

**Minutes of the
Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Coordinating Committee**

October 20, 2006

Fitchburg City Hall

2:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Beaupre, K. Clark, C. Kamp, Ginder, McComb, Kennedy, Nelson, Clayton (for Hoelker), Waidlich (for Murphy), Woodard

Members Absent: Coville, R. Clark, Mandli, Dryer, Kirchner, Violante, M. Simon

Others Present: McDonald, Schaefer, Pike, D. Paoni, S. Persich, D. Trowbridge

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 18, 2006

Moved by Kennedy, seconded by Woodard, to approve the August meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Review and Recommendation on Revised Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) 2030

Schaefer said committee members received a proposed list of proposed changes/additions to the draft plan and a summary of comments received on the plan and staff responses to the comments. He reviewed the major proposed changes to the plan related to the goals, policy objectives, and recommendations. First, a new policy objective #9 under Streets and Roadways was being added, which was requested by a MPO board member. It says that bicycle and pedestrian accommodations should be provided along and across all streets in conjunction with (re)construction. There is a more general policy objective that deals with this issue in the Streets section and this specific language is also included in the Pedestrian and Bicycle sections already, but the language would also be added in the Streets section. Language is being added to the Streets section to clarify that recommendations for any state roadway capacity expansions will come out of the ongoing corridor studies and that congestion management strategies will be needed for corridors that will remain congested, in particular the arterials leading into the Isthmus. In response to a City of Sun Prairie request, Egge Road will be designated on the planned projects/studies map for right of way acquisition as a potential future arterial street. Significant changes to the table listing major roadway projects include moving the North Mendota Parkway to a new section with "illustrative" projects (without identified funding). Some of these projects (e.g., Anderson Street) may occur with local funds. A recommendation is being added to continue to initiate detailed planning and construction of collector street extensions and connections, and a list of key projects is included. The plan includes a policy regarding this issue, but the specific recommendation will emphasize the importance of the issue and these particular projects. A few changes are being made to the future functional classification map in response to City of Middleton staff comments.

Schaefer said the MPO received a number of comments in support of creating a regional transit authority. This is an issue that's being addressed as part of the Transport 2020 study, and the plan references this. However, language will be added to note that this is likely to be the recommendation to come out of the study and to mention the problems with the current structure of a city-owned transit system. Language is also being added in the transit section to emphasize the recommendation to expand the network of bus lanes where possible. Persich suggested adding Johnson Street (Randall to Bassett) to the list of examples where bus lanes should be considered, and it was agreed to do so. Three new recommendations are being added in the Paratransit/Specialized Transportation section that came out of the meeting the MPO coordinated with WisDOT to develop a "specialized transportation human services plan." Schaefer reviewed these. A recommendation will be added in the TDM section to explore public/private partnerships for door-to-door transit service, which was

requested by a MPO board member. Schaefer said there are some issues with this, including the financial feasibility and the interaction with Metro, but it was something that could be looked at. Schaefer then reviewed the changes to the Bicycle section. It was suggested that the language regarding acquiring land or easements in conjunction with neighborhood or development plans needed further editing for clarification purposes. Waidlich noted that the area east of Token Creek park where some bike path changes are proposed will be in the City of Madison, which is preparing a neighborhood plan for the area.

Moved by Clark, seconded by Waidlich, to recommend approval of the draft RTP 2030 with the proposed changes. Motion carried.

4. Review and Recommendation on Revised Draft 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program

Schaefer highlighted the most significant project additions and changes listed in the addition/correction sheet. The Mineral Point/Junction Road/CTH M interchange will be shown as a programmed project with STP-Urban funding in 2011. The City of Madison is working on a design for this project and is interested in going forward with the project despite the fact there won't be sufficient funding to cover the 80% cost share. The plan is to complete the construction over a two-year period. It is uncertain how much funding will be available for the project. The last segment of the Monona Drive reconstruction project is scheduled in 2012. Also, the listings for the Ice Age Junction Trail (McKee Road to Badger Prairie Park) and Pheasant Branch Creek Trail Enhancements projects are being revised to reflect the fact they are now programmed projects that were selected for funding by the State's Enhancements committee. Two Beltline projects—the resurfacing from Seminole Highway to Fish Hatchery Road and the Todd Drive Bridge Deck replacement—that were deleted from the TIP because it was thought they would be completed in 2006 are being added back for construction in 2007. The High Point Road Bridge project is being delayed until 2012, just outside the 5-year TIP period. Also, the N. Thompson Dr. (Lien/Zeier) Intersection project will be shown as a programmed project with local funding. The City had previously been seeking STP-Urban funds. Woodard mentioned the locally funded extension of Fitchrona Road from Nesbitt to CTH PD. Schaefer said it would be good to add the project to the TIP as well.

Moved by Clark, seconded by Clayton, to recommend approval of the 2007-2011 TIP with the proposed changes. Motion carried.

5. Review and Recommendation on Draft 2007 MPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

McDonald reviewed the major work activities. These include participation on all of the ongoing corridor studies. As part of the Transport 2020 study, MPO staff will continue working on the further calibration of the transit model. Staff will continue to analyze and update safety data. A major work effort will be completion of an amendment to the regional transportation plan to make it compliant with all of the requirements of SAFETEA-LU. Staff will continue to conduct traffic and transportation analyses of neighborhood and large development plans. The re-designation of the MPO Policy Board needs to be completed and the new appointments made. The technical coordinating committee membership and voting structure will also be addressed. A new work activity will be reviewing TDM plans for the City of Madison. The City will be providing funding for this from parking utility revenues. Kennedy mentioned that the university would be reviewing its bike route signage on campus and enhancing its TDM activities, and asked that MPO staff provide some assistance, particularly with the TDM program.

6. Committee Member Reports

Woodard mentioned the extension of Fitchrona Road, which will be constructed in 2007 in conjunction with the major new development. He also said the city was preparing a Northeast

neighborhood plan for an area east of CTH MM. He said the plan calls for connecting relocated Lacy Road over to CTH MM.

Kamp introduced himself as the new Metro Transit Manager. He reported on the West and South side service changes that went into effect in August. He said Metro would be making some service adjustments, primarily in terms of schedules, in response to issues that have already arisen with the service changes.

Kennedy reported on the utility and street projects on the West side of campus. Streets being reconstructed include Observatory Drive, which is being extended over to Highland Avenue to the UW Hospital & Clinics, and Highland Avenue. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities are being added as part of these street projects. Also, work will begin next spring on the Campus Drive bike path.

Trowbridge provided updates on the Transport 2020 and Streetcar Studies. The two T2020 sub-committees, Bus Operations and Finance/Governance, have been meeting. The Finance/Governance Sub-committee is working with Rep. Miller on getting state legislation introduced for creation of regional transit authorities. He said the goal was to have a federal New Starts application completed by early summer. He stated that the Streetcar project was evaluating routes in corridors extending to the UW Hospital on the west, Villager Mall to the south, and Metro Transit facility on the east.

Waidlich reported that the City of Madison Planning Unit was preparing neighborhood development plans for two areas on the East and Northeast sides of the city. He mentioned the proposed large retail development proposed in the City of Sun Prairie north of the USH 151/CTH C interchange, which Madison is concerned about. The development calls for far more retail space than recommended in the City of Sun Prairie's West side plan, replacing proposed office and residential development. He also mentioned that the City of Madison had created a new Platinum City Bicycling Committee.

McComb reported that draft planning rules under SAFETEA-LU had been published and final rules were expected in early 2007.

Clayton said WisDOT was working on potential designs for interim improvements to the Verona Road/West Beltline interchange area. Also, the USH 51 South Study was starting the EIS process. In response to a question by Woodard regarding the Verona Road project, Clayton said WisDOT was now looking at interim improvements because funding wasn't going to be available to address all of the needs in that area.

7. Staff Reports

McDonald reported that staff would soon be sending out to local units of government a revised agreement for the MPO Board re-designation. A sample resolution will be included for local units of government to use.

8. Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting dates are November 17 and December 15, but it was noted one or both are likely to be cancelled.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Bill Schaefer