



TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EST. 1958

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
456 FULTON STREET, SUITE 420
PEORIA, IL 61602
Phone: 309-673-9330
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Full Commission/Executive Board (in lieu of Lack of Quorum):

August 5, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Welcome, Recognition of Audience

Vice-Chairman Danny Phelan acting as Chair Pro Tem called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Staff introduced themselves, and Eric Miller stated that this is Intern Thomas Schnelle's last meeting, as his internship ends August 14.

2. Roll Call

Commissioner	Present	Absent	Commissioner	Present	Absent
Amanda Beadles Chillicothe	X		Leon Ricca Bartonville	X	
Rita Ali City of Peoria		X	Nate Parrott Morton	X	
Patrick Urich City of Peoria	X		Autum Jones Woodford Co.	X	
Rick Powers City of Peoria		X	Chuck Nagel - CHAIR Woodford Co.		X
Terry Keogel Creve Coeur		X	Camille Coates Peoria Co.	X	
John Kahl East Peoria	X		Danny Phelan - VICE CHAIR Peoria Co.	X	
Karl Figg Germantown Hills		X	Russ Crawford Tazewell Co.	X	
Matt Wigginton Peoria Heights	X		Cathryn Stump Tazewell Co.	X	
Mary Burress City of Pekin		X	Don Knox CityLink	X	
Lilija Stevens Washington	V		Karen Dvorsky IDOT	X	
James Dillon West Peoria	X				

V = Virtual participant

Also Present: Rebecca Eisele, Eric Miller, Michael Bruner, Reema Abi-Akar, Isaiah Hageman, Adam Crutcher, Gavin Hunt, Else Hayes, Bano Moosavi, Thomas Schnelle, and Lori Reynolds, TCRPC. Doug DeLille, IDOT. Cheryl Budzinski, League of Women Voters.

3. Public Comment – none

4. Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes of June 3, 2026

John Kahl made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 3, 2026, and Nate Parrott seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

5. Chairman Report

No report.

6. Executive Director Report

Eric Miller reported the following:

- He and Michael Bruner have been continuing visits with community partners and still have a few more to do. Everyone involved has learned a lot, and it seems like a good idea to do these visits every couple of years.
- Tri-County continues to receive interest in the Community Development Block Grant. Staff recently received a request from Havana, which is out of our tri-county area, so that will be a source of revenue if we're able to help them.
- There is renewed interest in Brownfields, with the assessment of the Harrison School site. Let staff know if you think you have a Brownfield.
- Regional Housing Needs Assessment has come up in the community meetings, so staff will be pursuing that. The original plan was to work with Smart Growth America, but they've had some staffing changes and may not have time. Staff may instead acquire a consultant and will inform the group as that proceeds. Champaign and Bloomington-Normal are already doing this assessment, so it's good to have baseline information.

7. Ways and Means Report

a. Motion to approve May 2026 and June 2026 Financial Statements and Billings (Res. 27-04)

Camille Coates made a motion to approve May 2026 and June 2026 Financial Statements and Billings, and Cathryn Stump seconded the motion.

Rebecca Eisele reported the following:

- This report covers May and June since there was no meeting in July.
- Total Operating Cash at the end of June was \$844,081.
- Total Accounts Receivable balance at the end of June was \$470,880. Of the A/R balance, \$261,630 was federal funds, \$62,126 was state funds, and \$147,124 was local funds.
- Accounts Payable balance at the end of June was \$116,015. Of that amount, \$113,956 was unpaid pass-through expenses as of the end of June. The remaining Accounts Payable balance of \$2,058 was regular monthly bills unpaid on the last day of the month.
- May ended with a deficit of \$2,121.
- June ended with a surplus of \$8,789.
- \$98,157 of local TCRPC funds have been used in FY26 for local matching funds for grants as of the end of June.
- Fiscal Year 2026 has a surplus of \$125,430 as of June 30, the end of Fiscal Year 2026.

Motion carried.

8. Administrative

a. Motion to approve IMRF Resolution for Military Leave Service Credit (Resolution 27-05)

John Kahl made a motion to approve IMRF Resolution for Military Leave Service Credit, and Leon Ricca seconded the motion.

Eric Miller and Rebecca Eisele stated that this had been done previously, but IMRF wanted a time range rather than specific dates, so this is to amend the previous document.

Motion carried.

b. Motion to authorize staff attendance at the APA Illinois Chapter Conference (Resolution 27-06)

Matt Wigginton made a motion to authorize staff attendance at the APA Illinois Chapter Conference, and John Kahl seconded the motion.

Reema Abi-Akar reported that this resolution authorizes five Commission planners to attend the American Planning Association Illinois Chapter State Conference in Evanston, Illinois, from September 30 through October 2, 2026. She stated that it is a valuable state version of the national conference, and Tri-County will be presenting about the Bus Stop Accessibility Plan. The estimated total cost for registration, lodging, travel, meals, and related expenses for five staff members is not to exceed \$8,000. Funding for this conference is included in the FY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program and is reimbursable by IDOT.

Motion carried.

c. Motion to authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with the City of El Paso for a Five-Year Comprehensive Plan Update not to exceed \$20,000 (Resolution 27-07)

Russ Crawford made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with the City of El Paso for a Five-Year Comprehensive Plan Update not to exceed \$20,000, and Autum Jones seconded the motion.

Else Hayes reported that the City of El Paso has requested TCRPC's assistance in conducting a five-year update of its existing Comprehensive Plan to ensure the plan's goals, policies, and recommendations remain relevant and responsive to current conditions. This is a focused update of the City's existing plan rather than a full comprehensive plan rewrite, which allows the work to be completed at a lower cost than a typical comprehensive planning process. The work is funded by El Paso.

Motion carried.

9. Transportation

a. Motion to approve Transportation Improvement Program Amendments, including the following actions:

i. Surface Transportation Project Amendments, including roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian project additions, funding updates, and schedule modifications (Resolution 27-08)

Camille Coates made a motion to approve Surface Transportation Project Amendments, including roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian project additions, funding updates, and schedule modifications, and Cathryn Stump seconded the motion.

Michael Bruner reported the following:

1. Project TZ-21-01 is for construction engineering for the Furrow Road Bridge Replacement and is being moved to the current FY 2027 Program Year.
2. Project TZ-21-02 is the construction portion of the Furrow Road Bridge Replacement, is being moved to the FY 2027 Program and adding additional congressional funding.
3. Project PC-27-01 is for Radnor Road for Phase II Engineering from IL-6 to Willow Knolls Rd and Reconstruction from Willow Knolls Rd to Ridgeview Dr. The project is receiving additional congressional designation funding.

Motion carried.

ii. Public Transportation Project Amendments, including project additions, funding updates, and schedule modifications (Resolution 27-09)

John Kahl made a motion to approve Public Transportation Project Amendments, including project additions, funding updates, and schedule modifications, and Nate Parrott seconded the motion.

Michael Bruner reported the following:

1. All 11 Public Transportation amendments are being moved to the current FY 2027 Program Year.
2. Of the 11, two are Transit Center projects:
 - a. Project CL-24-05 is for installing signage and kiosks.
 - b. Project CL-24-06 is for facility rehabilitation.
3. There are four vehicle projects:
 - a. Project CL-24-08 is for refurbishing diesel buses.
 - b. Project CL-26-04 is for purchasing diesel buses.
 - c. Project CL-26-05 is for purchasing hybrid diesel buses.
 - d. Project CL-26-08 is for purchasing paratransit buses.
4. There are two vehicle equipment projects:

- a. Project CL-24-09 is for purchasing and installing new fareboxes and validators.
 - b. Project 5310-24-01 is for purchasing and installing passenger counting equipment.
- 5. There are two Administrative and Maintenance Facility projects:
 - a. Project CL-25-07 is for some additional implements to the new and old facilities.
 - b. Project CL-25-08 is for replacing a new underground storage tank.
- 6. Lastly, there is one bus stop improvement project:
 - a. Project 5310-26-01 is for engineering bus stop and crossing improvements at Main and Mariners Way intersection in East Peoria.

Cathryn Stump asked if the signage and kiosk are ADA compliant. Michael stated that they will be either digital or backlit.

Motion carried.

iii. Public Transportation Project Amendments associated with IDOT's Consolidated Vehicle Procurement (CVP) program (Resolution 27-10)

Patrick Urich made a motion to approve Public Transportation Project Amendments associated with IDOT's Consolidated Vehicle Procurement (CVP) program, and John Kahl seconded the motion.

Michael Bruner reported the following:

- 1. These TIP amendments were not reviewed by the Technical Committee due to the timing of their receipt and the need for expedited action. IDOT has requested that these amendments be processed in August to incorporate federally awarded projects under its Consolidated Vehicle Procurement (CVP) Program utilizing FTA Sections 5310, 5339, and Low or No Emission (Low-No) discretionary funding.
- 2. The Peoria Urbanized Area is receiving funding for two projects through these awards:
 - a. Project S-27-15: IDOT Section 5310 Capital Program – Peoria IL UZA, awarding \$206,167 for paratransit vehicle replacements / expansion.
 - b. S-27-16: IDOT Statewide Low-No Emissions Deployment, awarding \$559,364 to provide Greater Peoria Mass Transit District with low- or no-emissions replacement vehicles and associated equipment.

Russ Crawford inquired as to whether the Technical Committee would be informed of this move, and Michael stated that they would be.

Eric Miller informed the group that the 5310 funds were unused in some previous years — lapsing funds that were given back to the state — but now, they are able to be utilized in the area they were initially intended for. Reema Abi-Akar added that there is currently an open call for CVP, so public agencies, non-profits, and transit organizations can apply for vehicles.

Motion carried.

b. Motion to approve programming of projects selected through the 2026 Combined Call for Projects and amend the Transportation Improvement Program, including roadway, bicycle, pedestrian, and public transportation projects, as outlined in the amendment summary. (Resolution 27-11)

John Kahl made a motion to approve programming of projects selected through the 2026 Combined Call for Projects and amend the Transportation Improvement Program, including roadway, bicycle, pedestrian, and public transportation projects, as outlined in the amendment summary, and James Dillon seconded the motion.

Michael Bruner reported the following:

- This resolution approves the programming of federal transportation funds through the 2026 Combined Call for Projects and amends the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include the approved projects.
- The recommendation before the Commission was reviewed by the project selection subcommittees, staff, and the MPO Technical Committee, which recommended approval of the funding package.
- Project Evaluation Process
 - Each funding category was reviewed independently by a Selection Subcommittee consisting of staff and a local agency representative.
 - Subcommittee members scored each application using the Commission's adopted scoring criteria, then staff averaged the scores from all reviewers to determine final project rankings.
 - The rankings formed the basis for the funding recommendation, along with available funding balances, federal eligibility requirements, and overall program administration considerations.
- STBG Funding Recommendation
 - The highest-ranked STBG Preservation project was East Peoria's Centennial Drive Resurfacing project, which is recommended for full funding.
 - After funding Centennial Drive, approximately \$171,000 remained in the Preservation category.
 - The two highest-ranked STBG Traditional projects were:
 - City of Peoria Abington Street Rehabilitation
 - Village of Peoria Heights Glen Avenue Rehabilitation

- Historically, the Commission has funded STBG Traditional projects at approximately 70% federal participation to fund as many projects as possible.
- For this funding cycle, all available STBG funding consists of carryover balances from prior years resulting from projects coming in under budget and conservative programming estimates.
- To maximize the use of these available balances and minimize unprogrammed funds, staff recommends increasing participation for the two highest-ranked Traditional projects to approximately 80% of eligible project costs.
- Utilizing Remaining STBG Balance
 - After funding the top Traditional projects, approximately \$974,000 remained in the Traditional category.
 - Combined with the remaining Preservation balance, approximately \$1.15 million would have remained unprogrammed.
 - Rather than banking those funds, staff looked to the highest-ranked eligible projects that could fully utilize the remaining funding.
 - Therefore, it was recommended to fund the following projects:
 - Peoria County Cameron Lane Resurfacing
 - Washington North Main Street Resurfacing
 - The remaining STBG Traditional applications could not be recommended for funding because the remaining available balance was insufficient to provide the minimum 50 percent federal participation necessary to proceed through an IDOT letting. As a result, staff evaluated eligible pavement preservation projects that could fully utilize the remaining STBG funds.
- Funding Recommendation
 - The recommendation programs approximately \$5.4 million in federal transportation funding across the STBG, Transportation Alternatives, Carbon Reduction Program, and Section 5310 programs:
 - STBG Pavement Preservation
 - East Peoria Centennial Drive from IL-116 to approximately the top of the hill (\$640,000)
 - Peoria County Cameron Lane from IL-116 to Smithfield Road (\$811,669)
 - Washington N Main Street from 900 Block to Washington Square (\$334,423)
 - STBG Traditional (Reconstruction)
 - Peoria Abington Street rehabilitation from NE Madison Avenue to NE Adams Street (\$1,144,000)
 - Peoria Heights Glen Avenue rehabilitation from Knoxville Avenue (IL-40) to Prospect Road (\$1,128,255)
 - This project is also recommended to receive \$431,745 in Transportation Alternatives funding for eligible bicycle and

pedestrian improvements, resulting in a total federal commitment of \$1,560,000.

- Enhancement (CRP & TA)
 - Peoria Heights Glen Avenue rehabilitation from Knoxville Avenue (IL-40) to Prospect Road (\$431,745 TA)
 - This project is also receiving \$1,128,255 in STBG Traditional funds, resulting in the total grant award of \$1,560,000
 - Germantown Hills to Metamora Multi-Use Path requested additional engineering funding for project elements (drainage study, retaining wall design, and temporary easements) identified during Phase I engineering (\$233,100)
 - Morton Main Street Multi-Use Path construction from Nebraska to Courtland St (\$640,000 - \$630,405 CRP & \$9,595 TA)
- Section 5310
 - Center for the Blind accessible bus stop (\$24,000)
 - Pekin Park District Miller Center Senior Transportation (\$13,034)
- This recommendation includes a remaining balance of \$199,523 in TA funds and \$310,101 in Section 5310 funds

Eric Miller stated that staff did a tremendous amount of work on this, and he wanted to commend them. This isn't an easy task, and he appreciates the work they do.

Motion carried.

c. Motion to appoint Brad Siltman and Jewel Ward to serve on the Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Region 5 Urbanized Area Subcommittee. (Resolution 27-12)

Matt Wigginton made a motion to appoint Brad Siltman and Jewel Ward to serve on the Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Region 5 Urbanized Area Subcommittee, and James Dillon seconded the motion.

Reema Abi-Akar reported the following:

- The Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) helps coordinate transportation providers and human service agencies to improve mobility for older adults, individuals with disabilities, low-income residents, and others who face transportation barriers.
 - Brad Siltman Appointment – a vacancy was created by the departure of Dr. ShamRA Robinson from the Greater Peoria Mass Transit District. Brad Siltman serves as Assistant General Manager for GPMTD.
 - Jewel Ward Appointment – a vacancy was created by the resignation of Jim Bremner from the committee, and he has recommended Jewel Ward, who is the Washington Township Supervisor, as his successor.

Motion carried.

10. Updates

- a. IDOT** – Doug DeLille stated the Transportation Enhancement Program is taking applications until October 5. Eric Miller commented that anyone that needs a letter of recommendation or assistance with the application please let him know. Doug also reported that the annual fall planning conference will be in September in Bloomington-Normal. Eric stated that staff will attend and present at that event.
- b. FHWA** – no report

11. Other

- a. Next meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.**

12. Adjournment

John Kahl motioned to adjourn. James Dillon seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Submitted by Eric Miller, Executive Director

Recorded and transcribed by Michael Bruner and Lori Reynolds.