

MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 16, 2021

9:00 AM

Virtual Meeting - Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mack called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

A. Roll Call/Introductions (Sign-In Sheet)

The meeting had a quorum (minimum of 7 members).

Council Members Present:

1. Village of Algonquin – Bob Mitchard
2. Village of Bull Valley – Emily Berendt
3. Village of Cary – Erik Morimoto
4. City of Crystal Lake – Abby Wilgreen
5. Village of Huntley – Tim Farrell
6. Village of Johnsburg – Claudett Sofiakis
7. City of McHenry – Greg Gruen
8. Village of Ringwood - Rick Mack, Chair
9. Village of Spring Grove – Mike Lee
10. McHenry County – Jon Paul Diipla

Staff Present:

1. McHenry County Council of Mayors – Ryan Peterson, Planning Liaison
2. McHenry County Council of Mayors – Jon Paul Diipla, Executive Director

Others Present:

1. Village of Cary – Courtney Sage
2. City of Woodstock – Andrew Celentano
3. EEI – Joseph Cwynar
4. IDOT – Katie Herdus
5. Tollway – Lauren Platt
6. Pace – Mary Donner
7. CMAP – Kama Dobbs

2. MINUTES APPROVAL

Approval of the minutes for the July 15, 2021 McHenry County Council of Mayors meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Lee and seconded by Mr. Mitchard to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously. A list of the votes can be found on the last page.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

4. PROGRAM & AGENCY UPDATES

- A. IDOT Highway Report – Katie Herdus
Ms. Herdus provided an update via email due to technical difficulties during the meeting.
- B. Pace Report – Mary Donner
Ms. Donner announced that Pace will be releasing their annual budget, with an option for residents to provide comments during a budget public hearing.
- C. Metra Update – Rick Mack
Chair Mack reported ridership is slowly increasing since its rapid decline due to COVID-19. Metra will be hosting a public hearing to gather public input on their budget.
- D. RTA Update – Andy Plummer
Not present, no report.
- E. McHenry County Division of Transportation Update – Jon Paul Diipla
Mr. Diipla informed attendees on the progress of the ongoing McHenry County Connection and the soon-to-be starting update to the Long Range Transportation Plan. MCDOT will also be releasing their FY22-FY26 Transportation Program. Several federally-eligible bridge projects, including Charles J. Miller and the Kishwaukee River Road bridges will be undergoing renovations in the coming fiscal year. Additionally, MCDOT is currently hiring a Public Information Officer and Planning Liaison.
- F. Illinois Tollway Update – Lauren Platt
Ms. Platt announced that the Tollway has expanded the I-Pass assistance program, which allows customers who couldn't use I-Pass previously because of cost to start an account with a \$4 deposit and no \$10 transponder cost. The Tollway violation relief program was extended through August 2021. Fines were reduced from \$20 or \$50 to \$3 per toll. The Tollway saw 23% of \$50 fines paid and 85% reduction in \$20 fines. Cashless tolling is still in effect, with options being to be by I-Pass, plate, or EZ Pass. There is still a 14-day grace period.

At the toll plazas, additional signage and striping is being implemented to reduce maintenance costs. There are long-term plans for each site. In construction, I-294/I-55 interchange work has started, as well as work on I-490, which allows for direct access in and out of O'Hare.

- G. IDOT STP Local Program Update – Gerardo Fierro
Not present, no report.
- H. CMAP Report and Council of Mayors Executive Committee Report – Kama Dobbs
Ms. Dobbs announced that the joint CMAP Board & MPO Policy Committee meeting will most likely be virtual. The first annual State of the Region event will be hosted on October 7th. CMAP staff is currently reviewing and seeking approval for all TIP changes. She also announced that IDOT is offering funding for improving freight routes and Safe Routes to School. IDOT is currently developing a new tool to create a data-driven project selection process.

5. CRRSAA FUND ALLOCATION - SCENARIOS

Mr. Diipla and Mr. Peterson provided updates on the new funding available to MCCOM. In total, the Council was provided \$1,080,983 in funding, with several criteria that must be followed in order to be allocated. The projects that receive this funding must exemplify Innovation, Safety, and Equity in order to be eligible. This funding must be spent within FY22. The program is due to CMAP by November 24, 2021. MCCOM staff is planning to present a draft program at the next Council meeting.

6. MCHENRY COUNTY CONNECTION BIKE PLAN

Mr. Peterson provided a short update, informing attendees that the project consultants from WSP have presented MCDOT and MCCOM staff with a draft plan, which they are provided input on prior to a public release. A final plan will hopefully be ready to present at the next Council meeting.

7. PLANNING LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Peterson reminded attendees of the upcoming deadline for submitting Safe Routes to School projects, which require a letter of concurrence from CMAP. Additionally, he requested that project sponsors submit their STP Quarterly Reports if they have not done so already.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting is November 18, 2021. The location is TBD.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Morimoto made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Farrell seconded.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Name	Community	Vote
Bob Mitchard	Algonquin	Approve
Emily Berendt	Bull Valley	Not present – arrived late
Abby Wilgreen	Crystal Lake	Approve
Tim Farrell	Huntley	Approve
Claudett Sofiakis	Johnsburg	Not present – arrived late
Greg Gruen	McHenry	Approve
Rick Mack, Chair	Ringwood	Approve
Mike Lee	Spring Grove	Approve
Jon Paul Diipla	McHenry County	Approve