



Summary of ISACo's Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Held on October 27, 2025

The following is a summary of what transpired during the Transportation Policy Committee meeting held on October 27, 2025.

Meeting Attendance:

The meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m. with Committee Chair Tom Rickert presiding. Those present included:

- Tom Rickert, Kane County – Chair
- Steve Travia, DuPage County
- Scott Hennings, McHenry County
- Joe McCoy, ISACo Staff
- Nekya Hall, ISACo Staff

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Summary

This was the inaugural meeting and no meeting summary was necessary.

Introduction and Overview of Transportation Policy Committee

The first meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee was led by Chair Tom Rickert. Chair Rickert welcomed members and encouraged introductions. The committee's mission is to develop and advocate for transportation policies that affect local communities. ISACo Executive Director Joe McCoy emphasized the importance of member engagement and the potential for guest speakers to enhance discussions.

Transit Reform Update

Director McCoy provided an update on transit reform, indicating that a connection between revenue and governance is crucial for moving forward. He noted that the RTA is attempting to minimize revenue demands to attract more legislative support. Chair Rickert and Steve Travia expressed concerns about the potential for governance issues to create rifts between Cook County and surrounding areas, emphasizing the importance of equitable representation.

Navigation Systems and Truck Routing Issues

Nekya Hall highlighted issues with navigation systems misdirecting large trucks onto county roads not designed for heavy vehicles, as reported by the Kansas Association of Counties (KSA).

Director McCoy noted that while this issue may not significantly affect the counties represented in the meeting, it could impact rural areas. The group discussed the possibility of gathering more information from other counties to assess the extent of the problem.

Discussion on Electric Vehicle Weight Regulations

Steve Travia highlighted the likelihood of increased weight limits for electric vehicles as they become more prevalent, which could affect truck capacity and road conditions. Director McCoy noted that the Illinois Manufacturers Association (IMA) has been advocating for heavier road authorizations for electric trucks, but the committee has resisted changing its position. Chair Rickert mentioned concerns about the damage electric vehicles could cause to roadways and referenced recent legislative discussions on this topic.

Discussion on Electric Bike Safety Concerns

Chair Rickert highlighted the increasing safety issues related to electric bikes in Kane County, particularly following recent deaths. He expressed the need for potential regulations, as many children are riding these bikes without helmets and sometimes modifying them to exceed speed limits. Steve Travia confirmed that there is growing concern within his county's Transportation Committee and mentioned that some communities are already enacting ordinances.

Discussion on Transportation Challenges and Staffing Issues

Chair Rickert emphasized the importance of addressing transportation issues, particularly regarding access to national parks and the need for funding to manage high traffic volumes. Steve Travia elaborated on the staffing challenges at IDOT, noting that despite efforts to hire more employees, the agency continues to face significant delays in project delivery due to environmental review backlogs and bureaucratic processes.

Funding and Infrastructure Concerns in DuPage and Kane Counties

Steve Travia discussed DuPage County's reliance on diverse funding sources for transportation, stressing the need to protect RTA sales tax revenues. Chair Rickert noted the significant financial strain caused by the Public Safety Act, which has increased jail populations and related costs. Both emphasized the importance of competitive grants for infrastructure projects and the need for direct funding to address rising county expenses.

Future Meeting Schedule and County Issues Discussion

Chair Rickert led a conversation about establishing a future meeting schedule, proposing a quarterly framework with flexibility for additional meetings if necessary. Director McCoy supported this approach and highlighted the need for ongoing communication about transportation issues. Steve Travia mentioned that Tuesdays are typically busy for him, suggesting that afternoons might be a better option for scheduling.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.