

Minutes of the RPA 15 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

TAC Committee Members Present:

Sean Murphy	Ryne Thornburg
Phillp Burgmeier	Melanie Carlson
Chris Clingan	Ashley Utt
Shawn Morrissey	Jay Allison
Rick Tebbs	Dewayne Heintz
Andrew McGuire	

Others Present

Rick Teed – Garden & Associates, Ltd.  
Hector Hernandez-Morales – RPA 15  
Kim Hellige – Wapello County Trails  
Carter Brehm – Mahaska County

**Call to Order.** Carlson called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

**Action Items**

**Review of Minutes.** Allison made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Thornburg seconded the motion. All aye, motion approved.

**TAP applications: Ottumwa – West Leve Link Trail:** Kim Hellige, Wapello County Trail, presented on the application. The project is divided into two parts; the first part would be funding the 2,475ft of trail project. The second part of the project would be 4,870ft, bringing the total to 1.4 miles in total bike path length. The project has a total cost of \$377,750 with a 20% match of \$75,550. The amount being requested is \$302,200. McGuire and Carlson had a question how much was allowed to be in the negative for TAP fundings. Hernandez-Morales said the funding is from a different funding source compared to STBG. Carlson would like to see the DOT document on future TAP applications. Thornburg was concerned about future applicants not having funding available for TAP projects. Hernandez-Morales stated Mahaska trails and City of Oskaloosa did reach out for possible TAP fundings to close loop in Oskaloosa. Heintz proposed to allow the City of Ottumwa to use existing funds for FY27 which is \$238,118. Heintz made a motion to approve **West Leve Link Trail request of \$238,118 for FY27**. Allison seconded the motion. All aye, motion approved.

**STBG/SWAP Applications 10-15 Transit Bus Purchase for \$148,000 and Van Purchase for \$76,000 for FFY26:** Allison requested the item be pulled from consideration from FY26. The budget would be insufficient for request. Allison asked for either reapply for next fiscal year or apply for an amendment on TIP. Hernandez would reach out to Allison to discuss options. **10-15 Transit applications were removed from actions items.**

**City of Delta – County Rd V33:** Is requesting \$378,300 for FFY26 to repair .40 miles of arterial Road. Rick Teed from Garden & Associates presented the application for the city of Delta. Delta is requesting \$378,300 of SWAP funding from Special Project. The total cost of the project would be \$447,000, with \$66,700 of local funds covering the engineering associate fees. Teed is aware of the limited funding available for special projects which is -\$99,987 which would mean

the project would be negative until -\$478,197 would take until FY31 to be positive fund amount. McGuire agrees that the Special Project should increase the funding or have a percentage amount such as County and City funding as well as include Transit. Allison stated that current funding does not allow us to purchase any new vehicles or buses. Teed also agrees with the limited funding for special projects for cities in RPA 15 which is \$100,000 for any city which is less than 5,000 in population. Hernandez any change in funding would need to be approved with the policy board. Hernandez-Morales will bring this up in a discussion matter in the Policy board meeting **Thornburg motioned to deny the City of Delta application request amount of \$378,300.** Burgmeier seconded the motion. All Aye.

**Transportation Improvement Program Amendment – Mahaska County** – is changing the project to remove ridge replacement project from FY2025 STIP and add project as locally funded Bridge Replacement project in CGYP 2025. Amendment is required when an increase of 30% occurs. Brehm presented the application. Carlson was concerned about not having a project in the year 2026 with Mahaska being the only project programmed for that year. Hernandez-Morales states that DOT does prefer application but is not aware of a project having to be on each FY for STBG/SWAP. **Thornburg motioned to change the funding amount to \$2,240,872 and move back to the project FY27.** Burgmeier seconded the motion. All Aye.

**Transportation Improvement Program Amendment – Mahaska County** – G15 over Buckley Creek (Middle BR) is to change the project to remove bridge replacement project from FY2025 STIP and add project as locally funded bridge Replacement project in 2025. Brehm presented on the application. Thornburg motioned to approve. Burgmeier seconded the motion. All Aye.

### **Review Items**

**Status on active STBG/SWAP and TAP projects.** Burgmeier states a project for the city of Ottumwa did not use all the funds and would be returning \$700,000 back to STBG/SWAP funds. Hernandez would be reaching out to Burgmeier regarding this project after the completion of it.

Hernandez-Morales said Trail plan is being updated and is currently working with Wapello County. Trail Plan is updated every five years, which has been since 2021 the trail plan has been updated. Ryne will provide contact information for the vacancy of TAC Van burn Conservation representative. GIS software was updated in Area 15 RPC and is a service can be provided. Update on the rest of the DOT plans being updated

**Adjourn.** Meeting adjourned at 10:57am

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Hector Hernandez-Morales, Area 15 RPC