

MINUTES
Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Technical Committee

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. CT
 456 Fulton St, Suite 420
 Peoria, IL 61602

1. Call to Order

- a. Chairperson Conrad Moore called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Member	Present	Absent	Member	Present	Absent
Amy McLaren Peoria County	X		Dennis Carr City of Washington		X
Jeff Gilles – VICE CHAIR Peoria County	X		Jon Oliphant* City of Washington		X
Cale Thompson* Peoria County		X	Patrick Meyer Village of Bartonville	X	
Paul Augspurger Tazewell County	X		Dan Corp IDOT-D4	X	
Dan Parr Tazewell County	X		Karen Dvorsky* IDOT-D4		X
Conrad Moore - CHAIR Woodford County	X		Kinga Krider City of West Peoria	V	
Andrea Klopfenstein City of Peoria		X	Charles Hess* City of West Peoria		X
Paola Mendez City of Peoria		X	Craig Loudermilk Village of Morton		X
Sie Maroon City of Peoria		X	Josh Harken City of Chillicothe	X	
Cindy Loos* City of Peoria	X		LD Chaney Village of Creve Coeur		X
Simon Grimm City of Pekin		X	Kofi Kisseh CityLink		X
Josh Wray* City of Pekin	V		ShamRA Robinson* CityLink		X
Ty Livingston City of East Peoria	X		Eric Miller TCRPC	X	
Bret Tucker* City of East Peoria	X		Ann Doubet Village of Germantown Hills	X	
Mark Lee Village of Peoria Heights	X		Gene Olson, Ex-officio MAAP		X
Dustin Sutton* Village of Peoria Heights		X			

*** = Alternate**

V = Virtual

Also in attendance, in person:

TCRPC Staff: Michael Bruner, Reema Abi-Akar, Else Hayes, Gavin Hunt, Isaiah Hageman, and Lori Reynolds.

IDOT: Doug DeLille and Simon Alwan.

Members of the public: Jeff Council.

Virtual: Josh Wray, City of Pekin; Kinga Krider, City of West Peoria; Brad Siltman, CityLink; Tony Sassine and Al-Barrae Shebib, IDOT.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2026

Jeff Gilles made a motion to approve the February 18, 2026 meeting minutes. Cindy Loos seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

5. Recommend to Commission the Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

a. Project S-27-13 IL-26 Pavement Preservation

Amy McLaren made a motion to recommend to Commission the Transportation Improvement Program Amendments. Jeff Gilles seconded the motion.

Michael Bruner stated that this is for a SMART overlay on IL-26 from the northern corporate limits of Spring Bay to the junction of IL-116. This project is being added to the FY27 program.

Motion carried.

6. Recommend to Commission the Combined Call for Projects Selection Criteria – Handout

Cindy Loos made a motion to recommend to Commission the Combined Call for Projects Selection Criteria. Mark Lee seconded the motion.

Michael Bruner stated the following:

- a. In preparation for the Spring 2026 Call for Projects, the Technical Committee directed staff to review the existing selection criteria and remove redundancies and structural inconsistencies. The Committee's direction was to:
 - i. Preserve the original intent while removing redundancies and structural inconsistencies
 - ii. Ensure consistency with current MPO planning documents, including the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan and the Tri-County Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
 - iii. Maintain alignment with federal performance-based planning requirements
 - iv. Improve cross-program comparability
 - v. Reduce administrative complexity
- b. Staff subsequently presented a consolidated, singular Project Selection Criteria framework to the Technical Committee at its February 18 meeting.
 - i. The proposed framework maintains program integrity while establishing a consistent 100-point scoring system applicable across all project types.
- c. During the discussion, the committee expressed general support for the unified framework and offered constructive recommendations.
 - i. A refinement to the Environmental Sustainability section to ensure pavement preservation projects would not be unintentionally disadvantaged under the consolidated structure; and
 - ii. Application of the new scoring framework to previously funded projects to evaluate how results compare with past funding decisions.
- d. In response to Technical Committee feedback, staff has done the following:

- i. Revised the Environmental Sustainability section to incorporate the concept of “Stewardship,” resulting in the updated title: *Environmental Sustainability & Stewardship*.
 - 1. The addition of “Stewardship” reinforces that pavement preservation is eligible by clarifying environmental benefits of lifecycle preservation, and infrastructure durability.
- ii. Completed a retrospective scoring analysis, to:
 - 1. Validate that the consolidated criteria produce reasonable and defensible results
 - 2. Identify any unintended structural bias
 - 3. Confirm that project types, including pavement preservation, reconstruction, non-infrastructure, and multimodal projects, are evaluated equitably
 - 4. Ensure the original intent and funding priorities previously adopted by the MPO hold true with the consolidated framework
- e. The scoring analysis resulted in the scoring of the following projects
 - i. Reconstruction – City of Pekin Broadway St
 - ii. Pavement Preservation – City of Washington S Main St
 - iii. TA/CRP (Enhancement Projects) – City of Peoria Pioneer Parkway Path
 - iv. Section 5310 (Transit) – City of East Peoria IL-116 Crossing
- f. Of the four projects, the largest point difference was nine points
 - i. Detailed scoring results for the four test projects are provided in Appendix A
- g. Lessons Learned & Refinement
 - i. Nondiscrimination & Accessibility – Pavement Preservation scored low due to a focus on new accessibility
 - 1. Staff addressed this by revising the scoring approach to recognize both (1) improvements to accessibility, and (2) Preservation of existing accessible routes and facilities
 - ii. Local Priority & Project Readiness – Section 5310 Non-infrastructure Projects
 - 1. Staff addressed this by adjusting point allocations by placing greater emphasis on Public Involvement and Plan Consistency instead of Engineering Status and ROW Status.
 - iii. Updated Scoring Criteria are included in Appendix B.

Doug DeLille asked if the changes make a difference in scores. Michael responded that they did not.

Cindy Loos asked what the time frame is for approval. Michael responded that it will go to the Full Commission on April 1, and depending on how fast it turns around, hopefully it will be ready for approval by the April Technical Committee meeting.

7. FY 2027-30 Transportation Improvement Program Call for Projects

a. Submit projects with BLR 17100 Form -

<https://idot.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idot/documents/idot-forms/blr/blr-17100.pdf>

Michael Bruner stated the following:

- i. As an MPO, Tri-County is federally required to develop and maintain the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which is a short-term plan that identifies all federally funded and regionally significant transportation projects programmed for state and local jurisdictions for the next four fiscal years (FY 2027-30).
- ii. Tri-County typically updates the TIP on an annual basis in coordination with IDOT and local jurisdictions. The TIP includes roadway, non-motorized, and transit projects. All projects must be consistent with the region's LRTP.
- iii. The TIP must be fiscally constrained, meaning projects are not included in the active project lists without a funding source.
- iv. Projects that are regionally significant, reflect local jurisdiction priorities, and would be included in the TIP if reasonable funding sources were available are included in the Illustrative Project List.
- v. Included in your packet is a listing of all the local jurisdictions' projects in the current TIP.
- vi. Staff asked Technical Committee members to review this list and make sure all the information is correct. Please ensure the correct program year is listed. The program year is based on the letting date, following the July 1st through June 30th timeline.

If any corrections or additions are needed, please reach out to staff by the end of the month. If staff does not hear from you, they will be reaching out in April to get status updates on your jurisdiction's current projects and to see if there are any additional projects that should be added to the FY 2027-30 TIP. Plan on using the next Technical meeting as a deadline.

8. Updates

a. MPO Certification Review

Michael Bruner reported on the following:

- i. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have jointly initiated their Certification Review of the transportation planning process for the Peoria Metropolitan Area, which by Federal statute is required at least every four years.
- ii. Our last Federal Certification Review was finalized on May 2, 2022.

- iii. The review consists of a desk review, site visit (March 10), and documentation of the process.
- iv. Included in your packet is a joint letter from the FHWA and FTA initiating the Federal Certification Review, Public Involvement and Comment Notice inviting stakeholders and the public to submit comments, and a copy of the agenda for the Certification Review.
- v. The Site Visit was successful, staff have received preliminary notice that TCRPC is recertified, and no findings were made. There will be some recommendations.
- vi. There is a public comment survey on Tri-County's website that is open until April 1.

Eric Miller praised staff for their hard work preparing for the certification and over the last four years.

b. IDOT

i. Local Roads

- IDOT's Tony Sassine reported on recent circular letters
 - 26-03 shows allocation is \$4.798 million which is up 4.6% from last year and may also have carryover
 - 26-01 pertains to the adoption of the new Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)
 - 26-02 pertains to the annual Equipment Ownership Expense index
- Tony mentioned that the new T2 (Technology Transfer) catalog is out, especially good for staff needing flagger training and ADA coordination.
- May 13-14 is SPAC ITEP workshop at the Peoria Library North Branch
 - There will be assistance with applications. When figuring deadlines for TIP, the Federal government needs it 6 weeks before letting date. Be sure to bring TIP number.

ii. **Central Office** – nothing additional to report

c. **FHWA** – no report

9. Other

- a. Patrick Meyer asked if the previous guardrail project is eligible for a grant. Michael responded that it is not, but if it's a new project, it is eligible.
- b. Reminder to send OMA training certificates to Lori
- c. Next meeting scheduled for April 15, 2026

10. Adjournment

Amy McLaren made a motion to adjourn. Ty Livingston seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.