



RTPO Technical Advisory Committee
Monday, September 11, 2023

Voting Members present: Jim Bischoff, Tyler Bumbalough, Scott Coleman, and Mark Mowery for Steve McCall and Scott Schmid. **Absent Voting Members:** Tam Blakely and Gary Ledford.

Ex-Officio/Non-Voting Members present: Louis Agresta, Brad Bodenmiller, Heather Martin, and Melanie Runkel.

Guests present: Adele Evans, ODOT District 7 & 8; and Kris Myers, City of Bellefontaine.

The Technical Advisory Committee was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Tyler Bumbalough.

New Business:

1. Welcome and Introductions were completed.
2. June 5, 2023, Meeting Minutes
 - a. Jim Bischoff moved a motion to accept the minutes as written and Mark Mowery seconded. All in favor.
3. Project Updates
 - a. Louis Agresta provided an explanation about SPR funding and options. Louis reported that \$38,000 was carried forward and must be spent by December. The current budget is \$80,000 for this line item. There is currently one project, the City of Urbana North Main Street Safety Study at a cost of \$26,890. There's an additional Urbana project, the Urbana Signal Study with a cost between \$95,000 and \$96,000. This project may be trimmed because of a lack of funds to cover the entire study. Because of these two projects, there is no funding for any additional studies. Louis asked Kris for information about a potential project.
 - b. Kris Myers stated they were interested in a study for a bike trail between Bellefontaine and Indian Lake. In the 2015 Transportation Plan, this trail was listed as the number one trail project. A feasibility study is needed. There's no railroad corridor. Need to find out if there's a corridor that makes sense. Kris stated he understands if there's a more important project. This helps them consider other funding options. Adding an Indian Lake bike trail to the Simon-Kenton trail is beneficial.



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- c. Louis Agresta stated a feasibility study such as this would be about \$35,000.
 - d. Brad Bodenmiller provided further information about this feasibility study project. It would need to look at paths to Hardin County as well. He explained that the cost of the Urbana Signal Study was high, and the City of Urbana was asked to contribute towards the study but declined.
 - e. Tyler Bumbalough reported the City has identified three lights to remove from the study to reduce cost.
 - f. Louis Agresta suggested the Logan County Bike Trail Feasibility Study could be the big project for FY25.
 - g. Tyler Bumbalough stated Urbana has been blessed with lots of studies from this program and listed all the ones completed and paid for through the RTPO program. Urbana has used the money and is winding down the study needed. He reported this is the last study for the City of Urbana. We want other entities to be able to use the funding.
 - h. Louis Agresta would like to get the signal study down to \$75,000. He discussed the planning program and explained that if all funds aren't used in one work allocation, it can be amended.
 - i. Brad Bodenmiller stated that if there were extra money, he would like to buy one underground counter for the bike trail and test it.
 - j. Louis Agresta provided information on the bike counters and potential locations.
 - k. Tyler Bumbalough asked if these can be bought with this funding.
 - l. For the City of Urbana North Main Street Safety Study, Louis Agresta reported that he and Melanie Runkle are doing a traffic study after the meeting. They need to look at striping, signage, and crash data as well. Schott Schmid asked Tyler Bumbalough about the project.
 - m. Jim Bischoff asked how the City applies for funding for the Logan County Bike Trail Feasibility Study. Louis Agresta stated they needed to bring it to the meetings and email about it. Brad Bodenmiller stated there is no application, and that they are on the list for funding for this project. That no further action is needed from the City. Kris Myers advised he would talk to the Villages about getting involved and Brad Bodenmiller stated he has spoken with each of them previously.
4. RTPO Capital Program Updates
- a. Louis Agresta reported on this item. He stated that the roster of projects is the same as previously and that there is an increase in capital dollars. It's important that leaders see the value in the Capital Program. For FY24 there's been an increase to \$311,000. He explained what the capital program is. He also explained the project roster.
 - b. Melanie Runkle heads this project and asked each entity about the project status.

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- Mark Mowery reported for the Champaign County project that plans are being prepared. Scott Schmid reported the Environmental is cleared.
 - Melanie Runkel asked if the Urbana Bike Trail would be encumbered by Q1. Scott Schmid provided information and Melanie advised they have until the end of the month.
 - A discussion happened regarding the extra funding available for projects. Louis suggested funding be carried over to help with a City of Urbana project scheduled in FY25 and Scott Schmid advised that funding should be considered for FY24 projects.
 - Louis Agresta suggested soliciting projects for this increase in funding. Brad Bodenmiller provided information on Pathfinder's interest in funding a project. Louis stated he doesn't believe they qualify for funding. Scott Coleman stated his understanding is they would qualify once they completed their paving project, which they did.
 - Tyler Bumbalough stated the City of Urbana's project cost is over the estimate so far. Louis Agresta advised that if additional funds are added, an amendment is not needed. Scott Schmid advised that this is an FY25 project, and the funds should be considered for FY24 projects.
 - Further discussion happened regarding this funding.
 - Scott Coleman asked for clarification on the funding. He's going to update his cost estimates and send them to Melanie Runkel for the Logan County project scheduled for FY24.
 - Brad Bodenmiller is going to speak to ODOT about the bike path and funding. Louis Agresta is going to schedule a meeting with Trish for the bike path and Scott if needed.
5. ODOT Urban Area Boundary Review/Functional Class Update
- a. Louis Agresta reported on this item. He stated that every ten years ODOT updates maps and does an urban boundary update. This is to smooth boundaries. The functional update is related to Federal Highway classifications which he stated Steve McCall is very interested in. Brad Bodenmiller provided further information and his experience with this item. Scott Schmid and Erin Westfall are the contacts. Further discussion happened regarding this item. More information will be provided at the December meeting, Scott Schmid will give a presentation. Brad Bodenmiller will supply the AV equipment for this presentation.
6. Mobility Management and Transit Updates
- a. No transportation was in attendance.
7. 2023 TAC Meetings – December 4.

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8. Other

- a. Heather Martin followed up regarding contact from the Village of Belle Center in July. Louis Agresta stated he spoke with them and they are working with ODOT. Scott Schmid said ODOT is working with the Village.
- b. Louis Agresta asked Tyler Bumbalough about trimming near a pole on the west side of 68 where he and Melanie Runkel will be doing their traffic study after the meeting.

Adjourn: Scott Coleman moved a motion to adjourn the RTPO Technical Advisory Committee meeting at 10:31 am and Mark Mowery seconded. All in favor.

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