

**Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**  
**April 5, 2006 Meeting Minutes**

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**1. Roll Call**

Members present: Eileen Bruskwitz, Corey Finkelmeyer, David Kluesner, Lisa MacKinnon, Al Matano, Chan Stroman, John Vesperman, Robbie Webber, Doug Zwank

Members absent: Ken Golden, Laura Rose

Staff present: Bob McDonald, Bob Pike, Bill Schaefer

**2. Approval of the March 1, 2006 Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Zwank, seconded by Finkelmeyer, to approve March 1, 2006 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**3. Communications**

*None*

**4. Public Comment (for items not on MPO Agenda)**

*None*

**5. Consideration of Appointment to the North Mendota Parkway Implementation Oversight Committee**

McDonald stated that Golden had expressed an interest to be replaced on the committee as he is having trouble making it to the meetings. No one expressed interest in serving on the committee, so McDonald said he would move the item to next month's agenda.

**6. Consideration of Action Revising Madison Area Board Representation and Other Applicable Considerations**

McDonald said he included in the meeting packet a table with the scenarios that were discussed at the last Board meeting. The two new scenarios are a 12-member and 14-member board and the table shows representation percentages for each one compared to the existing board structure. McDonald added that in addition making a decision on the board size and who makes the appointments, there is the issue of other conditions on the board appointments. The draft letter to local units of government on the status of the Board's action on this issue, which was in the packet under agenda item 7, addresses this. A second version of the letter is at your place that reflects comments from FHWA staff. The first version says one of the Mayor of Madison's appointments must be an official of Metro Transit and one of the County Executive's appointments must be an official of the airport. The official could be the Director of the agency or an appointment to the Transit & Parking Commission or Airport Commission, respectively. In addition, appointments are to be local elected officials or officials of boards or commissions responsible for operating or administering major modes of transportation. These conditions are based on previous discussions by the Board and FHWA staff preliminary findings as part of our Federal certification review. The second version very similar, except it says that the official of Metro Transit and the airport can be the director or an elected official or a citizen appointment with the authority to act on behalf of the agency. McDonald commented that while he understands the desire for the appointment to have the authority to act on behalf of the agency, he doesn't think this is possible. As Golden has noted in previous discussions, even though he may be on Madison's Transit and Parking Commission, the commission has not delegated him authority to represent them. It is a subtle distinction.

MacKinnon asked whether such authority could be delegated and, if so, how. McDonald responded that he didn't think it could be done since board and commission positions vary on topics. Matano directed a question to McComb, FHWA staff, who was in attendance. He wondered why Metro Transit and the airport were singled out as agencies that must be represented. McComb clarified that FHWA is looking for individuals with the authority to act and make decisions on behalf of the agencies or communities they represent and the accountability to get those decisions implemented. In the case of Metro Transit, the director would be the one with that authority because he/she is accountable to the Mayor and has authority to implement decisions made. Similarly, if the Board was to choose to assign a citizen appointment or elected official that is a member of the commission, FHWA would seek that same authority and same accountability. He added that in his research of other MPOs in the country, he could not find one other MPO that didn't have all or mostly elected officials on its board. Webber and Matano asked who are "providers" of roads. With respect to the roadway system, McComb said a public official who has responsibility to administer the highway program would be a public works director or someone in that capacity. Matano said he didn't think Metro and the airport should be singled out as modes of transportation that must be represented, particularly the airport, which has an independent agency and is tangential to the MPO's responsibilities for surface transportation. Board members asked McComb to read the statutory language. Discussion followed. Zwank said the small cities and villages prefer scenario 3, the 14-member board. Kluesner indicated that he prefers scenario 2, the 12-member board. Webber said she could support either one, but proposed going with scenario 3 because the small cities and villages supported this one and it would allow them an extra appointment (a total of three), which would help ensure better geographic coverage and balance in their appointments.

Moved by Webber, seconded by Finkelmeyer, to adopt scenario three, the 14-member board.

Discussion continued on the other conditions for the MPO board appointments.

Moved by MacKinnon, seconded by Webber, to remove the conditions from the appointments by the Mayor and the Dane County Executive requiring one to be an official from Metro Transit and the Dane County Airport, respectively, and to substitute the exact statutory language requiring appointments to be elected officials or officials of agencies that operate or administer major modes of transportation as a condition for all appointments. Motion carried.

**7. Consideration of Letter of Transmittal to Local Elected Officials in the MPO Planning Area Regarding Actions by the MPO Board on MPO Board Representation**

McDonald said he would make changes to the letter to reflect the actions taken for the previous agenda item.

Moved by Webber, seconded by Finkelmeyer, to approve sending the letter with the changes to reflect the board's action on agenda item 6. Motion carried.

McDonald said he would start work on drafting the revised agreement.

**8. Consideration of Press Release, Citizen Participation Effort, and Generalized Schedule for Preparing the 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Dane County Area**

McDonald stated that the schedule and press release follow the same format, etc. as previous years.

Moved by Bruskewitz, seconded by Finkelmeyer, to approve the press release and schedule for preparing the TIP. Motion carried.

**9. Consideration of Letter of Transmittal Requesting Projects for STP-Urban Funding and TIP Update.**

McDonald stated that this is the letter that goes out to all units of government requesting project applications for STP – Urban funding and for projects to be included in the TIP.

Moved by Stroman, seconded by Webber, to approve the letter. Motion carried.

#### **10. Continued Review of Preliminary Results from the New Regional Travel Demand Model for the Regional Transportation Plan Update**

McDonald reported that at this time staff has modeled all of the projects in the current regional transportation plan and is now looking at additional projects. This includes the Verona Road/West Beltline project; North Mendota Parkway, and the relocated Lacy Road interchange at USH 14. Staff will bring maps to the next meeting showing the impacts and congestion under these different scenarios.

#### **11. Status Report by MPO Board Members on Projects Potentially Involving the MPO:**

- **Transport 2020 Implementation Task Force**  
Matano, who is a member, said they would be meeting that same evening to review alternatives and that it was the first meeting in a while. He had nothing new to report.
- **USH 51 (USH 12/18 to I 90/94/39) Corridor Study**  
Finkelmeyer said that he had not been able to attend the last meeting. McDonald reported that two public information meetings were held last week. Different levels of improvements for each segment of the corridor were presented along with ped/bike improvements. Vesperman distributed an information sheet that was handed out at the meetings. He said 300-400 people attended the meetings and that the majority favored the higher level improvement alternatives.
- **North Mendota Parkway Implementation Oversight Committee**  
The last meeting was cancelled due to snow. Vesperman had some questions regarding the project. McDonald said that he would set up a meeting with Vesperman and interested board members to discuss the project and coordination issues with WisDOT planning for the STH 19 corridor.
- **USH 51 (McFarland to Stoughton)**  
Matano said he was unable to attend the last meeting. Vesperman distributed a handout showing the alternatives that are being screened. The first public meeting is scheduled for May with EIS completion in 2009. He said the intersections were the key concern.

#### **12. Discussion of Future Work Items:**

- **Development of Alternatives and Recommendations for the Regional Transportation Plan 2030 Update**  
McDonald stated that he had nothing to discuss at this time, but that staff will have items to present at the next meeting. Sections of the draft report are being prepared while work is being done on the roadway scenarios.
- **Dane Co. Clean Air Coalition (CAC)**  
McDonald stated that at some point he would like the coordinator of the CAC to make a presentation to the Board. There are several initiatives underway, including Clean Air Action Days, buying of low-sulfur diesel fuel, and retrofitting of gas tank vent caps at gas stations.
- **West Side Bicycle Corridors Study**  
McDonald stated that this study is being folded into the Long Range Plan. The draft plan map was presented to the board at a previous meeting as part of review of the regional bikeway system map.

Bruskewitz asked that the issue of “smart” jitneys be added as a future discussion item.

#### **13. Announcements and Schedule of Future Meetings**

*None*

#### **14. Adjournment**