Minutes of the  
Madison Area Transportation Planning Board  
Technical Coordinating Committee  

July 23, 2008  Fitchburg City Hall  2:00 p.m.  

1. Roll Call  

Members Present:  Beaupre, Dunphy, Ginder, Hoelker, Kennedy, McComb, Murphy, Nelson, Sylvester, Vela, Andros (for Violante), Sloper (for Woodard)  

Members Absent:  K. Clark, R. Clark, Coville, Dryer, Even, Kirchner, Kugler, Persich, Scheel, Simon  

Others Present:  McDonald, Schaefer, R. Phillips  

2. Approval of May 28, 2008 Meeting Minutes  

Moved by Kennedy, seconded by Ginder, to approve the May 2008 meeting minutes. Motion carried.  

3. Review and Recommendation on Resolution TPB No. 16 Regarding Amendment #4 of the 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)  

Schaefer said the amendment was to add a transit capital grant project that the City of Sun Prairie received to purchase a small bus for its shared-ride taxi system. The grant was part of a larger grant that WisDOT secured on behalf of the transit systems in the state. The bus will be used to expand the “corner” service for school kids whereby they are picked up at designated street corners and as a back up vehicle for the weekday shuttle service to East Towne.  

Moved by Sylvester, seconded by Vela, to recommend approval of Resolution TPB No. 16. Motion carried.  


McDonald first noted that staff had reviewed the draft listings with the MPO Board at its last meeting because of the way the schedules of the Board and technical committee worked out. The Board responded favorably to the draft listings. Schaefer reviewed the draft listings by year starting with the current year projects. He noted that because the CTH M/Valley View Road intersection project was delayed until 2010, additional funding was freed up for the East Washington Avenue and Monona Drive Segment 1 reconstruction projects in 2009. The funding was divided up based on the amount each project was short of the full cost share amount. The available funding still falls short of the full amount potentially available under the MPO’s old cost sharing policy. Construction for the Monona Drive Segment 1 project is not scheduled now to start until the fall of 2009 and will carry over into 2010. Because the CTH M/Valley Road project was supposed to occur in 2009 and the MPO committed 80% funding for that project, staff proposes to fund it at that level even though 2010 is the first year of the new 50/50 cost share policy. The MPO’s funding allocation is anticipated to increase back up to $6.3 million in 2010, but the actual allocation is uncertain at this time because that is the first year of the new Federal transportation program reauthorization bill. The major projects programmed for 2011 are the first phase of the CTH S/Mineral Point Road (CTH M/Junction Intersection), University Avenue/CTH MS (Allen Blvd. to Segoe) reconstruction, and the 2nd segment of the Monona Drive reconstruction. The City of Madison Engineering Department is hosting a public meeting on the CTH S intersection project on July 24. The second phase of that project is the only major one in 2012. In 2013, the projects are CTH M (Cross Country to CTH PD), the last phase of Monona Drive, and East Johnson Street (Butler to First St.). There isn’t quite enough funding estimated to be available to cover the full 50% cost share for the East Johnson Street project, but the funding picture is likely to change some in the next few years. Schaefer noted that the scoring and
ranking table was also distributed and members could provide comments on that as well. McDonald said staff had reviewed the set of scoring and ranking criteria with the new Board, which seemed to be comfortable with it after the review and discussion.

Moved by Ginder, seconded by Murphy, to recommend release of the draft listings for public hearing and comment. Motion carried.

5. **Review of Major Projects in the Draft 2009-2013 TIP**

Schaefer reviewed a map showing the major roadway projects in the Madison metropolitan planning area. He highlighted in particular changes from last year’s TIP and new projects. The City of Madison has added a segment east of Segoe Road to the planned work on University Avenue and moved up the resurfacing work on Campus Drive to 2009. The resurfacing of STH 113 (Northport Road and Packers Avenue) was added and scheduled for 2013. The City of Madison has also added resurfacing work on W. Washington Avenue, Park Street, and Fish Hatchery Road. The resurfacing of USH 14 (South) was moved back to 2012. Madison also added interim resurfacing work for Reiner and Felland Roads. The Interstate 94 expansion and associated projects is still scheduled for 2009-2010. Sylvester asked about Raymond Road, and Phillips said the City of Madison was proposing some interim resurfacing work on that roadway. Nelson asked about bicycle projects, Schaefer said staff didn’t have a map prepared yet but mentioned two small Madison projects: the Hartmeyer path and extension of the Capital City Trail down to Buckeye Road. Staff was working on an interim path solution for the latter project because the railroad hasn’t been cooperative in planning for a path in the rail corridor.

6. **Presentation on the Dane County Clean Air Coalition and Current Activities and Issues**

Schaefer said that the coordinator for the Clean Air Coalition (CAC) had provided a presentation to the Board at its last meeting, which was at member’s places. The CAC was formed four years ago and is a public/private partnership of businesses, schools, and government agencies working to keep the air quality healthy by reducing air pollution and to help ensure that Dane County continues to meet Federal air quality standards. The MPO is a member. Schaefer pointed out the list of programs the CAC has implemented. The most visible is the Clean Air Action Days program whereby the general public and coalition members are notified that ground-level ozone levels are likely to reach an unhealthy level for sensitive groups. The public is asked to take actions (e.g., not driving alone to work, not refueling until night) and coalition members activate specific response plans. The focus of the coalition’s efforts has now shifted to also include fine particulate matter or PM 2.5. This spring the U.S. EPA notified Governor Doyle in a letter that Dane County and a number of other counties in the state had violated the 24-hour Federal public health standard for PM 2.5. The EPA adopted a more stringent standard for PM 2.5 in 2006 and that is the reason for the violation. Dane County is just over the new standard. This may result in the county being designated non-attainment for PM 2.5 by the EPA. The Governor has taken a position that although Wisconsin counties are in violation of the standard new Federal rules and programs that have been recently adopted will reduce some of the major precursors of PM 2.5 pollution such as nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, and VOCs. As those programs take effect, counties in the state will become in attainment of the standard. Levels of PM 2.5 precursor pollutants have actually already been going down in Wisconsin and elsewhere over the last decade. The requirements for areas designated non-attainment include offsets whereby new industries must obtain pollution reduction credits from existing pollution sources and of relevance to the MPO transportation conformity. The CAC has decided to pursue a strategy of trying to get EPA to delay action on designating Dane County as non-attainment. A technical workgroup has been set up to develop short-term and long-term voluntary emission control strategies to help convince EPA to delay action.

Beaupre asked if DNR staff were working with other counties as well on a statewide strategy, which she said would be more convincing. MPO staff weren’t sure of what activities were going on in other
counties such as in southeast Wisconsin, which is currently non-attainment for ozone. After some further discussion, McDonald said MPO staff wanted to make members aware of the issue and would keep the committee informed as things unfold.

7. Committee Member Reports

Kennedy reported that a grand opening ceremony was planned for August 8 for the Campus Drive bike path. Utility and associated street work on the West side of campus will be completed this summer.

Phillips mentioned the public meeting on the CTH S/Mineral Point Road (CTH M/Junction Road) intersection project scheduled for July 24, and said construction was underway on a number of streets in the city including Randall, Gorham, and Mineral Point Road near West Towne.

Beaupre said WisDOT hoped to have a draft of the State Transportation Plan (Connections 2030) ready for review this fall.

Dunphy reported that the North Mendota Parkway Study Implementation Committee had selected a roadway alignment alternative for further study. McDonald pointed out the general routing on a street map, which parallels CTH K to the north and intersects USH 12 just north of CTH K. Dunphy said consultants and agency staff would be meeting with farmers in the corridor to try to minimize the impact on farms. There is one minor issue still to be resolved on the boundaries for the proposed E-Way. Dunphy also mentioned that construction work on CTH ID was wrapping up.

Hoelker reported that work on the spot ramp improvements on the Beltline would be starting soon.

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Nelson said that the City of Madison had closed on the right of way for the planned Cannonball Trail. He also mentioned he had been hearing more discussion about the Wis. River Rail Trail in the University Avenue corridor, which would be a great addition to the bikeway network.

8. Staff Reports

McDonald reported that the appointments to the MPO Board had been completed. All of the current appointees were re-appointed except Brett Hulsey who is being replaced by Robin Schmidt, a County Executive appointment. He also reported that the MPO was preparing letters of comment on the Long-Range Metro Transit Planning Ad Hoc Committee Report and the Hoepker Road/USH 51 Intersection project. The latter comments were being prepared in response to the new agency consultation requirements under SAFETEA-LU.

9. Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting dates are Wednesday, August 27, and Wednesday, September 24, but it was agreed to cancel the August meeting unless something urgent comes up.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Bill Schaefer