

**Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (an MPO)
August 1, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

1. Roll Call

Members present: Tom Clauder, Ken Harwood, Chuck Kamp, Jerry Mandli, Al Matano, Mark Opitz, Satya Rhodes-Conway, Paul Skidmore, John Vesperman, Robbie Webber

Members absent: Eileen Bruskewitz, Joe Clausius, Brett Hulsey

Staff present: Bob McDonald, Bill Schaefer, Bob Pike

McDonald began the meeting by having Board members and MPO staff introduce themselves.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

McDonald suggested that this item could be deferred to the September meeting in order to give Board members a chance to get to know each other and make a more informed choice. However, for the purposes of this meeting it was necessary that a temporary chair be elected. Webber nominated Matano for temporary chair due to the fact that he had served as vice chair on the previous MPO Board. Mandli seconded the nomination. Skidmore nominated Clauder, seconded by Harwood.

Following some discussion, Harwood moved, Webber seconded, to close nominations and vote for temporary chair. Matano was nominated (Vesperman was not in attendance at this point and did not vote). Harwood moved, Opitz seconded, to defer election of the permanent chair and vice-chair. Motion carried.

3. Communications

- Email from the Dane County Clerk's office regarding Resolution 57, 07-08 – Supporting the Expansion of Multi-Modal Public Transit in the Madison Metropolitan Area and State Legislation that Enables the Creation of a Regional Transportation Authority, indicating the county is seeking input from the MPO on the resolution.

McDonald noted that the City of Madison had introduced a substitute resolution on this issue and the county was expected to also introduce a substitute resolution so that the two resolutions would be the same. He said the Transport 2020 Study Committee hopes to submit an application to the Federal Transit Administration to proceed with preliminary engineering and an EIS for the recommended starter system called the "locally preferred alternative (LPA)." They need the support of the MPO for the LPA. These two separate, but related issues will be on the agenda for the Board's next meeting.

- Letter from Bob McDonald to Aileen Switzer, WisDOT, informing the state of an Administrative Modification to the 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program for the Dane County Area that incorporates the three local projects that were awarded Safe Routes to School Program funding.

McDonald said a general "level of effort" type project had been added to the TIP as part of an earlier TIP amendment in anticipation of some communities receiving funding under the program. This allowed the MPO to add the details of the individual projects as an administrative modification, because a new project wasn't being added to the TIP.

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

Royce Williams, 2437 Fox Ave., Madison, noted that he was a member of the citizen advisory committee and commented on the importance of the MPO as the only form of "regional government"

recognized by the Federal government. He mentioned the ongoing discussions about another regional body, a regional transportation authority (RTA), and said Wisconsin was the only state in the midwest without legislation authorizing RTAs.

5. General Review of the Duties and Responsibilities of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Transportation Planning

McDonald briefly reviewed the Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (TPB) Profile and the significance of the Metropolitan Planning Area and Urban Area boundaries. He noted that a copy of the Federal metropolitan planning regulations that govern MPOs, which provide more detail, was included in the Board's packet. He said the re-designation of the MPO that just occurred brought the make up of the Board into compliance with Federal law. Opitz asked if there was any dissent on the change in the MPO Board structure, and McDonald said no. McDonald then reviewed the primary responsibilities of the MPO, including preparation of the Regional Transportation Plan, TIP, and an annual Unified Planning Work Program describing the planning activities the MPO would be undertaking or participating in over the following year.

6. Consideration of Resolution TPB No. 1 Regarding Adoption of the Regional Transportation Plan 2030, the 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program, the 2007 Unified Planning Work Program, the 2000 Bicycle Transportation Plan, and the 2004-2008 Transit Development Program.

McDonald stated that in order to keep Federal funding flowing to the area and allow the MPO to continue with its activities, the new MPO Policy Board needed to reaffirm the current plans, TIP, and work program. He said he realizes new Board members have not had a chance to fully review the documents, but several of them are already in the process of being updated or will be updated soon, so the Board will have its chance to review and comment on them. A supplement to the RTP is being prepared to bring the plan fully into compliance with the current Federal transportation legislation, SAFETEA-LU. A new draft TIP for 2008-1012 is being sent out and a hearing will be held on it at the Board's September meeting. A new work program for 2008 will also be brought to the Board in the fall.

Moved by Kamp, seconded by Rhodes-Conway, to approve Resolution TPB No. 1. Motion carried.

7. Consideration of Resolution TPB No. 2 Regarding Relationship Between the Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (TPB) and the TPB Technical Coordinating Committee.

McDonald reviewed the make up of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and the role that it plays in the planning process. He said in voting for this resolution the Board was approving the expansion of the committee and new voting structure recommended by the TCC. Members from several cities and villages were added and the communities were paired based upon geography. If both members of the paired communities are present at the meeting, they each get ½ vote. If only one is present, that member gets a full vote. Typically, the TCC acts on a consensus basis anyway.

Moved by Opitz, seconded by Webber, to approve Resolution TPB No. 2. Motion carried.

8. Consideration of Resolution TPB No. 3 Regarding Relationship Between the Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (TPB) and the TPB Citizen Advisory Committee

McDonald reviewed the role of the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), and said that the CAC becomes more important now with the change in structure of the Policy Board. He said the CAC needed to be expanded in the future. There have been some recent resignations on the committee. Schaefer added that the idea for the committee was to get representatives from different interest groups

as well as regular citizens who might be involved in land use/transportation planning at the local level. He encouraged board members to provide names of anyone they think might be a good candidate for the committee.

Moved by Webber, seconded by Skidmore, to approve Resolution TPB No. 3. Motion carried.

9. Status Report by TPB Members on Projects Potentially Involving the TPB:

- **Transport 2020 Implementation Task Force**

Matano said the committee was meeting on August 15 at which time it was expected they would approve the application to the Federal Transit Administration for permission to proceed to preliminary engineering for the recommended starter system.

- **USH 51 (USH 12/18 to I 90/94/39) Corridor Study**

McDonald reported the study was in the EIS phase. Alternatives have been developed for different segments of the corridor. The alternatives include three ranges of improvements from low-cost, TSM type things to higher cost, capacity expansion projects. Public meetings will be scheduled soon. Vesperman added that none of the improvements identified is programmed for funding at this point in time, except some minor improvements to the USH 51/Beltline ramps.

- **North Mendota Parkway Implementation Oversight Committee**

Opitz reported that the communities were putting in place a moratorium on development to protect the corridors while the communities officially map the roadway and environmental corridors. A consultant has been hired to conduct an environmental study that will be used to map the corridors.

- **USH 51 (McFarland to Stoughton)**

McDonald said this study was also in an EIS after starting out as an EA. The existing problems are mostly at the intersections, although they are also looking at potential solutions to expanding capacity in the longer term, not necessarily on USH 51 but on alternative routes such as STH 138 (to USH 14). The study committees have not met in awhile.

Opitz asked that future updates be provided on the Verona Road/West Beltline Study and on CTH M. Vesperman mentioned a state study done on cross-over crashes and said a segment of the South Beltline was identified as a high priority for addition of a median barrier.

10. Discussion of Future Work Items:

- **County Board Resolution 57, 07-08**

McDonald said the City of Madison might also send their RTA resolution to the MPO for comment. The MPO Board could comment on these resolutions or pass its own resolution on the issue. The Transport 2020 LPA is a separate item. The MPO must approve the LPA in order for FTA to approve moving forward with the study to PE. In response to a question from Opitz, McDonald said the MPO resolution addressing the LPA could also address the RTA issue, but doesn't have to. Both of these issues will be on the Board's next meeting agenda. Harwood said he thought the MPO should be proactive and should be clear whether decisions are being made or planning opportunities merely being kept open. Matano noted that the first city resolution was more general while the second was more specific, including details of the agreement between the Madison Mayor and County Executive. McDonald said he would send copies of the resolutions out to members. It was also mentioned that the towns and cities/villages associations had a joint meeting planned for August 8 to discuss the RTA issue.

- **Cation of efforts to make the new Regional Transportation Plan 2030 SAFETEA-LU Compliant**

An amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan 2030 to make the plan SAFETEA-LU compliant is expected in the fall of this year.

- **Restructure of the Citizen Advisory Committee**

Currently in progress.

- **Preparation of the Draft 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

The Draft TIP is being mailed out on August 3, 2007.

- **Preparation of the Draft 2008 Unified Planning Work Program**

Work on this will begin sometime in August.

11. Announcements and Schedule of Future Meetings

There was some discussion about changing the day or time of the Board meetings due to scheduling conflicts with certain new board members. After much calendar checking, it appears that the first Wednesday of the month is still the best day to hold the meetings, but the start time might need to be changed. McDonald suggested that perhaps the meeting could be moved to a later start time, such as 7:00 p.m. He said that he would draft an email to Board members (especially those absent at this meeting) to find out if this would work better for a majority of people.

12. Adjournment