

WILL COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL LEAGUE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MEETING

Wednesday, December 7th, 2022
Cemenos Pizza, 1630 Essington Road, Joliet IL

DRAFT MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Attendance & Introductions

The following Municipal Members were present: Beecher - Barber, Bolingbrook - Rickelman, Braidwood - Altiery, Channahon- Dolezal, Coal City - Matt Fritz, Crest Hill, Diamond - Kernc, Homer Glen, Lemont, Lockport, Monee, New Lenox, Plainfield, Romeoville, Shorewood, University Park, Wilmington, County of Will

Others Present: HR Green, PACE, CMAP, RTA, ISTHA, IDOT Local Roads- Kevin Stallworth,

Staff Present: Porter

C. Approval of Minutes September 7, 2022

Motion:

First: Channahon

Second: Romeoville

Roll Call Vote: Approved by all with none opposed

II. PROGRAM UPDATES

A. RTA- RTA is holding a strategic plan movers workshop today on the 2023 proposed operating budget and informed me they won't be attendance.

B. METRA- No update

C. Pace - Ed Gallagher updated us on the PACE 2023 speaking points.

- Ridership at about 65% pre-pandemic levels.
- Balanced budget: No fare increases
 - Elimination of transfer cost to Pace to Pace regular bus service
 - CTA/Pace changes
- Joliet Multimodal Transportation Center:
 - Opened in December 2021:
 - Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Gov Pritzker & Congressman Bill Foster visited in May
 - Rebuild Illinois: \$9.7 million
 - Collaborative project with City of Joliet
- Plainfield Garage
 - Opened in October 2023

- Adjacent to the Plainfield Park-n-Ride
- First new fixed route garage in 30 years
- Collaborative project with Plainfield
- Rebuild Illinois, \$52 million
- Moved operations from Joliet
- Still using the Joliet garage for other purposes
- Will County Grant given by Pace: \$200,000
 - Will county using for the current Paratransit Study to try and coordinate services in the county
 - Pace will increase the Dial-a-Ride contribution for 2023 by 15%
- Route Elimination
 - The routes that were suspended due to Covid are being eliminated permanently. We cannot keep them as temporarily suspended
 - Only 1 in Will County and that was to Lewis University (I-55 Reverse Commute)
- Electrification:
 - Going to zero-emission by 2026
 - Just purchases first electric bus, 20 more in 2023
 - Pace North Division in Waukegan is first garage
- Pilot Programs:
 - Vango
 - Launched in June in Lake County
 - You know what it is
 - TNC Partnerships:
 - Supplement ADA Paratransit Service
 - Helps with our (and our contractor) driver shortage
 - Using Uber/Lyft as opt-in program
 - Looking to expand this in 2023
 - Transit App:
 - Trip Planning App launched Nov 2022
 - Starting with fixed routes, then adding On-Demand

D. ISTHA- Kelsey Passi - Kelsey stated the following updates for Illinois State Tollway Highway Authority:

Tollway 2023 Budget

- The Illinois Tollway welcomed public review and comment in November for its Tentative 2023 Budget and appreciates support from Markham which provided its city hall as one of the Tollway’s public hearing sites. The Tollway Board is expected to approve the balanced in December with \$1.55 billion of revenue to support a spending plan that includes \$426.5 million for annual maintenance and operations on the 294-mile system and provides funds to support \$1.47 billion in capital spending, including funding for the 12th year of the agency’s 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future. As part of the Illinois Tollway’s 2023 Budget process, the general public is invited to visit the Illinois Tollway’s website www.illinoistollway.com to review the Tentative 2023 Budget book or view a recording of the presentation to the board.

Veterans Memorial Trail

- Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassandra Rouse was honored to join local leaders in Will County to celebrate opening of the new 3.5 miles section of the Veterans Memorial Trail in October. The collaboration first envisioned as a part of the I-355 Tollway South Extension Project, continues to be realized through the tremendous work of local communities. The Tollway commends the Forest

Preserve District of Will County and City of Lockport and all the other communities supporting this project for making this happen.

Move Over Law

- The Illinois Tollway reminds drivers to slow down and move over whenever they approach any vehicle stopped on the roadside that has its hazard lights activated. In 2022 alone, inattentive drivers have struck Tollway vehicles 29 times, a number that is up by more than 30 percent from last year. It's a dangerous problem – not just for roadway workers and emergency responders, but for drivers themselves. The Move Over Law requires drivers to slow down and, if possible, safely change lanes when approaching any vehicle stopped on or along a road with its hazard lights flashing. Drivers who fail to comply with the Move Over Law face serious legal penalties, including fines of up to \$10,000, a two-year suspension of driving privileges and in some cases, a jail sentence.

Winter Construction Work Zones

- The Illinois Tollway is moving ongoing construction projects into winter configurations with work scheduled to continue as weather allows. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to changes in traffic patterns. Work zone speed limits will continue to be in effect in all construction zones 24/7 and drivers should continue to watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution, especially when workers are present. Up-to-date information regarding closures will be available in the Illinois Tollway's Daily Construction Alert. All work is weather dependent.
- Areas where ongoing work zones may impact traffic include:
 - The Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project
 - The I-294/I-57 Interchange Project
 - The I-290/I-88 Interchange Project at I-294

E. IDOT Local Roads- Kevin Stallworth - Update on projects within Will County, including design approval, ROW certified and target letting dates. First project is Beecher Penfield Street target letting is June 2022. Channahon West bridge street bike Trail target letting date is September 2022. Joliet Spring Creek target design approval is September 2022, Target letting June 2023. Joliet Township Farrell Road project on hold due to funding issue. Manhattan Baker Rd target letting is September 2022. Monee Monee Manhattan target letting January 2025. Monee Court street target letting is June 2022. Plainfield 143rd Street from IL 59 to IL 126 target letting date is November 2022. Plainfield- Plainfield Naperville at 127th target letting is 2023. Plainfield Renwick Rd River Rd to IL 59 target letting is 2024. Plainfield S Indian Boundary over Spring Hide Creek target letting is November 2022. Romeoville Budler Road target letting is June 2022. Troy Township Shepley Rd over DuPage River design approval is June 2022 and target letting is March 2023. Will County Caton Bruce Rd at the FHWA coordination meeting they expressed some of their concerns about the county needs. Will County 143rd State to Bell Rd target letting is November 2023. Will County Bell 123rd target letting is September 2022. Will County Bell Rd 159th target letting is

F. CMAP- Mary Weber - Weber shared information and updates for the CMAP Future Leaders in Planning Program. Applications are due June 20th, 2022. Details will be sent to PL (Porter) for distribution following the meeting.

III. WCGL UPDATES

A. Porter presented a cost increase request for the Village of Beecher for the Penfield and Gould project for Phase 1 Engineering and the Construction/Construction Engineering phase in the amount of \$570,542 in FFY 2022.

a) Approval of Minutes December 7th, 2022

Motion:

First: Bolingbrook

Second: Lemont

Roll Call Vote: Approved by all with none opposed

- B. Quarterly Reports are due this December, if you have not already this is a reminder to submit your quarterly report. CMAP will begin to enforce the removal of funds if quarterly reports aren't being submitted on time if not at all. So let's avoid any possible funding mishaps in the future, thank you.
- C. Porter shared some grant and federal funding opportunities with the attendees. The RAISE Grant (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity grant). A total of \$1.5 billion is available for the 2023 FY raise grant program. Details of the federal award amount, cost sharing and matching and Submission requirements will be included in the NOFO packet. Applications are due by 11:59 PM Eastern on February 28, 2023. Applications must be submitted through grants.gov website. Updates on this opportunity is scheduled to be released on or before December 14, 2022 with complete program requirements and application information. Contact information for any further assistance or questions will be included in the packet.
- D. IDOT has officially launched its Competitive Freight program which makes up to \$35 million per year for the next 4 years available for highway projects (another \$15 million per year is available to multimodal freight projects). Illinois anticipates funding of approximately \$200 million (\$50 million per year) of National Highway Freight Program funds in years FY 2023- FY 2026 through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The maximum award amount for a project will be the full amount of federal funds provided for the fiscal year in which the project is programmed. These are federal funds and will require a 20% non-federal contribution. The program will focus on achieving the goals of Highway Measures (Public Roadways) and Intermodal Measures (Water or Rail Infrastructure or facilities) categories. The application opened on November 14, 2022 and the deadline is December 19, 2022 at 11:59 PM. The finalized rankings will be released in February of 2023 and the announcement of successful projects will be in Spring 2023. More details on this opportunity will be sent out following today's meeting.
- E. Porter reported on Grundy County's Transportation Plan status and updates. WCGL has coordinated and been a part of the Grundy County Transportation Master Plan Strategy that started in January of this year 2022. The transportation Master Plan purpose is to identify the transportation needs for the current level of commerce and population in the area and for the future buildout potential identified. The goal is to integrate transportation investments to produce on-going economic benefit, improve the safety of the transportation system and create a more efficient flow of goods in the area while providing transportation alternatives for residents. The study area includes the entire area of the County inclusive of Morris, Channahon, Mazon, Diamond, Minooka, Dwight, Seneca and Coal City. Additionally, traffic and industrial activity in neighboring counties will be considered in the analysis of current and projected transportation gaps and needs. I am pleased to say the plan is going steady and has been awarded the IDOT grant in the total of \$320,000 federal share. The process has begun and we are on track following the scope for the final plan completion in March 2024.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Jacob Seid a representative at Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) gave a presentation on the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).

V. NEXT MEETING

The schedule for 2023's Transportation Committee meetings will be sent out following today's meeting.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

First: Channahon

Second: Romeoville

Approved as presented by unanimous vote, June 1, 2022