

MINUTES

Peoria-Pekin Urbanized Area Transportation Study (PPUATS)

Technical Committee

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 9:00 am
456 Fulton St., Suite 420
Peoria, IL 61602

1. Call to Order

Chairman Andrews called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

2. Roll Call

| Member | Present | Absent | Member | Present | Absent |
|---|---------|--------|--|---------|--------|
| Amy Benecke-McLaren, Peoria County | x | | Dustin Sutton* Peoria Heights | | x |
| Jeff Gilles, Peoria County | | x | Ed Andrews, City of Washington | x | |
| Keith Munter, Peoria County* | | x | Jon Oliphant, City of Washington* | x | |
| Craig Fink, Tazewell County | x | | Patrick Meyer, Village of Bartonville | x | |
| Dan Parr, Tazewell County | x | | Terrisa Worsfold, IDOT | x | |
| Conrad Moore, Woodford County | x | | Karen Dvorsky* IDOT | | x |
| Bill Lewis, City of Peoria | | x | James Dillon., City of West Peoria | | x |
| Nick Stoffer, City of Peoria | x | | Henry Strube, Jr., City of West Peoria* | | x |
| Stephen Letsky, City of Peoria | x | | Craig Loudermilk, Village of Morton | x | |
| Jane Gerdes* City of Peoria | | x | Frank Sturm, Village of Morton* | | x |
| Andrea Klopfenstein* City of Peoria | | x | Kenneth Coulter, City of Chillicothe | x | |
| Emily Ambroso* City of Peoria | | x | Courtney Allyn, Village of Creve Coeur | x | |
| Michael Guerra, City of Pekin | x | | Nick Standefer, CityLink | | x |
| Josie Esker,* City of Pekin | | x | Joe Alexander*, CityLink | x | |
| Rick Semonski, City of East Peoria | x | | Gene Olson, MAAP | | x |
| Ty Livingston, City of East Peoria | x | | Eric Miller, TCRPC | x | |
| Mike Casey, Peoria Heights | x | | Rich Brecklin, Village of Germantown Hills | x | |

Staff: Ryan Harms, Andrew Hendon, Hannah Martin and Britney West. Also, present: Ken Park-IDOT and Kinga Krider – City of West Peoria

3. Public Comment-none
4. Approval of Minutes, August 21, 2019 Meeting
Semonski moved to approve August 21, 2019 Meeting minutes and Guerra seconded. Motion carried.
5. Recommend to Policy Committee August Financial Report and Performance Report – *Memo*
Casey moved to recommend approval of the August Financial Report and Performance Report by Policy Committee and Guerra seconded. Motion carried.
Harms noted there have been no major expenditures to show for this month’s report, but expect some to come now that the Policy Committee and the Commission approved a resolution for out of state travel.
6. **Public Hearing – Transportation Improvement Program FY2020-2023**
Casey made a motion to open the public hearing for the FY2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program. Benecke-McLaren seconded the motion and it carried.
Harms gave a brief introduction of the document to the committee, defining the program, its process and intent. Some changes in this years’ document include a reorganization of projects that puts them in order based on their implementation year. He reminded the committee that there are still no new IDOT projects, but wanted to make sure local projects were updated for this year’s program.
The document has been out for public review since the first of the month and will continue for 30 days. Comments have already been received regarding the threshold of administrative vs. committee-vote amendments to the document.
 - Urich commented that staff may want to closely examine the language regarding Environmental Justice, specifically the part about disproportionate use of funds, because it was confusing and not needed.
 - Worsfold asked when the comment period would be over. Harms replied with Oct 2, 2019.
 - Miller reminded the group that when it comes to process, there is a lot of existing variance among MPO’s in the state. If this group wants to make a change to the current process, it just needs to be documented and approved in the proper manner.Meyer motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Fink and carried.
7. Recommend to Policy Committee FY 20-23 Transportation Improvement Program – *Attachment*
Fink moved to recommend to Policy Committee FY 20-23 Transportation Improvement Program. Casey seconded and the motion carried.
 - Stoffer asked to clarify that we would be recommending this to Policy, but will potentially have more comments.
 - Andrews commented that there would also likely be a large amendment of IDOT projects coming.
 - Miller offered that Harms would keep the group informed of such activities.
 - Stoffer voiced concern that the Technical committee might not see it [before Policy approves].

- Harms admitted that could happen, but it has been this way before. Also, the Policy Committee meeting would allow for Stoffer, other Technical Committee members, and the public to provide further comment prior to their vote to approve the document.

8. Discussion of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG/STU) funds – *Memo*

The existing conditions and considerations affecting the local programming of STBG are described below:

- Policy Committee approved TIP Amendment EP-20-01 last meeting. This means there are a significant amount of remaining dollars from the FY20 STBG allotment.
- Also, in the last Call for Projects and programming process for FY23-24 STBG funds, PPUATS approved a pilot program to set aside 20% of each year's funds for resurfacing activities. That came with stipulations:
 - Not allowing a community to receive funding from **both** the resurfacing pot and the larger reconstruction/new construction pot.
 - Not allowing a community to receive funding in *future* rounds from the **same** pot it may have been awarded in *previous* funding rounds.
- In light of "Rebuild Illinois" Capital Program, PPUATS had decided to delay a Call for Projects for the STBG program until communities would have a better understanding of their MFT increases and a final listing of projects explicitly funded in the approved capital program.

- Andrews asked how far things can get pushed out before it's a problem.
- Harms replied that FY20 funds don't expire but could perhaps come under the eye of recession efforts. There is no official timetable. PPUATS could program the \$5.8M (leftover EP-20-01 funds and expected FY23-24 allotments) in one big round.
- Miller asked if anyone knew details of a bonding memo related to the capital program that was expected this week.
- Fink detailed there would be 1.5 billion for locals and that it would be delivered through the existing formula. He was unsure of when this would happen because the IDOT Multi-Year Program is such a headache. October 15 was a suggested deadline for the MYP's release – it was felt that it would turn into Armageddon if released any later. Some locals have legislative priority-projects that should be included in the MYP.
- Fink suggested we program STBG funds early next year
- Harms indicated that could happen, if it's the will of PPUATS committees.
- McLaren asked whether the legislative priority-projects issue may be cleared up during veto session. There is currently no public listing of transportation projects. Legislators could veto the MYP if they don't like what they see.
- McLaren added that there have been two MFT checks – one with original funding amount and another with the 19-cent MFT increase portion. All of these funding streams play into locals decision on how they want to use their part of the 1.5 billion, which will be spread over more than one year.
- Andrews asked if we should push our decisions further out – until after October 15th, since that was the date Acting Secretary Omer has cited.
- Miller asked if the committee could still decide on whether to program the one lump sum of STBG or separate out the programming of remaining FY20 funds and the expected FY23-24 allotments. He also reminded the committee that continuing the

resurfacing program is also a decision that needs to happen. Staff would like to have things as ready as possible so we can go ahead whenever it is that PPUATS decides to program funds.

- Andrews noted that since the last round there has been lots of mapping and PCI data collection and assessment activity. Those details should be sorted out.

Staff will republish the link to the online map of PCI data for STBG-eligible routes, however there was no PCI information collected for roads outside the urbanized area but within the metropolitan planning boundary.

In response to concerns about Fandel Road in Germantown Hills, staff clarified that the road is eligible for STBG, however because of its functional classification at the time of PCI data collection, it was not included in the scope of work for the pavement management program.

- Someone volunteered that Tazewell County is very supportive of the resurfacing set-aside. He believes it is good for the public, and the region as a whole. It helps communities leverage finite funding – the capital program won't be enough.
- Resurfacing is still only allotted 20%, so it would be worth calculating how many miles could be done at a different split, like 50%/50%. Fink illustrated that he could bond out 50% of his MFT and have more local match for STBG grants, resurfacing only.
- Coulter inquired about IDOT ratings and what conditions indicated fatal flaws where resurfacing activities would not be permitted.
- Andrews suggested to halt discussions of the scoring of resurfacing projects. First it would be worthwhile to investigate how many miles of resurfacing could be done at a 50%/50% match. A PCI of 64 is about the cutoff for maintenance/non-reconstruction activities.
- Staff reminded the committee that the region's weighted average PCI of 65.
- Miller surmised that this would be a small project for staff to produce different scenarios based on PCI and potential funding levels, so should it be done in a vacuum or should there be guidance via committee?
- Meyer suggested the November Technical Committee Meeting as a deadline for staff presentations of STBG scenarios due to the tentative October 15 MYP release date. He reiterated Fink's position that this has the potential to [beneficially] affect so many communities.
- Andrews asked if the guidance committee would be the same group of individuals as before. Meyer posited that it should be, yes. Andrews suggested it should be one or two meetings at most – a chance to get input from the most vocal people.

9. Discussion of Special Transportation Planning Studies and State Metro Planning Funds
The Special Transportation Planning Studies call for projects opened months ago. There were 5 projects submitted, totaling \$150,000 in requests for the \$90,000 pot. Those projects are:

The Bob Michel Bridge Study is one where we will seek guidance from IDOT to determine which tasks in the scope of work would be considered planning (eligible for funding) or engineering (ineligible for funding from this source).

Beyond the \$90,000 there are State Metropolitan Planning in the amount of \$100,000 that were committed as match dollars for the USDOT ADS Demo Grant. That grant application was not successful, so staff is seeking guidance from this committee as to the use of this year's \$100,000.

- Livingston asked whether there will be a similar grant opportunity coming up in the next year.
- Miller replied yes, but because we receive these funds every year, we could use future years' allotments as match and reprogram the current \$100,000 of funding. There is also the chance that grant application partners may want to pursue a project with the \$1.2M of local government match dollars, and perhaps additional private match money.
- Guerra asked whether we could get a recommendation and then decide next month
- Miller suggested the committee could also approve the \$89,000 of Special Transportation Studies projects and let the Bob Michel study float.

10. Updates

a. Long-Range Transportation Plan

Harms announced that there should be a heavy packet coming out soon and a list of projects previously submitted in the last LRTP

b. IDOT Local Roads

Ken Park had nothing to share from Local Roads office.

When asked about rumors of a delay in the ITEP application process, Park confirmed.

Letsky also identified a memo on IDOT's website which announced a delay until next summer.

11. Other

a. Next meeting scheduled for October 16, 2019

The APWA Snow Roadeo hosted by the City of Peoria and Peoria County showcased local plow operators. No scores were given. The event will be up here again next year (previously a downstate event). Guerra added that Pekin Highschool art students contributed by painting a plow.

Andrews reminded the group that the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Conference is Tuesday October 15th in Bloomington. Registration is free and the first 100 people get free lodging.

12. Adjournment

Casey moved to adjourn and Meyer seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by:

Eric Miller

Executive Director

Recorded and transcribed by Hannah Martin