1. Roll Call

*Members present:* David Ahrens, Mark Clear, Kelly Danner, Paul Esser, Ken Golden, Chuck Kamp, Steve King, Jerry Mandli, Ed Minihan, Mark Opitz, Larry Palm (via phone), Bruce Stravinski, Doug Wood

*Members absent:* Steve Flottmeyer

*MPO staff present:* Colleen Hoesly, Bill Schaefer

*Others present in an official capacity:* Rob Phillips (City of Madison Engineer), Nicholas Zavos (City of Madison Deputy Mayor for Government Relations)

2. Approval of July 11, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Moved by Opitz, seconded by Kamp, to approve the July 11, 2018 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Communications

- Letter from KL Engineering, design consultant for the city of Madison’s University Avenue (Shorewood Boulevard to University Bay Drive) project, seeking comment from MPO.

  Schaefer said comments could be provided formally or informally. He said an issue for the project is coordinating with the BRT project. Ahrens said he hoped a substantial median could be provided as well as an adequate terrace with street trees. Schaefer said he would pass those comments on to staff. The board decided to let staff provide informal comments.

- Recent survey conducted of the Dane County Cities and Villages Association (DCCVA) membership. Schaefer noted that transportation in general and the roadway jurisdictional transfer issue came up as top issues.

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

Forbes McIntosh, representing DCCVA, said that the roadway jurisdictional transfer issue was one that was “boiling over.” He said he’d met with county board leaders and believes there is interest in policy changes. They planned to request data from the MPO in the future to support those discussions. He read the attached written statement, noting the transfers of roads to cities and villages raised concern of tax fairness. He said statements have been made the transfers are routine and non-controversial, but that is not true. He said the county policy dates back to an old committee position that the county may seek jurisdictional transfer, but in practice it has been required in every case where there is a single municipality involved.

Clear noted the idea had been floated for the MPO to conduct a study on the issue and wondered if he thought the MPO had credibility as a non-biased entity. McIntosh said yes, noting the board had appointments from all sides. He said one of the problems is there is not consensus among his members on a policy, but agreement that a cost sharing policy should be developed. They will look to the MPO for data, not necessarily for the MPO to do the study. Danner asked if Forbes had seen any best practice policies from other states such as Minnesota. Forbes said they are doing that research now, noting the focus should be on cost sharing rather than jurisdictional transfer.

5. Election of Officers

Per recommendation of King, the board decided to hold the election but have the new chair take over at the next meeting. Minihan nominated Opitz and he accepted. Ahrens nominated Palm and he accepted. Nominations were then closed. The candidates made brief statements. Opitz noted his status as a staff
member rather than elected official. Palm said he’d apply the lessons he’d learned as CARPC Chair and wanted to get the board more engaged in decision making. Stravinski suggested having co-chairs. Kamp said as a staff person with committees for 25 years he found it helpful to have one chair. After further discussion, it was decided not to pursue that. Palm was elected by paper ballot.

Clear opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. King nominated Opitz and Kamp seconded. Opitz accepted. There were no other nominations. Kamp moved, Opitz second, to close nominations and cast unanimous vote for Opitz for Vice Chair. Motion carried.

6. Resolution TPB #140 Approving Amendment #3 to the 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County

Schaefer noted the amendment added the STH 30 (Fair Oaks Bridge) Bridge Deck overlay project to allow design to begin this year.

Moved by Kamp, seconded by Ahrens, to approve. Motion carried.

7. Resolution TPB #141 Approving Amendment #4 to the 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County

Clear introduced the item. Ahrens moved, Wood seconded, to approve the resolution for discussion purposes.

Nick Zavos spoke in support of reallocating the funding for the Buckeye Road project in 2019, but not the Cottage Grove Road project. The city and county would work to move Buckeye Road forward with local funding. He commented on the jurisdictional transfer issue generally, which he said was a big policy issue, and noted the awkward position the MPO had been put in due to the federal funding involved. He said the Mayor was just trying to make sure the federal funding is not lost. In response to a question from Wood he said only reallocating the Buckeye Road funding would provide time for an agreement to be reached on the Cottage Grove Road project. Kamp asked if Tom Lynch, the new city transportation director, supported this and Zavos said yes. Schaefer added the city of Madison would continue efforts to move the Atwood Avenue project forward in the meantime so that it could be ready for construction in 2020.

Palm moved, Kamp seconded, to amend the main motion to delete the 2018 funding for the Madison ped/bike safety education program and the 2019 funding for the Buckeye Road project and reallocate $385,000 of that to E. Johnson Street and $609,000 to CTH M, but not reallocate the Cottage Grove Road project funding.

Schaefer clarified the reallocation of funding by reviewing the priority projects table and the resolution. He also said staff had drafted a revised TIP resolution with only the reallocation of Buckeye Road funding included in the motion so it could be signed tonight. Wood asked for the rationale to not move the Cottage Grove Road project funding to Atwood. Phillips responded that it gives the city and county another year to work out an agreement. Danner added that the city and county are both planning to commit local funds to their 2019 budgets for Buckeye Road and to continue working on the cost sharing and jurisdiction issues. Minihan commented that Mayor Soglin didn’t seem interested in using data to negotiate a solution. Zavos responded that the Mayor is in favor of making decisions based on data related to traffic patterns on the roadways. He said a study by the MPO was something the city had supported for a while. He said there was recognition there wasn’t enough time to work out the issue for Buckeye Road. Palm added the Mayor’s position wasn’t clear at the last meeting, but is now.

The motion to amend the main motion on the resolution to approve the reallocation of funding for the Buckeye Road project and the 2018 funding for the pedestrian/bicycle project to the E Johnson Street and CTH M projects carried. Moved by Ahrens, seconded by Wood, to approve Resolution TPB #141 as amended by Palm. Motion carried.
8. Update Regarding WisDOT Release of 2019-2022 STBG Urban Program Policies and MPO Funding Allocations

Schaefer said there has been no resolution on MATPB’s funding allocation for the 2019-2022 program cycle nor on the issue of MATPB using some of its funding for the Madison ped/bike safety education program. However, FHWA is working with WisDOT to resolve the issues. For the draft TIP, the $13 million in available funding according to WisDOT will be used.

9. Release of Draft 2019-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Madison Metropolitan Area & Dane County for Public Review and Comment

Schaefer said that $13 million in available STBG Urban funding must be programmed as part of approval of the 2019-2023 TIP. Staff is proposing to allocate that to the University Avenue project, which was by far the highest scoring project. Also, MATPB must program all of the funding and all of it is needed for the University Avenue project, which is estimated at $24 million. The board conditionally approved the project and the first phase of Pleasant View Road as part of approval of last year’s TIP and design work on both has been proceeding. The University Avenue project will tentatively be scheduled for 2021. Next year when the MPO has more funding the Pleasant View Road project will be approved for construction in 2022 or 2023. Schaefer confirmed with Opitz that the TID being used to partially fund Pleasant View Road expires at the end of 2022. Schaefer noted that is still some flexibility going forward as to which of the two projects gets reconstructed first. Schaefer noted the project maps in the packet and said staff had reviewed all projects for consistency with MATPB’s Regional Transportation Plan.

Moved by Opitz, seconded by Kamp, to release for public review and comment. Motion carried.

10. Letter of Support for Metro Transit Application to FTA Bus & Bus Facilities Grant Program

Schaefer pointed out that Metro decided to propose 50/50 funding match instead of 80/20 in order to boost its chances of receiving funding. He said a correction to the letter had been made with the revised amount of funding being requested. Kamp confirmed this. He said if Metro were to receive the grant it could then use its Section 5307 funding on much needed renovation work on the bus garage.

Moved by Mandli, seconded by Kamp, to approve sending the corrected letter. Motion carried.

11. Presentation on Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan

Schaefer said the Coordinated Plan needed to be updated. The plan is prepared in close cooperation with Metro and Dane County Human Services staff. The first of two local coordination meetings with stakeholder groups was held on July 19. He introduced Colleen Hosely, who went over the presentation that was made at the meeting. The presentation covered the plan requirements, existing funding programs and services, past funded Section 5310 projects, demographic information, and the overall goals from the last plan, which are being carried forward. There were no questions.

12. Presentation on Low Stress Bikeway Map Application Developed by MATPB Staff

Schaefer provided a demonstration of the new low-stress bike route finder application. He said staff was also doing some analyses using the low stress network and would present to the board on that at a future meeting. Opitz commented on the colors on the map, saying it was difficult to distinguish the blue and green. Schaefer agreed and said the color scheme was mandated by city of Madison IT staff to make it readable for people with color blindness. He said staff would look into tweaking the colors though.

13. Appointments to MATPB-CARPC Workgroup

Schaefer said two of the three MPO seats on the workgroup are vacant. Palm noted that the workgroup is nearing the end of its work with 1-2 final meetings to review draft recommendations. The next step would be
to have a joint meeting of MATPB and CARPC. So both appointments don’t necessarily need to be made. Ultimately, it will be up to both full bodies to decide on strategies to move forward.

Wood volunteered to serve on the workgroup.


Palm said the Greater Madison Vision community survey is nearing the critical phase with the launch on September 12. He said he would be asking all board members to assist in trying to get as many people as possible in different communities to participate in taking the survey. He said CARPC was planning to initiate a strategic planning process to make sure that the agency is in the best position possible to execute both the outcomes of the Greater Madison Vision and our future land use plan. He said he anticipated discussions with MATPB on how to become stronger partners. Schaefer said he would invite CARPC staff to come present on the AGMV project.

15. Status Report on Studies and Plans Involving the MATPB

None.

16. Discussion of Future Work Items

Schaefer said staff will receive the final household survey data files from the UW Survey Center soon. Staff will then review and compare the local data with the national data already received to determine if any weights will be needed for combining the two datasets for analysis. After much back and forth with AirSage, the company that provided the origin-destination trip data, staff is now finally comfortable with the data. AirSage made some improvements for processing the data. Staff has begun to review and analyze the data. The consultant is on board and the BRT project design study will begin in the early fall. MPO staff met with UW TOPS Lab staff regarding some assistance they will provide for the intersection safety analysis MPO staff has been working on.

Regarding the strategic plan for enhancements to the travel model and other planning tools, MPO staff provided comments on two technical memos prepared and will be discussing those comments with the consultant. The memos and feedback will serve as the basis for preparing the draft strategic work plan. The Transit Development Plan update is on hold right now until a new staff member is hired to replace Philip Gritzmaker, who left to take a position with the city of Sun Prairie.

Schaefer said he added the issue of the relationship between MATPB and the city of Madison to the list. He said the issue would be placed on a future meeting agenda for an initial discussion. He said setting targets for the new federal performance measures or choosing to support the state targets will be added to the list as well. MPOs need to set their targets by November.

17. Announcements and Schedule of Future Meetings

Clear introduced Keith Furman, who was appointed to fill his seat on the Madison Council until next April. He thanked everyone and remarked how nice it was to serve on the MPO board and work with staff. Opitz thanked Clear for all his contributions and said he enjoyed working with him on various issues and projects. Others agreed and wished Clear luck with his new job.

18. Adjournment

Moved by Opitz, seconded by Kamp, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM.