

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(SIMPO)
MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
ON April 01, 2024

Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Travis Emery	Williamson County
Mitch Burdick	Jackson County
Molly Maxwell	City of Carbondale
Donnie Smoot	City of Carterville
Doug Phillips	City of Marion
Adam Lach	RIDES

Others Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Doug Keirn	IDOT
Mike Ziarnek	GERPDC/SIMPO
Cary Minnis	GERPDC
Abra Phillips	GERPDC

Welcome and Introductions

Travis Emery, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. and welcomed all present. It was noted that a quorum was present.

Approval of the March 04, 2024 TAC Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Burdick to approve the Technical Advisory Committee minutes of the March 04, 2024 meeting (included in handout). The motion carried.

Consultant Studies Update / Payment of Bills

South Market Street – Marion (Horner & Shifrin, Inc.) – the consultant has billed \$70,106.64 to date with \$4,893.36 remaining. This project is complete, and we are waiting for the final invoice. The study results can be accessed from the Transportation Studies tab of the SIMPO website. Mr. Emery noted that the information on the project has been very helpful and it's clear that there's a need there. The flooding information may cause issues with planning.

Safe Routes to School Plan (Horner & Shifrin, Inc.) – the consultant has billed \$531.21 to date (to be approved today) with \$124,468.79 remaining. The inventory of all schools in the MPO planning area has been compiled and the GIS database of infrastructure and other relevant information has been started. Staff has written the grant application for the entire Greater Egypt area and the RFQ will be posted after it's approved by the full board at the April 9, 2024 meeting.

The following invoice received March 14th, 2024 requires a vote to pay:

Invoice No.: 71744 – February 2024 - \$531.21

A motion was made by Mr. Lach and seconded by Mr. Burdick to approve payment of the bill listed above. The motion carried.

IDOT Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) – Status Update

RFQ Bicycle Planning (Tri-C, Herrin, and Murphysboro) – Status Update

Mike announced that he is looking for people from the communities represented by these plans to be a part of the selection committee and noted that Ron Mitchell nominated Steve Frattini to be on this committee.

Google Streetview – Status Update

Mike informed the group that the equipment is being purchased and we are currently waiting for the camera to come in.

IDOT Vulnerable Road User (VRU) Safety Assessment Dashboard

All states are required to develop a VRU safety assessment as part of their highway safety improvement program and the link is imbedded in today's packet.

USDOT Complete Streets AI

Mike announced that AI has arrived. USDOT has started work on a complete streets AI program and have recently posted an opportunity for American small businesses to get involved.

Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP)

Mike referred to the email from Tom Caldwell in the handout. There's a funding opportunity for up to \$44.5 million for FHWA's new ATIIP. This is a competitive grant program that will focus on building networks of connected bike and pedestrian infrastructure improvements and includes finding a better way to connect trail networks between communities. Funding is available for states, local and tribal governments, and MPOs and applicants can apply for more than one grant. The deadline for applications is June 17, 2024 at 11:59 p.m.

Other MPO Business

- IDOT Greenhouse Gas Performance Measures – information was sent out addressing these and EV charging stations. Mike encouraged everyone to visit the IDOT site to learn more.
- Carbondale is hosting an Electric and Hybrid Vehicle car show on April 13, 2024 in the parking lot of First Christian Church across from City Hall.
- Cary Minnis asked Adam Lach for an update on transit transition. Adam announced that there was a study and ideas on how to make the transition work. For right now, RIDES is helping Jackson County take over Saluki Express. They will continue to operate as a team for the next year or two.
- Cary noted that at last month's meeting, Jay Kranz announced that the STU projects moved but they're going to keep what was in the TIP
- There are only 2 more official meetings for the MPO: Cary Minnis noted that we need to decide what to do with the MPO local share funds. If anyone has ideas, please reach out to him. We may still have to occasionally meet to approve bills through December 2024. The policy committee will need to pass a resolution to dissolve the MPO designation.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Burdick and seconded by Mr. Lach to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:57 pm.