AGENDA
Board of Trustees Meeting
Madison County Mass Transit District
9:30 a.m., Thursday, December 29, 2011
One Transit Way, Granite City, Illinois

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<td>I. Pledge of Allegiance.</td>
<td>Approval</td>
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<td>II. Call to Order: Roll Call.</td>
<td>Approval</td>
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<td>III. Consideration of the Minutes of the November 17, 2011, Regular Meeting for inclusion in the official records of the District.</td>
<td>Approval</td>
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<td>IV. Public Comments.</td>
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<td>V. Financial:</td>
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<td>A. Payments and Claims: Consideration of the November 2011 claims for payment.</td>
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<td>VI. Transit Service:</td>
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<td>A. Managing Director's Report: Jerry J. Kane.</td>
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<td>B. Resolution 12-16 Authorize the Execution of a Vehicle Maintenance Agreement with Main Street Community Center, Inc.</td>
<td>Approval</td>
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<td>C. Resolution 12-17 Authorizing the Filing of Applications, Certifications and Assurances with the Federal Transit Administration for Federal Transportation Assistance.</td>
<td>Approval</td>
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<td>VII. Other Business:</td>
<td>Approval</td>
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<td>VIII. Executive Session to Discuss the Acquisition, and/or Sale or Lease of Property, and/or Security, and/or Litigation (5ILCS 120/2 et. seq., 2(c)5, 2(c)6, 2(c)8, and 2(c)11 of the Open Meetings Act).</td>
<td>Approval</td>
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<td>IX. Motion to Authorize the Sale of Property.</td>
<td>Approval</td>
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<td>X. Adjournment.</td>
<td>Approval</td>
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I. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Corbett led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. **Call to Order: Roll Call**

Chairman Corbett called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Daniel Corbett, J. Terry Allan, Edward Hagnauer, Bruce Malone, and Rose Marie Chadwick (arrived at 9:31 a.m.)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jerry Kane, Managing Director; John Papa, Legal Counsel; Mary Ruth Kettenbach, ACT; Erin Werner, ACT; S.J. Morrison, ACT; Joe Domer, ACT; Mark Steyer, ACT; and Renee Delushmit, citizen

III. **Consideration of the Minutes of October 27, 2011**

**TRUSTEE MALONE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE HAGNAUER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 27, 2011, REGULAR MEETING FOR INCLUSION IN THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE DISTRICT.**

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

- J. TERRY ALLAN AYE
- ROSE MARIE CHADWICK AYE
- DANIEL CORBETT AYE
- EDWARD HAGNAUER AYE
- BRUCE MALONE AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

IV. **Public Comments**

Renee Delushmit addressed the Board of Trustees regarding the proposed January 2012 service changes to the #18/#18X. Ms. Delushmit stated passengers were very disappointed when they learned that starting in January all of the #18X trips would no longer be going from Collinsville to downtown St. Louis, but instead from Collinsville to the MetroLink station. She said the revised proposal that MCT came up with of having one bus leave earlier in the morning and return later in the evening was understandable due to job losses which resulted in decreased ridership. Ms. Delushmit thanked staff for listening to passengers express their concerns about the proposed service changes during the public meeting. Ms. Delushmit stated she had the option of taking either the #16X or #18X, but chooses to take the #18X because it was more comfortable than the #16X, which was always full. She said that if MCT would have waited until April or May to make the service change that passengers might have been fine with the proposed changes, but they did not like the idea of standing in downtown St. Louis in January. She said that having only one morning and one afternoon trip between Collinsville and downtown St. Louis was okay, but it was going to make people possibly leave earlier. Ms.
Delushmit stated that she might not even take the bus home, but instead ride MetroLink. She said she would be willing to pay more if the District wanted to increase fares to keep #18X buses going to downtown St. Louis, because she didn't want to have to ride Metro. She stated that if she rides Metro she wouldn't need MCT and that was what other passengers had also said.

V. Financial

A. Payments and Claims: Consideration of the October 2011 claims for payment: Managing Director Jerry Kane submitted the payments and claims.

TRUSTEE ALLAN MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CHADWICK, TO APPROVE THE PAYMENTS AND CLAIMS REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2011 EXCLUDING THE PAYMENTS AND CLAIMS TO GRANITE CITY TOWNSHIP.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

J. TERRY ALLAN AYE
ROSE MARIE CHADWICK AYE
DANIEL CORBETT AYE
EDWARD HAGNAUER AYE
BRUCE MALONE AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

TRUSTEE CHADWICK MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MALONE, TO APPROVE THE PAYMENTS AND CLAIMS REPORT TO GRANITE CITY TOWNSHIP FOR OCTOBER 2011.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

J. TERRY ALLAN AYE
ROSE MARIE CHADWICK AYE
DANIEL CORBETT AYE
EDWARD HAGNAUER ABSTAIN
BRUCE MALONE AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. TRUSTEE HAGNAUER ABSTAINED. MOTION CARRIED.


TRUSTEE CHADWICK MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MALONE, TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL RECORDS AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2011.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

J. TERRY ALLAN AYE
ROSE MARIE CHADWICK AYE
DANIEL CORBETT AYE
EDWARD HAGNAUER AYE
BRUCE MALONE AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.
VI. Transit Service

A. Managing Director's Report: Jerry Kane presented the report.

B. Presentation on Bus Stop Accessibility Enhancement Project: Mark Steyer, P.E., Director of Engineering, provided an overview of the Bus Stop Accessibility Enhancement Project.

C. TRUSTEE HAGNAUER MADE AN OMNIBUS MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CHADWICK TO APPROVE RESOLUTIONS:

12-13 AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE BUS STOP ACCESSIBILITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT;

12-14 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES FOR FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS;

12-15 AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATION WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FOR SECTION 5307 GRANT FUNDS FOR VARIOUS TRANSIT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

J. TERRY ALLAN AYE
ROSE MARIE CHADWICK AYE
DANIEL CORBETT AYE
EDWARD HAGNAUER AYE
BRUCE MALONE AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

D. TRUSTEE MALONE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE HAGNAUER, TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 8, 2012, SERVICE CHANGES AS REVISED AND TO ALLOW THE MANAGING DIRECTOR TO MAKE TRANSIT SERVICE MODIFICATIONS AS HE DEEMS NEEDED TO BALANCE PASSENGER LOADS AND/OR ADD TRIPS AS MAY BE NECESSARY.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

J. TERRY ALLAN AYE
ROSE MARIE CHADWICK AYE
DANIEL CORBETT AYE
EDWARD HAGNAUER AYE
BRUCE MALONE AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

VII. Other Business

TRUSTEE MALONE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CHADWICK, TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ACQUISITION, AND/OR SALE OR LEASE OF PROPERTY, AND/OR SECURITY, AND/OR LITIGATION (5ILCS 120/2 ET. SEQ., 2(C)5, 2(C)6, 2(C)8, AND 2(C)11 OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT).
A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

J. TERRY ALLAN  AYE
ROSE MARIE CHADWICK  AYE
DANIEL CORBETT  AYE
EDWARD HAGNAUER  AYE
BRUCE MALONE  AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ACQUISITION, AND/OR SALE OR LEASE OF PROPERTY, AND/OR SECURITY, AND/OR LITIGATION (5ILCS 120/2 ET SEQ., 2(C)5, 2(C)6, 2(C)8, AND 2(C)11 OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

TRUSTEE CHADWICK MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MALONE, TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

J. TERRY ALLAN  AYE
ROSE MARIE CHADWICK  AYE
DANIEL CORBETT  AYE
EDWARD HAGNAUER  AYE
BRUCE MALONE  AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

IX. Adjournment

TRUSTEE ALLAN MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE MALONE, TO ADJOURN.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

J. TERRY ALLAN  AYE
ROSE MARIE CHADWICK  AYE
DANIEL CORBETT  AYE
EDWARD HAGNAUER  AYE
BRUCE MALONE  AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erin Werner
RESOLUTION 12-16

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF
A MOTOR VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT
WITH MAIN STREET COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.

WHEREAS, the Madison County Mass Transit District (District) was created in December, 1980, by resolution of the Madison County Board pursuant to Section 3 of the Local Mass Transit District Act, approved July 21, 1959, as amended (70 ILCS 3610/1 et. seq.) to foster an improved coordinated transportation system; and,

WHEREAS, the District has the responsibility to operate and maintain mass transit as a public service for the welfare of the residents of the District and the vitality of Madison County, Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, the District, through its operator, the Agency for Community Transit, has leased and/or maintained paratransit vehicles for several municipalities and social service agencies that transport the elderly and disabled residents of Madison County; and,

WHEREAS, the District has maintained in continuous force and effect, a Motor Vehicle Lease and Maintenance Agreement with Main Street Community Center, Inc., to serve the elderly residents of Edwardsville, Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, Main Street Community Center, Inc., has been awarded a new lift-equipped vehicle by the Illinois Department of Transportation which will replace the vehicle it currently leases from the District; and,

WHEREAS, Main Street Community Center, Inc., has requested maintenance assistance from the District to insure the safety of its passengers, and preserve the public investment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MADISON COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT THAT:

1. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District, are hereby authorized to execute a Motor Vehicle Maintenance Agreement with Main Street Community Center, Inc., Edwardsville, IL.

2. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District, are hereby authorized to take all action necessary to execute, complete, and perform all obligations associated with the contract and the intent and purposes of this Resolution, including the preambles hereto, and any change orders and or amendments, on behalf of and in a manner most beneficial to the Madison County Mass Transit District.
ADOPTED, by the Board of Trustees of the Madison County Mass Transit District, Madison County, Illinois, on this twenty-ninth day of December, 2011.

Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman

J. Terry Allan

Edward A. Hagnauer

Rose Marie Chadwick

Bruce A. Malone

APPROVED as to Form:

John T. Papa, Legal Counsel
CERTIFICATE

I, Erin Werner, do hereby certify that I am the fully qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Madison County Mass Transit District, and as such Secretary, I am the keeper of the records and files of the Madison County Mass Transit District.

I do further certify that at a duly constituted and legally convened meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Madison County Mass Transit District held on Thursday, December 29, 2011, a resolution was adopted in full accordance and conformity with the by-laws of the Madison County Mass Transit District and the statutes of the State of Illinois, as made and provided, and that the following is a full, complete, and true copy of the pertinent provisions of said Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MADISON COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT THAT:

1. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District, are hereby authorized to execute a Motor Vehicle Maintenance Agreement with Main Street Community Center, Inc., Edwardsville, IL.

2. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District, are hereby authorized to take all action necessary to execute, complete, and perform all obligations associated with the contract and the intent and purposes of this Resolution, including the preambles hereto, and any change orders and or amendments, on behalf of and in a manner most beneficial to the Madison County Mass Transit District.

I further certify that the original of the complete said resolution is on file in the records of the Madison County Mass Transit District in my custody. I do further certify that the foregoing Resolution remains in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature as Secretary of the Madison County Mass Transit District on this twenty-ninth day of December, 2011.
RESOLUTION 12-17

AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES
WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
FOR FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

WHEREAS, the Federal Transportation Administration has been delegated to award Federal financial assistance for transportation projects; and,

WHEREAS, the grant or cooperative agreement for Federal financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the Applicant, and may require the Applicant to provide the local share of the project cost; and,

WHEREAS, the Applicant has or will provide all annual certifications and assurances to the Federal Transit Administration required for the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MADISON COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT THAT:

1. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District are authorized to execute and file applications for Federal assistance on behalf of Madison County Mass Transit District with the Federal Transit Administration for Federal assistance authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53, Title 23 of the United States Code, or other Federal statutes authorizing a project administered by the Federal Transit Administration, Madison County Mass Transit District is a Direct Recipient with authority to apply for Urbanized Area Formula Program assistance.

2. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District are authorized to execute and file with its application the annual certification and assurances and other documents the Federal Transportation Administration requires before awarding a Federal assistance grant or cooperative agreement.

3. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District are authorized to execute the grant and cooperative agreements with the Federal Transit Administration on behalf of Madison County Mass Transit District.

ADOPTED, by the Madison County Mass Transit District, Madison County, Illinois, on this twenty-ninth day of December, 2011.

Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman

J. Terry Allan
Edward A. Hagnauer

Rose Marie Chadwick

Bruce A. Malone

APPROVED as to Form:

John T. Papa, Legal Counsel
CERTIFICATE

I, Erin Werner, do hereby certify that I am the fully qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Madison County Mass Transit District, and as such Secretary, I am the keeper of the records and files of the Madison County Mass Transit District.

I do further certify that at a duly constituted and legally convened meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Madison County Mass Transit District held on Thursday, December 29, 2011, a resolution was adopted in full accordance and conformity with the by-laws of the Madison County Mass Transit District and the statutes of the State of Illinois, as made and provided, and that the following is a full, complete, and true copy of the pertinent provisions of said Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MADISON COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT THAT:

1. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District are authorized to execute and file applications for Federal assistance on behalf of Madison County Mass Transit District with the Federal Transit Administration for Federal assistance authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53, Title 23 of the United States Code, or other Federal statutes authorizing a project administered by the Federal Transit Administration, Madison County Mass Transit District is a Direct Recipient with authority to apply for Urbanized Area Formula Program assistance.

2. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District are authorized to execute and file with its application the annual certification and assurances and other documents the Federal Transportation Administration requires before awarding a Federal assistance grant or cooperative agreement.

3. Daniel L. Corbett, Chairman, J. Terry Allan, Vice Chairman, and/or Jerry J. Kane, Managing Director, of the Madison County Mass Transit District are authorized to execute the grant and cooperative agreements with the Federal Transit Administration on behalf of Madison County Mass Transit District.

I further certify that the original of the complete said resolution is on file in the records of the Madison County Mass Transit District in my custody. I do further certify that the foregoing Resolution remains in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature as Secretary of the Madison County Mass Transit District on this twenty-ninth day of December, 2011.

Erin Werner
Dear Mr. Kane:

This communication will serve as the requisite opinion of counsel to be filed with the Federal Transit Administration, United States Department of Transportation, in connection with the application of Madison County Mass Transit District for Federal transportation assistance authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53; title 23, United States Code; and other Federal statutes authorizing activities administered by the Federal Transit Administration.

Madison County Mass Transit District has received authority from Bi-State Development Agency as the Designated Recipient to apply for and receive Urbanized Area Formula Program assistance.

Citations to laws, regulations, etc. establishing the legal authority of Madison County Mass Transit District to carry out transportation projects for which Federal assistance is sought is set forth below:

1. Madison County Mass Transit District is authorized by the Local Mass Transit Act as amended (70 ILCS 3610) to provide and assist transportation by acquiring, constructing, owning, operating, and maintaining mass transit facilities for public service.

2. The authority of Madison County Mass Transit District to provide funds for the local share of the project is set forth in the Local mass Transit Act as amended (70 ILCS 3610).

3. I have reviewed the pertinent Federal, State, and local laws, and I have concluded that there is no legal impediment to your filing an application with the United States Department of Transportation – Federal Transit Administration seeking Federal transportation assistance. Furthermore, as a result of my examination, I find that there is no pending or threatened litigation or other action which might in any way adversely affect the capability of Madison County Mass Transit District to meet its obligations related to such application.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
John Papa, Legal Counsel
Madison County Mass Transit District

Date
Grant will strengthen Amtrak at Alton transportation hub
By Terry Hillig

Elisa Cunningham and Benny Turner wait for their rides outside of the Alton Amtrak station on College Avenue on Tuesday Dec. 20, 2011.

The station is expected to be built in the city's planned Robert Wadlow Town Centre, a mixed-use redevelopment of the city-owned Wadlow Municipal Golf Course, north of Homer Adams Parkway (Illinois Route 3). The Wadlow golf course is one of three owned by the city.

Alton officials envision privately financed "transit-oriented development" on the remainder of the 55-acre site. Uses might include offices, apartments, art galleries, coffee shops, live music venues, restaurants and boutique stores.

Mayor Tom Hoechst said the city's antiquated, 800-square-foot Amtrak station at 3400 College Avenue serves 65,000 passengers a year and is the third-busiest station between Chicago and St. Louis, after Normal and Springfield.

The only access to the station is through narrow, residential streets, and parking is limited. The Illinois Department of Transportation plans to build a new, 8,000-square-foot train station with kiosk vending, a baggage room, electronic signs and ticket vending machines.

Even now, about half the vehicles parked at the station on a weekend are from Missouri, Hoechst said. He believes a more accessible, more comfortable station with adequate parking will only increase Alton's appeal as a place to access Amtrak.

"It will probably be the St. Louis region's preferred station" for the trip to Chicago, said Jerry Kane, managing director of the Madison County Transit District. Riders will benefit not only from faster trains but be able to leave later and get back sooner by using the Alton station, he said.

Improvements funded by federal stimulus dollars and now under way will allow trains to operate at up to 110 mph between Chicago and Alton as early as 2014, but the 27-mile stretch between St. Louis and Alton will remain a bottleneck, with speeds seldom topping 30 mph.

The TIGER grant will help fund a new transportation hub adjacent to the station, linking rail service to the regional transit system, bike trails and pedestrian facilities. Among the amenities will be an indoor customer waiting area with a service desk and restrooms, electronic arrival and departure information signs, and eight bus bays with canopies, 25 bicycle storage lockers, 350 parking spaces and access roadways.
The grant also will pay for eight new biodiesel transit buses for enhanced local and regional service.

Madison County Transit will add service as needed to meet rail arrivals and departures at the Alton station. Plans call for a direct bus connection to nearby SIUE and enhanced service to the MetroLink light-rail system. An express bus will provide quick service to the Convention Center station in downtown St. Louis with intermediate stops in East Alton, Wood River, Granite City and Venice.

The Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER, grant is the third of its kind to benefit a Metro East project in recent months. Two TIGER grants are helping build the new South Harbor at the Tri-City Port District. TIGER grants are part of the federal economic stimulus program.

Kane called landing the grant "a near-miracle." He said only 46 grants were awarded to about 600 applicants nationally. He said a team from Alton and MCT put together an outstanding application.

U.S. Rep. Jerry Costello, D-Belleville, said the grant would make the entire regional transportation system more efficient and fully leverage the impact of high-speed rail.

"Linking together all of our modes — rail, highways, waterways and aviation — is critical for economic development and job creation," Costello said.
19 December 2011

Hello Jerry:

First, thank you again for the very nice note of November 14. As I said, if I was a necessary condition to helping you and MCT create that marvelous system of trails, I was not a sufficient condition. I think that MCT under your leadership is my number 1 example/case study of what it takes to be not just successful but efficiently and cost effectively so in putting together a rail trail or, as here, rail trail system: first, the client's leaders must timely recognize when they need advice; second, they need to figure out from where to get it; and third, they need forthrightly to implement the advice. This so seldom happens. So if you think I did a good job, just imagine the nature of the job I think you repeatedly did—maybe miraculous would be the best term.

One maybe could also say we were all just at the right spot at the right time, and the citizens of Madison County will hopefully have fun with the results of that serendipitous occurrence until the next ice sheets form.

Second, when Kathy and I fully retire, which may now be only a few years off, our plans call for at least some period of time to be devoted to travel around the States to see some of my old rail trail projects, and if they are developed enough to sustain a bicycle, actually to bike over them. I look forward to the Katy Trail and to Madison County's system. So I hope to put the bike map which you sent to use, but maybe not for couple years.

Congratulations on what you accomplished. Happy holidays and a great new year.
December 14, 2011

Jerry Kane
One Transit Way, P.O.Box 7500
Granite City, IL 62040

Dear Jerry Kane:

On December 12, 2011, the City of Alton and Madison County Transit received notification that we would be receiving a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant in the amount of $13.8 Million from the U.S. Department of Transportation for construction of the new Alton Regional Multi-Modal Transportation Facility and Robert Wadlow Town Centre.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for writing a letter of support on behalf of this project. Without your assistance, the City of Alton and Madison County Transit would not have been able to secure these federal dollars for this vital economic development project in our community and region. Your efforts allow us to expand and improve the transportation network of our region and expand economic opportunities for our residents and businesses.

I encourage you to track the updates of the development of the Alton Regional Multi-Modal Transportation Facility and Robert Wadlow Town Centre. If you have any questions regarding this project or would like additional information on the process of bringing this development into reality, please contact my office at 618-463-3500, Extension 3.

Once again, thank you for supporting our TIGER Grant application.

Sincerely,

Tom Hoechst, Mayor
City of Alton, Illinois

(618) 463-3500 Ext. 3 • Fax (618) 463-3525
E-mail: thoechst@alton-il.com
Alton gets $13.8 million grant for multi-modal center

WASHINGTON - Alton Mayor Tom Hoechst was in the nation's capital Monday for the announcement that his city will receive a $13.8 million TIGER III Discretionary Grant to build a new multi-modal transportation center.

Hoechst joined U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn, U.S. Rep. Jerry Costello, D-Belleville, and Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel for the announcement that Illinois will receive a total of $44,288,000 in TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) grant funding for three Illinois projects - the one in Alton and two in the Chicago area. The grants represent approximately 8 percent of the total funding available through the program.

"Two years ago, I worked in the Senate to develop the TIGER grant program, which gives local communities and mayors the ability to apply directly to the federal government to fund projects that they identify as having a positive economic impact on their community," Durbin said. "Illinois has benefited greatly from the TIGER grant program, due to the hard work of local officials and organizations in close coordination with the state and federal government. These investments will create hundreds of good-paying jobs across our state."

Monday's announcement followed Quinn's recent trip to Washington to meet with the state congressional delegation, when they discussed avenues where Illinois and the federal government can work more closely together to benefit the state's 13 million residents.

"This investment is just one of the many results of the outstanding cooperation between local, state and the federal government that will keep Illinois strong," Quinn said. "This funding will strengthen our state's transportation system that is vital to growing our economy and creating jobs. I want to thank Senator Durbin and Representative Costello for their continued leadership in Washington on behalf of Illinois."

"This is an important regional and national project that will make our transportation system more efficient and fully leverage the impact of high-speed rail," Costello said. "Linking together all of our modes - rail, highways, waterways and aviation - is critical for economic development and job creation. The city of Alton and the entire bi-state region is perfectly located to be a transportation hub and this funding will further these goals. I have worked closely with city officials and (U.S. Transportation) Secretary (Ray) LaHood on this project, and I will continue to support efforts to modernize our transportation infrastructure."

Monday's announcement included $13.85 million in TIGER grant funding for a multi-modal transportation center in Alton. The Alton Regional Multi-modal Transportation Center will be constructed adjacent to the new Amtrak High-Speed Rail Station in the new Robert Wadlow Town Center in Alton.

The TIGER grant funding for the Madison County Transit Board of Trustees and the city of Alton will help create a multi-modal transportation center in conjunction with the new High-Speed Inter-city Passenger Rail Station in Alton. The project will support a major expansion of eco-tourism to the Mississippi River region, as well as a $72 million public-private investment in the planned Wadlow Town Center redevelopment project on Homer Adams Parkway.

"I couldn't be more thrilled with the news that the city of Alton and Madison County Transit will receive a TIGER grant for a new multi-modal facility," Hoechst said. "This facility will make taking the new 110-mile-per-hour Amtrak service more convenient for citizens, while also spurring economic activity around the area."

The $13,850,000 in funding will help provide road and pedestrian access to the new Amtrak station and for construction of the multi-modal and related infrastructure. It also will allow Madison County Transit to improve connectivity through the region, including Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, which attracts more than one-third of its 14,000-student body from metro Chicago and other cities along the high-speed rail corridor.
Alton, Madison County Transit Awarded Grant

The city of Alton and Madison County Transit have been awarded $13.85 million in federal funds to build a transportation center in conjunction with a new high-speed train station.

The transportation center will be constructed on five acres adjacent to the new Amtrak station in Alton and include bus bays, bicycle storage lockers, parking and other improvements meant to connect rail passengers with other forms of transportation.

The new high-speed rail route between St. Louis and Chicago will carry trains capable of traveling up to 110 mph, cutting the travel time between the two cities to less than four hours.

The Alton project was one of three in Illinois to receive a total of $44.2 million from the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant program.
MCT debuts new facility

On Dec. 5, Madison County Transit opened Leclaire Junction, a new bus and bikeway facility in Edwardsville on Buchanan/Troy Road. The new facility includes a lighted park and ride lot; lighted and heated brick shelters; lighted bike, pedestrian and wheelchair accessible tunnel; bus pull off areas; and 24-hour video surveillance in lots, shelters and tunnel. It is serviced by the 16 Edwardsville-Glen Carbon Shuttle, the 16X Edwardsville Express and the 19 Edwardsville-Collinsville buses.

The facility also provides transit access to the N.O. Nelson Campus of Lewis & Clark College.
'Leclaire Junction' ready to function

By Sanford J. Schmidt

EDWARDSVILLE - The Madison County Transit District's new "Leclaire Junction" opened Monday, and while the connecting bike trails might not have been too busy, the permanent brick shelters would have been appreciated in the chilly weather.

The junction is what transit district officials call a "multi-modal bus and bikeway facility." The structure connects to bikeways, park-and-ride lots and access to a bus pull-off area.

Transit district officials announced the opening Monday but are holding off for a formal opening until the weather warms up, possibly in the spring.

The $4 million facility is on Troy Road at Buchanan Street in the historic Leclaire neighborhood.

The junction will connect to the 21-mile-long Nickel Plate Trail, which recently was extended to Alhambra. The name Leclaire Junction was used in the 19th and early 20th centuries to describe the area west of Leclaire, where multiple railroad lines intersected.

"The use of the name at this location acknowledges both the railroad tradition and the Leclaire National History District," a spokesman said.

The cost was paid by the Federal Transit Administration, the Metro East Park and Recreation District, the transit district and a Madison County trailhead grant.

The park-and-ride lots are east and west of Troy and Buchanan. The lots can be used for visitors to the Leclaire ball field and the N.O. Nelson campus of Lewis and Clark Community College.

The facility includes a lighted, accessible tunnel for bikes and pedestrians. Bus pull-off areas on both sides of Buchanan will allow buses to take on and let off passengers without blocking traffic.

The permanent brick bus shelters are designed to complement nearby architecture. They are lighted and heated. Surveillance cameras will provide security for the site.

The facility will serve the 16X Edwardsville Express, the 16 Edwardsville-Glen Carbon Shuttle and the 19 Edwardsville-Collinsville MCT bus routes. Route No. 19 also serves Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Glen Carbon and Maryville.

The transit district has been using former railroad right-of-ways, such as the Nickel Plate, to develop bike trails since 1993.

The district owns and maintains 100 miles of separated Class 1 bike trails.

"Leclaire Junction will improve access to the bus and bikeway systems," said Jerry Kane, managing director of the transit district. "The new location will enhance safety and facilitate seamless bike and bus transfers."
EDWARDSVILLE > Transit depot to open • Madison County Transit's new bus and bikeway facility, Leclaire Junction, will open on Monday.

The $4 million station is located in Edwardsville's historic Leclaire neighborhood along South Buchanan Street. It will serve as a park-and-ride lot for the MCT bus system and a trailhead and crossing for the 21-mile MCT Nickel Plate Trail. The area around the station was called Leclaire Junction in the 19th and early 20th centuries because of the numerous railroads that intersected there. A lighted, wheelchair-accessible bike and pedestrian tunnel under Buchanan Street will allow safe and convenient access to northbound and southbound buses. The park-and-ride lots will be available for use by visitors to the nearby Leclaire Ballfield and the Nelson Campus of Lewis and Clark Community College.

Money for the project came from MCT, the Federal Transit Administration, the Metro East Park & Recreation District, the city of Edwardsville and a Madison County trailhead grant. MCT plans a formal dedication of the facility next spring. (Terry Hillig)
MCT's Leclaire Junction will open Monday

For the Intelligencer

On Monday, Madison County Transit will open Leclaire Junction, its new multi-modal bus and bikeway facility in Edwardsville. The $4 million facility located in the historic Leclaire neighborhood on Buchanan/Troy Road, serves as a park and ride lot for the MCT bus system as well as a trailhead and crossing for the 21-mile MCT Nickel Plate Trail, (recently extended 8 miles to Alhambra). The name Leclaire Junction was used in the 19th and early 20th century to describe the nearby area, west of Leclaire where multiple railroads intersected. The use of the name at this location acknowledges both the railroad tradition and the Leclaire National Historic District. Junction refers to the intersection of multiple MCT bus routes with the MCT Nickel Plate Trail.

The project was paid for using funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Metro East Park & Recreation District (MEPRD), the city of Edwardsville, MCT and a Madison County Trailhead Grant. On Monday, the tunnel, the west lot and the shelters will open. A formal dedication is anticipated for spring 2012. The site includes the following:

- Park and ride lots located on the east and west side of Buchanan/Troy Road will be available for use by visitors to the Leclaire ballfield and the Nelson Campus of Lewis & Clark College when not encumbered by bus passengers or MCT Trail users.
- A lighted wheelchair accessible bike/pedestrian tunnel under Buchanan provides a safe and seamless link for MCT Trail users of all ages and a secure way to access the north and southbound buses without crossing traffic. ADA-accessible ramps are also available from the shelters to the tunnel.
- Bus pull-off areas on both sides of Buchanan prevent buses from blocking traffic on this busy corridor when passengers are boarding and alighting.
- Permanent brick bus shelters, which complement nearby architecture, are lighted and heated.
- Twenty-four-hour video surveillance cameras are located in the lots, shelters, ramps and tunnel for security.

Beginning Monday, Leclaire Junction will be served by the following MCT routes:
- No. 16X Edwardsville Express, providing commuter service to and from St. Louis
- No. 16 Edwardsville – Glen Carbon Shuttle, with service throughout Edwardsville and Glen Carbon
- No. 19 Edwardsville – Collinsville, for service to SIUE, Glen Carbon, Maryville and Collinsville

Since 1993, MCT has acquired former railroad rights of way for corridor preservation and bike trail development. Owning, constructing and maintaining 100 miles of separated Class One bikeways, MCT is one of the only transit systems in the country with an integrated bus and bikeway system, in which trailheads serve as bus stops and fixed-route buses are equipped with bike racks.

"MCT's Leclaire Junction will improve access to the MCT bus and bikeway systems," said MCT Managing Director Jerry Kane. "The new location will enhance safety and facilitate seamless bike and bus transfers."

Leclaire Junction will not only serve the Leclaire area, but will also provide transit access to the adjacent N.O. Nelson Campus of Lewis and Clark College, the Historic Leclaire ballfield, the Edwardsville Children's Museum, Market Basket and other retail locations.

For details, visit www.mct.org, call 618-931-7433, Option No. 3 or e-mail info@mct.org.
MCT holiday schedule

Madison County Transit (MCT) has announced its holiday bus service schedule. It is as follows:

- Thursday, Nov. 24 (Thanksgiving): No MCT Bus service.
- Friday, Nov. 25 (Day after Thanksgiving): Normal MCT Bus service.
- Saturday, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve): Normal MCT Saturday service.
- Monday, Dec. 26 (Day after Christmas): Sunday level service only.
- Saturday, Dec. 31 (New Year’s Eve): Normal MCT Saturday service.
- Sunday, Jan. 1 (New Year’s Day): No MCT service, except Rains Express.
- Monday, Jan. 2 (Day after New Year’s): Sunday level service only.

For details, call (618) 931-7433, Option 3 or email info@mct.org.
MCT seeks comment on route plans

Deadline for public input is Nov. 16

Edwardsville-Collinsville: Shift three trips to meet the new No. 18X trips at Collinsville Station.

Madison County Transit is the multi-modal transportation provider for Madison County, operating fixed-route bus service to MetroLink, and to downtown St. Louis; providing PARATRANSI service for qualified elderly and disabled residents; offering service to the St. Louis Rams, games and The Muny, in Forest Park; constructing and maintaining the MCT Trails, more than 100 miles of scenic bike trails, and overseeing Rideshare, the St. Louis region's free carpooling and vanpooling ride-match program.
FY2011 TIGER GRANTS
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- Rural Project
ALTON REGIONAL MULTIMODAL STATION

APPLICANT/SPONSOR: City of Alton IL

TOTAL PROJECT COST: $21,980,000

GRANT FUNDING: $13,850,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The Alton Regional Multimodal Transportation Center will be constructed adjacent to Alton’s new Amtrak High Speed Rail Station in the new Robert Wadlow Town Center in Alton. The intermodal center will enable passengers to transfer seamlessly between Amtrak’s Lincoln Route Service, regional transit lines, bicycle trails and pedestrian facilities. The Multimodal Transportation Center will also encourage transit-oriented development in the City of Alton.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS
» Provides sustainable public transit to more than 600,000 residents
» Accelerates implementation of High Speed Passenger Rail service in Illinois
» Uses new technology to expedite transit vehicles and control traffic flow

PROJECT BENEFITS
This project will enable High Speed Rail travelers to disembark in the city of Alton and transfer easily to regional bus service serving nearby suburban destinations. The facility will support investments in the High Speed Rail station and increase Amtrak ridership by enabling more commuters to access rail without needing a car. Broadening the mobility options for regional travelers will not only enhance quality of life, but will also remove vehicles from the highly congested I-55 corridor.
Stormwater detention that is used as an aesthetic amenity for adjacent commercial development.

Economic Development
Mixed-use commercial development that is transit oriented and walkable from the station and adjacent neighborhoods. Buildings to be LEED certified.

Walkable/Bicycle Connections
Bike and pedestrian connections to adjacent neighborhoods and businesses.

Natural Stormwater Treatment
Restored stream corridor and riparian buffer to treat stormwater and restore habitat. Provides shared open space for adjacent neighborhood.

Permeable Paving
Permeable paving in long-term parking and overflow parking areas.

Transit Oriented Neighborhood
Higher density residential development (townhomes) where residents can walk to the station or nearby commercial development.