

SIouxLAND INTERSTATE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COUNCIL
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
Policy Board

Minutes of the March 4, 2010 Meeting

1:30 P.M.

SIMPCO, 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Monson, Chair	Woodbury County, Iowa
Tom Padgett, Vice Chair	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Craig Anderson	Plymouth County, Iowa
Ken Beaulieu	Dakota Dunes CID, South Dakota
Sandra Ehrich	City of South Sioux City, Nebraska
William McLarty	Dakota County, Nebraska
William Merrill	City of North Sioux City, South Dakota
Keith Radig (<i>substitute for John Fitch</i>)	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Sid Seward	City of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
Marvin Sorensen	City of Sioux City, Iowa / Transit System

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ross Jordan	Union County, South Dakota
	City of Dakota City, Nebraska

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Dakin Schultz	Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT)
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GUESTS

Terry Hoffman	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Chris Payer	City of Sioux City, Iowa

STAFF

Michelle Bostinelos, Transportation Planning Director	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Eric Sanders, Transportation Planner II	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Kellee Van Bruggen, Transportation Planner II	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Dwight Lang, Co-Executive Director	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Jane Gilbert, Co-Executive Director	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
Sharon Burton, Secretary	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council

The Policy Board met on Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 1:30 p.m., at SIMPCO, 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa. A quorum was present. Mark Monson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

- I. **Approval of the Agenda** – Chair Mark Monson asked if there were any corrections to the agenda. ***Bill McLarty moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Sandy Ehrich. No further discussion. Motion carried.***
- II. **Approval of the Minutes** – Chair Mark Monson asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of January 13, 2010 Policy Board regular meeting. ***Tom Padgett moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Ken Beaulieu. No further discussion. Motion carried.***

Chair Mark Monson asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of February 18, 2010 Policy Board special meeting.

Sandy Ehrich moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Sid Seward. No further discussion. Motion carried.

- III. **Review Monthly Correspondence** – Michelle Bostinelos provided an overview of the director's report included in the meeting packet. Staff is working with an Iowa State University (ISU) planning class on a bike and pedestrian connectivity project. The class conducted an online survey through Survey Monkey and will present the results at the ISU Design West Center in Sioux City on April 8th at 1:00 p.m. Ms. Bostinelos and Eric Sanders have been

meeting with the cities and counties to discuss the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) projects to consider while developing the plan. Staff continues to attend Tri-State Traffic Management meetings. One focus of this group is the number of winter traffic accidents resulting from blowing and drifting snow south of Sloan on I-29. Staff attended the Lewis and Clark Multi-Use Trail meeting held in February. She reported the consultants are finalizing the proposed trails and will be holding public meeting in May or June. Staff has been attending Southbridge Economic Development Council (SEDCO) meetings. Staff completed the process of amending the 2030 LRTP and FY 2010 – 2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include possible Iowa stimulus II projects. She noted a 30-day public comment period and public input meeting was held and no public comments were received. Kellee Van Bruggen, Dwight Lang and Ms. Bostinelos attended a NDOR meeting held for MPOs in Nebraska. Discussions included MPO issues, the new transportation bill and future funding.

IV. Transportation Improvement Progress Report – Members provided an overview on the status of current and future projects.

Dakin Schultz with Iowa DOT reported Segment 3 of the I-29 Reconstruction Project would be let this spring.

The House did pass a bill that identifies funds for transportation. Approval of a second round of stimulus funding is uncertain at this time.

This year progress on U.S. Highway 20 will include letting all grading over to U.S. Highway 71 and resurfacing in Ida County.

V. FY 2011 – 2014 Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) Annual Update – Michelle Bostinelos reported the PTP, which was previously referred to as the Passenger Transportation Development Plan (PTDP), is prepared every five years and updated annually for both the MPO and Siouxland Regional Transportation Planning Association (SRTPA). The goal of the plan is to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults and individuals with lower incomes by working with health and human service agencies, public transit and local government on the coordination of transportation resources provided through federal programs. Staff developed the plan with assistance from the Coordinated Transportation Issues Committee (CTIC), which is comprised of representatives from public and private transportation providers, human services agencies, interested parties and the public. She noted federal funding tied to transit projects must be identified in the PTP.

Ms. Bostinelos explained the FY 2011 – 2014 PTP annual update outlines last year's coordination efforts including the status of previously recommended projects, newly developed projects and other developments regarding coordination or needs. She noted staff worked with the CTIC to prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Section 5316 and New Freedoms Section 5317 funding. The RFP was distributed to health and human services agencies and allowed coordination between one or more agencies and the public transit agency. She noted several agencies inquired about utilizing funding, but no completed RFPs were submitted for consideration.

Ms. Bostinelos reported the PTP was submitted to the Iowa DOT and a few minor comments were received. Staff has addressed these comments; and is now requesting members review the update presented and return comments by April 2, 2010. The final document will be presented at the May 6, 2010 meeting for approval.

Discussion followed on the recent closing of two businesses that provided wheelchair transportation services, the strain those closures have put on Sioux City Transit and Siouxland Regional Transit System, a mobility manager position and volunteer transportation. Ms. Bostinelos reported the mobility manager position would provide a centralized professional management of existing transportation services. Staff is researching local funding to meet federal match requirements as well as determining long-range strategies to keep the position operating when federal funds are no longer provided. Also the Sioux City area is being considered for a pilot volunteer transportation program by Audino & Associates. A volunteer transportation summit to discuss how to develop and operate a volunteer program has tentatively been scheduled for May 20, 2010 in Sioux City.

VI. FY 2013 Surface Transportation Program (STP) / Transportation Enhancement (TE) Balance and Applications – Kellee Van Bruggen reported on an annual basis the MPO solicits applications for the Iowa DOT STP program. Staff sent Requests for Proposals to Iowa members on November 13, 2009 with a deadline of December 18, 2009. Four applications were received totaling \$16,311,000. Since the Iowa DOT has not provided the STP target amount for FY 2014, MPOs have been advised to use their FY 2013 targets knowing this number may need to be adjusted. The FY 2013 target was \$1,919,700 and with an unused balance from previous years of \$78,600, the estimated total STP balance is \$1,998,300. If contributions of \$8,200 to the Statewide Urban Design

and Specifications (SUDAS) and \$9,400 to the Pavement Management System Implementation were continued in FY 2014, the estimated remaining STP balance would total \$1,980,700.

Ms. Van Bruggen reviewed the following applications:

City of Sioux City: 18th Street Overpass, total cost \$13,945,000, Federal request \$11,156,000 (80%)

City of Sioux City: Hamilton Boulevard Reconstruction, total cost \$3,600,000, Federal request \$2,880,000 (80%)

City of Sioux City: Riverside Boulevard/War Eagle Drive Improvement Project, total cost \$475,000, Federal request \$275,000 (58%)

City of Sioux City: Interstate 29 Reconstruction Project, total cost \$250,000,000, Federal request \$2,000,000 (0.8%)

She reported the TTC met yesterday, March 3rd, and recommended the following allocation of STP funds for FY 2014: \$8,200 to Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS), \$9,400 to Pavement Management System Implementation, \$275,000 to the Riverside Boulevard/War Eagle Drive Improvement Project, and the balance of \$1,705,700 to the Interstate 29 Reconstruction with the provision that funding for this project will be used for construction costs and not aesthetics. Discussion followed.

Bill Merrill moved to accept the recommendation of the TTC and allocate STP funds for FY 2014 as follows: \$8,200 to Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS), \$9,400 to Pavement Management System Implementation, \$275,000 to the Riverside Boulevard/War Eagle Drive Improvement Project, and the balance of \$1,705,700 to the Interstate 29 Reconstruction with the provision that funding for this project will be used for construction costs and not aesthetics, seconded by Bill McLarty. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Kellee Van Bruggen reported Requests for Proposals for the Iowa DOT STP Transportation Enhancement (TE) program were also sent to Iowa members on November 13, 2009 with a deadline of December 18, 2009. Staff received one TE request totaling \$184,800. The FY 2013 target was \$144,891 and due to a negative balance from past year the estimated available balance for FY 2014 is \$90,800.

She reported yesterday the TTC and recommended allocating \$90,800 in TE funding to the Riverfront Trail Interstate 29 Reconstruction for FY 2014.

Sandy Ehrich moved to accept the recommendation of the TTC and allocate \$90,800 in TE funding to the Riverfront Trail Interstate 29 Reconstruction project for FY 2014, seconded by Marvin Sorensen. No further discussion. 9 yabs, 1 nay Motion carried.

Mr. Van Bruggen reported the selected STP and TE projects would be included in the FY 2011 – 2014 Transportation Improvement Program.

- VII. Final Revisions to the MPO Policy Board and TTC Bylaws** – Michelle Bostinelos reported proposed revisions to the bylaws were presented at the January 13, 2010 meeting. Members were asked to review the revisions and return comments. She noted no comments were received. The TTC did approve the recommendation for approval of all revisions to the TTC bylaws as presented.

Ms. Bostinelos reported the most significant change to the bylaws is the quorum requirements. The bylaws previously defined a quorum as *those designated voting members or alternates in attendance*; the definition of the proposed revision is *simple majority of voting members*. She clarified a simple majority for both the Policy Board and TTC would be seven. Also included in the new bylaws is the option to conduct a meeting by electronic means only in circumstances where such a meeting in person is impossible or impractical.

Ken Beaulieu moved to approve all final revisions to the Policy Board and TTC Bylaws, seconded by Sid Seward. No further discussion. Motion carried.

VIII. **FY 2010 – 2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment** – Michelle Bostinelos reviewed the proposed amendment. She reported the TTC did approve the recommendation for approval of the TIP amendment as stated on the agenda.

1. Two 30' heavy duty low floor expansion buses for Sioux City Transit System for a total estimated cost of \$360,000 with \$298,800 federal participation (5309/Stimulus II) in FY 2010.

Craig Anderson moved to accept the recommendation of the TTC and approve the FY 2010 – 2013 TIP amendment as stated on the agenda, seconded by Tom Padgett. No further discussion. Motion carried.

IX. **Draft MPO Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) FY 2011** – Kellee Van Bruggen reported the TPWP is a federally required document prepared annually. It details transportation planning activities staff will undertake during the fiscal year including the task object, previous work, project description, future projects and budget information.

Ms. Van Bruggen provided an overview of the draft FY 2011 TPWP. She reported the estimated total funding for FY 2011 is \$368,172 with \$72,779 local match. Because the current transportation bill expired on September 30, 2009 and all States are operating under a patchwork of continuing resolutions, the FY 2011 TPWP financial summary is subject to change based on future transportation planning funds. Discussion followed.

Ms. Van Bruggen asked members to review the FY 2011 TPWP and return comments by April 8, 2010. The final document will be presented at the May 6, 2010 meeting for approval. Upon final approval it will be submitted to the Iowa DOT, South Dakota DOT and Nebraska DOR.

X. **2035 Long Range Transportation Plan – Draft Chapter 4: Transit** – Michelle Bostinelos explained Chapter 4 of the 2035 LRTP examines the current transit system within the MPO planning area and projects future transit needs and projects. She provided an overview of the chapter noting descriptions of Sioux City Transit's new fixed routes, a map illustrating transit stops and routes, and the 2010 fare structure are included. Operating expenses and revenues were based on FY 2009 numbers.

Members were asked to review Chapter 4 and return comments by April 2, 2010. She noted staff plans to host a stakeholder's review committee meeting next month for additional review and comments on this chapter.

XI. **Additional Comments** – Michelle Bostinelos noted the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 6, 2010, 1:30 p.m., 1122 Pierce Street, Sioux City.

Discussion followed on whether a resolution should be established stating any modifications to projects identified and approved by the Policy Board in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) would have to come through the Policy Board for consideration and support. Discussion followed on moving funds, changing project descriptions and contract modifications. Federal Highway Administration has been consulted for clarification to assure the correct Federal process is followed.

Sandy Ehrich moved to establish a resolution stating any modifications to projects previously identified and approved by the Policy Board in the Transportation Improvement Program would have to be favorably agreed upon by the Policy Board before proceeding, seconded by Bill McLarty. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

XII. **Adjournment** – ***Sandy Ehrich moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ken Beaulieu. No further discussion. Motion carried.*** The meeting adjourned at 2:25 P.M.