May 21, 2014

Note: A quorum for the meeting was not met; therefore, no action was taken on any agenda items.

1. **Roll Call**

   *Members Present:* G. Rylander, T. Stoebig, R. Williams
   *Members Absent:* R. Ferrell, C. Gjerde, G. Hull, J. Rider,
   *Staff Present:* B. Schaefer, D. Kanning

2. **Approval of March 26, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

   Item deferred due to lack of quorum.

3. **Staff Reports**

   Schaefer distributed copies of the new Dane County bicycle map MPO staff prepared. He described its features and main purpose, which was for wayfinding and to provide information on the suitability of rural roadways in the county for bicycle usage. Stoebig asked how the maps are made available to the public. Schaefer said maps are available at local libraries and bicycle shops and other locations. The map is also available for printing on the website.

   Schaefer reported that two committees—a technical and policy/citizen committee—were formed for the Bicycle Transportation Plan update. They met to review the criteria developed for a new functional classification system for bicycles, a bicycle level of service analysis, plan goals, and a plan report outline. Committee members discussed the cost effectiveness of bike lanes on high volume streets such as East Washington Avenue. Schaefer noted that one of the reasons for the bike lanes is to allow bicyclists to access businesses along the street even if they only ride for a short distance on the street versus a parallel route.

   Schaefer reported that TIP Amendment Nos. 3 and 4 were approved at the last two MPO Policy Board meetings. Amendment No. 3 added carryover federal Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and state funding for continuing YWCA’s JobRide program. Amendment No. 4 added funding to construct mast arm traffic signals at the intersection of Aberg Avenue and Shopko Drive. The mast arms are being installed with safety program funding to help make the traffic signals more visible.

   Schaefer reported that the official state forecast has the city growing by 60,000 people by 2050, but for this exercise the city is assuming an increase of 100,000.

   Williams commented that he thought the $500,000 being spent on this planning effort would have been better used for another purpose such as intermodal terminal planning. Williams said that he went to a presentation on the WisDOT Park & Ride study last night. The Dutch Mill parking lot is already overcrowded. Williams asked about funding sources for the bus terminal proposal. Schaefer said the city could apply for TIGER funding or other federal funding that might become available through reauthorization legislation.
Schaefer reported that seven proposals were submitted in response to the RFP for the regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) plan. The project will get started in late June or early July. The MPO is leading the effort and is working with the City of Madison’s Traffic Engineering Department. Rylander said that the ITS plan will help provide real time travel data that can be used for historical analysis and future planning.

Schaefer said that an RFP for a Metro Transit on-board survey will be issued as part of initial follow-up planning to the BRT Study. Transit modeling improvements will be included as part of another RFP.

The 2015-2019 TIP project and STP Urban Project applications will be scored and ranked prior to the next CAC meeting.

Schaefer said that several MPO Policy Board appointments are up. It looked like all would be reappointed except for perhaps Madison Alder Ahrens who would resign if he is appointed to the city’s Transit & Parking Commission.

The MPO is currently preparing a Title VI Program document designed to demonstrate how the MPO is meeting the non-discrimination requirement of Title VI. He noted that MPO staff has already made a portion of the Madison Area TPB website available in Spanish.

4. Review of Scoring and Priority Ranking of 2014-2018 Transportation Alternatives Program Project Applications for Consideration by WisDOT

Schaefer said that MPO staff scored and ranked all Transportation Alternative Program project applications that requested funding. Even though the MPO doesn’t have an allocation of funding for this application cycle, WisDOT indicated they would consider these rankings as they score and rank the same projects for the statewide pool of funds. Schaefer reviewed the projects and the MPO scoring, highlighting the top scoring projects. He noted that the top ranked project was the Lower Yahara River Trail, which will connect McDaniel Park in the Village of McFarland to the Capital City Trail. This project needs about $1 million in additional funding since the length of the boardwalk adjacent to Lake Waubesa must be increased. A proposed underpass of McKee Road for the Badger State Trail was ranked No. 2, and some side paths in Sun Prairie were ranked No. 3. Schaefer said the MPO Policy Board had already approved these rankings because of the short timeframe the MPO had to prioritize the projects. Stoebig asked if MPO staff would inform committee members if any projects were funded. Schaefer said that WisDOT was expected to award project funds in late June and that he would report on it at next committee meeting in July.


Schaefer said that MPO staff had reviewed the revised draft project scoring criteria for roadway projects with the MPO’s technical committee and policy board. The revisions attempted to provide more detail on how projects would be scored under each criteria with formulas in some cases. Rylander questioned why cost effectiveness was struck from text describing the objectives for the process. Schaefer said it was because cost effectiveness is just one of the criteria so the board didn’t want it singled out in this section of the document. Rylander suggested that the percentages be removed from the criteria categories and that only points be used. Schaefer agreed. He questioned why AWT was being used instead of ADT. Schaefer said that the travel demand model and City of Madison volume reports use AWT. Rylander questioned why a v/c ratio was used, since intersections are the chokepoints of roadways. Schaefer said that roadway volumes and capacities are readily available while intersection level of service data is not. Rylander suggested that staff review the Highway Safety Manual and incorporate key countermeasures from that document into the criteria.
6. **Presentation on the MPO’s TDM/Rideshare Program Activities**
   Schaefer passed out a handout, but the presentation was deferred.

7. **Committee Member Reports**
   Williams said that Politico, a news website, now has a transportation report section that will provide updates on the proposed federal transportation bill. Schaefer added that the Madison Area TPB is now a member of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO). It is a valuable organization since AMPO lobbies on behalf of all MPOs.

8. **Next Meeting Date**
   The next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, July 16, 2014.

9. **Adjournment**

   *Notes were recorded by W. Schaefer and D. Kanning*