Minutes of the Madison Area Transportation Planning Board
Technical Coordinating Committee

February 22, 2012    City of Fitchburg Library – Conference Room    2:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Stephany, Dunphy, Hoelker, Kennedy, Jolicoeur, Murphy, Petykowski (for Phillips), Stauske, Sylvester, Woodard, and Andros (for Violante)

Members Absent: Beaupre, Boardman, Coville, Dryer, Even, Beck, Kirchner, Kugler, Scheel, and Bertch


2. Approval of November 16, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Kennedy moved, Sylvester seconded, to approve the November 16, 2011 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Review and Recommendation on the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan Update

Schaefer noted that the draft plan was sent out for review and comment. He said approval of the plan was on a compressed schedule, because it was supposed to be approved in November 2011. The plan needs to be approved in order to allow state approval and amendments to the 2012 TIP. A public meeting is scheduled for February 23. The public hearing will be held at the MPO Board’s March 7 meeting, and the Board is expected to take action at that meeting. Schaefer said the only comment he had received from any committee members was from Stauske about Middleton’s planned intermodal transportation center. Schaefer said it was mentioned, but that staff would add language to clarify it was a recommended project in the plan. The 2030 Plan included a park-and-ride facility map, but that wasn’t included in this plan update. Schaefer reviewed the major project maps, including Major Projects and Studies, Regional Transit Corridors, Regional Bikeway Plan, and Priority Off-Street Bicycle Facilities. He explained that a financial analysis was done for the bicycle projects similar to the local roadway capacity expansion projects. Based on estimated available funding for off-street bicycle projects during the planning period, a list of priority projects was developed that could potentially be funded.

In response to a question from Sylvester, Schaefer clarified that inclusion of projects in the plan makes them eligible for programming in the TIP with federal funding. Murphy and Sylvester suggested extending the westerly terminus of the CTH PD expansion project west of CTH M from Nine Mound Road to a little bit west of Shady Oak Lane. They said that planning was underway to look at a new north-south street connection to CTH PD in that area.

Murphy moved, Sylvester seconded, to recommend the approval of the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan Update with the two changes discussed. Motion carried.

4. Review and Recommendation on Amendment #1 to the 2012 – 2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Schaefer reviewed the new projects and project revisions to costs/funding and/or schedules included in the proposed TIP amendment. The major new projects included the new EIS studies that Hoelker would be discussing under item #6 and a new design project for USH 12/18 (I-39/90 to CTH N) to reconstruct the roadway and make access modifications for conversion to a freeway. Construction for the USH 12/18 project isn’t scheduled until 2020. The others were a resurfacing project on USH 151 in Sun Prairie and a RR crossing project on Deming Way in Middleton. One of the project revisions
was to change the scope for the Interstate 39/90 (Hoepker Road Bridge) project to an expansion project, which was consistent with the MPO plan.

There was discussion about the USH 12/18 project. Murphy suggested changing the project description to indicate the design work was for a “potential” conversion to a freeway. There was also discussion about the change for Fish Hatchery Road from a “pavement replacement” to a “pavement reconditioning” project.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Stauske, to recommend approval of Amendment #1 to the 2012-2016 TIP with suggested revision to the description for the USH 12/18 design project. Motion carried.

5. **Update on the Transit Corridor (BRT) Study**

Schaefer stated that the proposals for the RFP for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) study were due March 7, 2012. The MPO was setting up an oversight committee or staff group to guide the study. A first meeting of the committee would be scheduled next month to review the scope of work and select a small consultant evaluation team. Schaefer said he distributed a draft list of committee members. Staff had reviewed that with the MPO Board. Mark Opitz and Ken Golden would be on the committee. Hoelker asked if a WisDOT Central Office representative could serve on the committee. Schaefer said that was fine. Hoelker said he’d get Schaefer a name for a SW Region representative. Hoelker asked if ridership estimates would be prepared. Schaefer said general estimates would be made based on elasticity factors or some other method, but not through use of the travel model. Hoelker said he was interested in that for the Beltline study since WisDOT will need to look at a transit alternative and the impact on traffic volumes.

6. **Update on WisDOT SW Region Major Corridor Studies (WisDOT SW Region Staff)**

Hoelker reviewed the scope of work for the three recently approved major EIS studies for Stoughton Road, the Beltline, and Interstate 39/90/94 (Madison to Wisconsin Dells). He said consultant interviews for the Stoughton Road (USH 51) were just held and a contract should be in place by mid-May. The study was on a shorter timeframe than the others due to the extensive amount of work that had already been done. FHWA said they could use this analysis and design work for the EIS. A final EIS could be completed as early as Fall 2014. Project details that would be addressed include improved intersections, potential conversion of some or all to interchanges, and potential flyovers at the Beltline interchange. The improvements would be designed to accommodate a third lane in each direction, though that wouldn’t likely be part of the recommended improvements. The second study discussed was the I-39/90/94 project, which is being split into two segments, the first from the Beltline to the I-39 split and the second from there to the Dells. He said FHWA requested that an area wide Traffic Impact Analysis be completed as part of the study to look at potential interchanges. A number of requests for interchanges have been made and FHWA wanted them all to be evaluated together from a system-wide perspective. The EIS would be completed in 2018-2019. The third study was for the Beltline study from Middleton to CTH N east of the Interstate. An origin/destination study would be the first thing done for the study, using Bluetooth technology. The second part would be a “Planning and Environmental Linkages” study to analyze different potential alternatives, including off-corridor alternatives, and their impacts. That would take 3-4 years, leading then to an EIS. S. Arnold asked whether alternative crossings of the Beltline would be evaluated. Hoelker said these were evaluated as part of the earlier Beltline safety/operations study, but would be re-evaluated as part of the EIS.

7. **Committee Member Reports**

Petykowski reported that a public meeting on the Johnson/Gorham two-way conversion study was scheduled for March 1.
Stephany reported that construction on Phase 2 of the Monona Drive project would begin in March or April, and it was the same contractor that did the previous phase of the project. The first public meeting was scheduled for the last phase of the project.

Murphy said the City was working on the scope of work for the City’s transportation master plan. A consultant would be hired to prepare the plan. The plan would ensure that all of the City’s plans are consistent and the City’s ordinances, standards, etc. are consistent with the plan. It would also identify gaps and barriers in the bike and pedestrian facility systems. The BRT study would be used as input for the plan. Murphy expected the project to last two years.

Woodard said construction had stopped on the relocated Lacy Road/USH 14 interchange project due to a dispute between the contractor and sub-contractor.

8. Staff Reports

- Rideshare Coordinator Position Vacancy
  - Schaefer said the position had been posted with applications due in mid-March.
- New Madison Urban and MPO Planning Area Boundaries
  - Schaefer said the U.S. Census Bureau would be releasing the new 2010 Urbanized Areas in late March or so. This would start the process for the MPO to revise the urban area boundary and set the new planning area boundary. He said he expected the Village of DeForest to be added to the new urbanized area.

9. Next Meeting Dates

- Wednesday, March 21, 2012
  - The meeting date was pushed up a week due to a conference that Schaefer was attending. However, it might be cancelled.
- Wednesday, April 25, 2012

10. Adjournment

    Moved by Sylvester, seconded by Murphy, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Minutes recorded by Nick VanderZwan and Bill Schaefer