



## Policy Committee

**Date:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023

**Time:** 3:00pm

**Location:** DeKalb County Highway Department, 1826 Barber Greene Road, DeKalb, IL 60115

**Attendance:**

**Voting Members**

City of DeKalb: Bill Nicklas (Chair)  
City of DeKalb: Zac Gill  
City of DeKalb: Not present  
City of Sycamore: Michael Hall  
City of Sycamore: Not present  
Town of Cortland: Not present  
DeKalb County: Brian Gregory  
NIU: John Heckmann  
IDOT District 3: Not present

**Non-Voting Attendance**

IDOT OP&P: Doug DeLille  
FHWA:  
DSATS Staff: Nathan Schwartz

### Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** Chair Nicklas called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

**1. Roll Call**

**2. Approval of Agenda (Action)**

Motion to approve the September 13, 2023 meeting agenda made by Mr. Gregory; seconded by Mr. Gill; Motion approved unanimously.

**3. Approval of Minutes (Action)**

Motion to approve the May 10, 2023 meeting minutes made by Mr. Gill; seconded by Mr. Gregory; Motion approved unanimously.

**4. Public Comments**

No public comments.

## 5. New Business

### a. SFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Modification #1 (Action)

Mr. Schwartz presented the SFY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) modification for the Committee's review. The changes for 3 projects include funding source changes and fiscal year changes. A public comment period was completed with no comments received. The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) forwarded the item to the Policy Committee with a unanimous positive recommendation. Mr. Gregory asked if the City of DeKalb's bike path project was to be completed this year. Mr. Gill responded that it would be completed next year. Motion to approve the SFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Modification #1 made by Mr. Gregory; seconded by Mr. Hall; Motion approved unanimously.

### b. Consolidation of the TOC & TAC Committees (Action)

Mr. Schwartz provided the history of the Transit Operations Committee (TOC) and how it became a standing committee in the MPO by-laws. Since the combining of the NIU Huskie Line and urban bus service is completed and operations are running well, the need for the TOC is no longer present. Transit planning activities will be addressed by the TAC as it handled prior to the formation of the TOC. This includes any transit items to be included in the TIP. The City's urban bus service currently meets monthly with NIU. Kishwaukee College is outside the MPO area but receives the benefit of rural transit services which may originate within the MPO area. As these trips are part of the rural service instead of the urban service, they are not run through the MPO. Mr. Heckmann stated he was involved with the transition of the bus service and no longer sees the need for a separate committee. Mr. Schwartz suggested the Policy Committee, if so inclined, direct staff to bring back modified by-laws at the next committee meeting to make necessary changes remove the TOC. A motion was made by Mr. Gill; seconded by Mr. Hall; Motion approved unanimously.

## 6. Other Business

### a. Staff and Project Updates

Mr. Schwartz stated the MPO has completed several updates to planning documents are should be posted within the week. Mr. Gill stated the Peace Road project is moving along with utilities completed. The project should have substantial completion this fall. The Lucinda Avenue project will likely have an April 2024 letting. The First Street bridge should open in October or November this year while the Lucinda Avenue bridge has been reopened with utilities finished their work. Replacement of the Lucinda Avenue bridge will start in the spring of 2024. Mr. Heckmann informed the Committee that NIU's fall semester has started. The University is looking into options for the best way to use the newly closed portion of Normal Road south of Lucinda Avenue. There will be food trucks on Wednesdays to cater to students and staff.

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

Mr. DeLille reported the IDOT Fall Planning Conference has no fee this year and will be held September 2-4 in Springfield. There is a new Carbon Reduction Program in which larger MPOs known as TMAs get money directly but smaller MPOs like DSATS can apply for funds through the State. Many MPOs submitted action plans for the SS4A (Safe Streets for All) program. Other MPOs such as DSATS are working with the State to use unspent PL funds to create an action plan. Having an action plan allows a public entity to apply for an implementation project in the future.

**c. Additional Business**

None.

**7. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Gill; seconded by Mr. Gregory; meeting adjourned at 3:16pm.