Google Form with other funding streams. Reema gave a walkthrough of the Combined Funding Application Google Form and demonstrated how to navigate to the Section 5310 funding section.

Reema reiterated that the TCRPC Active Transportation Plan Survey closes on April 8. More surveys for the HSTP Committee to disseminate will likely be available around the next HSTP Committee meeting.

Joe Coffin shared a comment about the direction of bicycle traffic when sharing the road with vehicles.

7. Other

Kylie Rathmann inquired about the results of TCRPC's in-person bus route audit. Reema responded that the report would be shared with the committee when it is finished.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.