



Policy Committee

Date: Wednesday, May 12th, 2021

Time: 3:00pm

Location: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held as a Virtual Public Meeting.

Attendance:

Voting Members

City of DeKalb: Bill Finucane
City of DeKalb: Bill Nicklas (VC)
City of DeKalb: Marcus Cox
City of Sycamore: Steve Braser
City of Sycamore: Maggie Peck
Town of Cortland: Brandy Williams
DeKalb County: Brian Gregory (C)
NIU: Not Present
IDOT District 3: Tom Magolan

Non-Voting Attendance

IDOT OP&P: Doug DeLille
FHWA: John Donovan
DSATS Staff: Nathan Schwartz, Brandon Geber

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Chair Gregory called the meeting to order at 3:01pm.

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion to approve the May 12, 2021 meeting agenda made by Ms. Peck; seconded by Mr. Nicklas; Motion approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes (Action)

Motion to approve the April 14, 2021 meeting minutes made by Mr. Nicklas, seconded by Ms. Peck; Motion approved unanimously.

4. Public Comments

No public comments.

5. New Business

Chair Gregory commented DSATS staff has compiled a list of frequently used acronyms for new committee members.

Mr. Geber added an MPO overview document was provided with the meeting packet that includes the requested list of acronyms.

a. SFY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) (Action)

Mr. Geber presented on the draft MPO UPWP for State Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022), including specific items listed within the program. Although a formal public review was not required for this document, the draft UPWP was provided on the DSATS website for public review from April 26 – May 5. No comments were received. Both TOC and TAC recommended the adoption of the plan at their joint May 5, 2021 meeting. The final draft document is presented to the committee for adoption. Mr. Nicklas thanked IDOT for their continued financial support of the local MPO.

Motion to adopt the SFY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program made by Mr. Nicklas, seconded by Ms. Peck; Motion approved unanimously.

b. SFY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (Action)

Mr. Geber presented on the update of the MPO's TIP for SFY 2022-2026, including updated document elements and the initial program of projects. The draft TIP for SFY 2022-2026 was available for public review from April 2 – May 2, including a public hearing on April 29. No comments were received. Both TOC and TAC recommended the adoption of the plan at their joint May 5, 2021 meeting. The final draft document is presented to the committee for adoption. Chair Gregory expressed his appreciation that this TIP includes projects from all member organizations.

Motion to adopt the SFY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program made by Mr. Nicklas, seconded by Mr. Braser; Motion approved unanimously.

c. Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Self-Certification (Action)

Mr. Geber presented on the annual certification of the DSATS MPO Transportation Planning Process, which is submitted concurrent to the TIP. A memo was provided to committee members that further details federal requirements for MPOs, how DSATS conforms with these requirements, and an overview and status of mandated work products. Both TOC and TAC recommended the certification of the DSATS MPO Transportation Planning Process at their joint May 5, 2021 meeting. Certification that the MPO Transportation Planning Process executed by DSATS meets all applicable requirements is presented to the Committee.

Motion to certify the DSATS MPO Transportation Planning Process made by Ms. Peck, seconded by Mr. Braser; Motion approved unanimously.

d. Public Transit Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Performance Measure Targets (Action)

Mr. Geber presented on local safety targets outlined in the City of DeKalb Public Transit's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan. Since the MPO programs FTA section 5307 urbanized funding within the TIP, it is expected to adopt regional PTASP performance targets to be used in the project planning and prioritization process. As City of DeKalb Public Transit is the only urbanized public transit provider in the MPA, staff recommends the adoption of their targets. Both TOC and TAC recommended the adoption of the City of DeKalb Public Transit's PTASP performance measure targets at their joint May 5, 2021 meeting. City of DeKalb Public Transit's PTASP performance measure targets are presented to the Policy Committee for adoption. Mr. DeLille asked for clarification on how often the PTASP targets need to be updated by the MPO. Mr. Cox responded the goal for City of DeKalb Public Transit is to provide updated figures annually. Mr. Geber added the public transit asset management targets are updated by public transit agencies annually and the MPO only updates when needed, and it is our belief the same will apply to PTASP performance targets. Mr. DeLille responded it is the responsibility of the public transit agency to submit their targets to the MPO when updated. Motion to adopt the City of DeKalb Public Transit's PTASP safety performance measure targets made by Ms. Peck, seconded by Mr. Braser; Motion approved unanimously.

6. Other Business

Chair Gregory commented while it may seem like a very busy meeting, the Policy Committee attempts to compile items together to meet only when necessary.

Chair Gregory mentioned a recent news article highlighted the question over funding for public transit services within the community and expressed his desire for DSATS work products and actions to maintain a unified vision among all communities and to emphasize the regional impact of transportation.

a. Staff and Project Updates

Mr. Schwartz explained the MPO is receiving approximately \$234,000 from the 2021 Highway Infrastructure Programs Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplementation Appropriations Act (HIP-CRRSAA), and initial input is requested from the committees on how that money should be spent. TOC, TAC, and staff recently discussed the possibility of using these funds to improve active transportation systems highlighted during the pandemic. The COVID relief funds will function similar to STU funds. Mr. Schwartz reported staff has been working on a recreational facilities map, which is now live on the DSATS website. A coordination effort is underway to develop a map of designated and local truck routes throughout the MPA, which has not been updated since 2010. Bicycle/pedestrian counters have also been placed along Peace Road and a schedule of regional deployments is being prepared for two-month segments throughout the year.

b. What's New with our State and Federal Partners

Mr. Magolan reported a railroad crossing improvement project to upgrade safety features at the intersection of IL 23 and IL 38 is ready to begin once feedback is received from the host railroad. The FY 2022-2027 MYP is expected to be published relatively soon and staff will forward a MPO TIP amendment once released. Pavement condition studies and traffic counting will also be performed throughout the region this summer.

Mr. DeLille reported ITEP projects selected for funding are pending an announcement from the Governor's office.

Additional Business

Chair Gregory reminded committee members that as Illinois moves towards reopening after the COVID pandemic, future meetings may need to occur in person.

Mr. Schwartz added staff does not anticipate needing a June meeting but will reserve the date until a decision is made.

7. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Nicklas, seconded by Ms. Peck; meeting adjourned at 3:34pm.

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Policy Committee at a subsequent meeting.