

Minutes of the

**REGION 9
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE**

Serving Rural Scott County and all of Muscatine County

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 – 2:30 p.m.

Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 3rd Avenue, Rock Island, IL
Mike Limberg, Chair

Technical Committee Members Present

Ross Paustian	Scott County Board of Supervisors
Scott Sauer	River Bend Transit Board
Jeff Sorensen	Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

Others Present

Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Zach Sutton	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Approval of Minutes of the July 24, 2024 Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Mr. Sorensen made a motion to approve the Transportation Policy Committee minutes from the July 24, 2024 meeting as written. Mr. Sauer seconded, and the minutes were approved as written.
2. Consideration of Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) Boundary Joint Agreement. Ms. McCullough informed the committee of the details of the new boundary joint agreement between the Quad Cities MPA and RPA 9. She explained the geographic boundary had not changed, but the agreement had been updated to reflect the population numbers from the 2020 Census and the committee would be voting to approve the new agreement. Mr. Sorensen motioned to approve the new agreement, Mr. Sauer seconded, and the agreement was approved unanimously.
3. Discussion of Muscatine County Trail Plan Update. Mr. Sutton informed the committee of results of the discussion regarding the trail plan update that took place during the Region 9 Technical Committee meeting the previous week. The technical committee had indicated that they believed that the focus of the update should be on identifying connections between communities rather than on specific routes. The committee also indicated that the lack of a dedicated trails person in either Scott or Muscatine Counties would be a potential sticking point for the development of the trails plan, as neither county necessarily currently has the means to supervise or maintain a county-wide, separated trail network. Mr. Sorensen said that based on his observations, separated trails are used much more frequently than on-road or on-shoulder trails, but that the counties lack the funding and the equipment to maintain a wider network of separated trails. He also said there are safety concerns due to a high number of crashes on both of the two proposed routes for a trail connection between Wilton and Muscatine, IA-38 and Y14/Taylor Road, and that New Era Road would be a preferable route for the Mississippi Rail Trail than IA-22. Mr. Sorensen also mentioned that there would be a Traffic Safety Action Plan meeting for Muscatine County, facilitated by the state, in Muscatine on October 22.
4. Public Comments. None.

5. Other Business. Ms. McCullough informed the committee that a project advisory committee meeting for the Bi-State Traffic Safety Action Plan would be held in October, with focused stakeholder meetings – one in Davenport, one in Moline, and one virtual – to follow in November. She also informed the committee that the Region 9 Long Range Plan timeline had been shared with the technical committee, and Bi-State was almost ready to submit their responses to the questions sent by the state in advance of the Bi-State’s RPA certification review.
6. Adjournment. Mr. Sorenson motioned to adjourn, Mr. Sauer seconded, and the meeting adjourned unanimously at 3:05 p.m.